



**Republic of the Union of Myanmar**

**National Unity Government**

[www.nugmyanmar.org](http://www.nugmyanmar.org)

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**Weekly Press Release (6/2021)**

**2 July 2021**

1. The National Unity Government (NUG) held a virtual press conference (2/2021) for Burmese language media on 25 June and for English language media on 28 June.
2. The Ministry of Labour of the NUG released statement 2/2021 on 26 June to confirm that the announcement made by the military junta's Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population on 1 March 2021 was not in accordance with the law.

The junta Ministry outlawed sixteen labour organisations, including federations of trade unions, and called their activities illegal. The junta threatened to take actions against such activities under existing laws.

The NUG Ministry of Labour points out that Myanmar is a party to the ILO Convention concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise. Therefore, every worker has the right to establish and organise to promote labour interests. The NUG also points to Myanmar's Labour Organisation Law (2011) concerning registration.

The junta has neither the right nor the authority to designate labour organisations that register under this law as unlawful organisations.

The Ministry of Labour of the NUG states therefore that the announcement made by the army council violates the Geneva Convention and that the sixteen labour organisations mentioned in the junta's announcement have the right to exist and to continue their work.

3. The web page for the Ministry of Education <https://moe.nugmyanmar.org/> was launched on 27 June 2021. Biographies of Ministers, activities and the organisation of the department, announcements and contact emails are published on this page.

Also included is information on how to join interim education programmes for primary and secondary levels and vocational training that are part of NUG's Continuing Education programme.

The NUG offers courses and lectures on the constitution, federalism, and human rights provided as part of its Federal Education Programme, available in Burmese and English.

4. The Ministry of Defence of the NUG has published the People's Defence Periodical, Volume 1, No. 1. The periodical includes valuable information for local People's Defence Forces such as Rules of Engagement, the Law of Armed Conflict, rules for members of the underground resistance network, defence and gender, the Code of Conduct for the People's Defence Force, and the four-point oath of allegiance of the People's Defence Force.
5. A high-level open debate on Children and Armed Conflict under the Presidency of Estonia took place via video conference on 28 June 2021. Members of the United Nations that are not part of the UN Security Council sent statements to the event. Ambassador U Kyaw Moe Tun, Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations, sent a written statement expressing Myanmar's 'deep concern about grave violations that affected the children in armed conflict'.

His statement included these words:

*We are particularly alarmed by the trends of increased attacks on schools. ...The protection of children needs to be ensured first and foremost by a legal framework that guarantees their rights and wellbeing.*

Regarding Myanmar, he highlighted that,

*Despite constitutional constraints with regard to armed conflicts, the elected civilian government led by President U Win Myint and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu*

*Kyi, showed its strong commitment in implementing a number of significant initiatives to enhance child protection capacity.*

He also confirmed that:

*Given the widely known brutality and inhumane acts of the military and its total disregard for human life, the military has been relisted under Section B of annex I of this annual report of the Secretary-General for the recruitment and use of children.*

*Since the illegal military coup on 1 February 2021, the military has destroyed our nascent democratic transition and has ruined the rule of law. Justice has been taken out of reach. Violence and atrocities have been perpetrated by the military security forces on a daily basis.*

*Nearly 900 people were ruthlessly murdered by the military. According to UNICEF, as of 21 June, at least 60 children have been killed since February.*

*The security forces continue to occupy many schools and hospitals throughout the country, making it impossible in enabling a safe environment for learning and health care.*

Permanent Representative U Kyaw Moe Tun appealed to the Security Council, the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict and the to Secretary-General and his Special Representative as follows:

- Prevent further grave violations by military forces of killing and maiming children and rape and other forms of sexual violence against children in Myanmar.
- Ensure that the military forces stop indiscriminate and excessive use of force and comply with the obligations under international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law.
- End impunity and hold the perpetrators of grave violations against children accountable.
- Ensure that the country task force on monitoring and reporting receives sufficient support and strengthens its monitoring, reporting, prevention and response efforts regarding all violations and abuses against children in Myanmar.

- Demand from the military unhindered humanitarian access to civilians, including children displaced by armed clashes.
- Call upon the United Nations and donors to work with the National Unity Government of Myanmar, civil society organisations and other stakeholders to provide short- and long-term humanitarian support to children, especially in conflict-affected areas and IDP camps.
- Demand that the military forces stop using schools and hospitals for military purposes so that a safe and secure environment for children' education and health can be ensured.
- Demand the immediate end of the military coup and the restoration of democracy in Myanmar.

U Kyaw Moe Tun concluded by saying,

*The National Unity Government together with the people of Myanmar will do everything we can to eradicate the military dictatorship and build a peaceful, democratic, and federal union.*

6. The Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management is working hard to deliver as quickly as possible vital humanitarian assistance to the people all over the country who have suffered under the security forces of the military regime. Thanks to the generous donations of Myanmar people and organisations both inside and outside of the country, the Ministry has been able to deliver the following assistance for the period from 6 June 2021 to 28 June 2021.
  - Food and clothing worth 8.1 million kyats and 9,740,000 kyats in cash for IDPs in the Falu region in Karen State
  - Food and clothing worth 15 million kyats for the IDP camps in other regions in Karen State
  - Food and other provisions worth 20.9 million kyats for IDPs in Pekon Township in Southern Shan State
  - 32.5 million kyats in cash for IDPs in Kayah State
  - Food and additional assistance worth 46.8 million kyats and 1 million kyats in cash for IDPs in Chin State
  - 9,215,000 million kyats in cash for vulnerable people across various locations in Myanmar

It is not safe to publish real-time information on assistance due to security concerns. But be assured that the Ministry is doing all it can to meet these pressing needs while the junta perpetrates its attacks on the innocent.

7. As per directive 01/2021 issued on the 1st July 2021, a Commission for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response was established by the National Unity Government's Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management. The Commission has the acting President as Chairman, the Prime Minister as Vice-Chairman, Union Minister for Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management as General Secretary and eleven Union Ministers from correlated ministries as members.