



**Press Release on the Military Council's Response to COVID-19 Outbreak by the Tanintharyi
People's Voice (TPV) in Myanmar**

Date : 4 ,May 2022.

After the Myanmar/ Burma Military attempted to Coup, the military council's mishandling of the COVID-19 epidemic has been closely monitored in Tanintharyi Region. During the four-month period from December 2021 to March 2022, research on the 19 pandemic was conducted by Tanintharyi Region Public Voice. In 10 townships in Tanintharyi Region, 25 people were randomly surveyed in each township, and a total of 260 people including the victims of human rights abuses by the military council were interviewed and provided information.

The target groups surveyed included health workers who involved in Civil Disobedience Movement, Community-based health volunteers, Victims of terrorism, Family members of those killed, People who have been vaccinated, People who oppose the military coup attempted, People who are not getting chance to be vaccinated, Civil society organizations and activists. The research was compiled by the Voice of Tanintharyi Region over a four-month period and the findings are presented.

There are six major areas of research that are listed below.

- 1) COVID-19 used as an excuse for deaths of political prisoners in junta custody.
- 2) COVID-19 used as rationale for isolating political prisoners.
- 3) People feel insecure using, and fear arrest at, junta-run vaccination sites.
- 4) Poor health standards and discrimination at junta-run vaccination sites.
- 5) COVID-19 used as rationale for junta restrictions on freedom of movement.
- 6) Junta orders against mask-wearing violate COVID-19 prevention standards.
- 7) COVID-19 used a pretext for junta nighttime household inspection raids.
- 8) Community-led COVID-19 response initiatives disrupted by junta.

Please read the full report of the research findings and recommendations in the full report.

Tanintharyi People's Voice is an umbrella network of local civil society organizations working across various sectors in Tanintharyi Region, Myanmar after the attempted coup. Tanintharyi Region People's Voice includes more than 30 civil society organizations.

Contact:

- Ko Moe Thu Aung +66 8 (Burmese)
- Mae Su Su Swe + 95 9 792413960 (English, Burmese)
- Ko Yaza Tun +95 9 (Burmese)