



Appeal to the Government of India Regarding the Unjust Detention of People from Manipur

1. The state of Manipur in India and our Sagaing region share a long border, and historically, they have maintained a deep, enduring relationship characterized by mutual friendship and kinship.
2. India stands as the world's largest democracy and adheres strictly to democratic standards and practices, including the respect for human dignity and human rights.
3. Currently, the government of Manipur, a state in India, is detaining many of our Sagaing residents who fled due to political instability. These refugees have been arrested and imprisoned for extended periods without being granted the right to legal representation or to contest their detention, which violates their human rights. Furthermore, we have learned with regret that those who have protested democratically against this unjust treatment within the prison are being subjected to violent suppression.
4. We, the people of Sagaing, have great faith that the Indian government, as a democratic administration that respects human rights and human dignity, will act justly.

5. Therefore, we earnestly appeal to the Indian government to release the about 97 Myanmar nationals, including our Sagaing residents, who are unjustly detained in Manipur at the earliest. We also request that these detainees not be handed over to the oppressive military junta in Myanmar, which is responsible for their arbitrary detention and torture. If there are any legal charges against them, we ask that they be allowed to hire lawyers and contest their charges in accordance with human dignity, through arrangements made by the Manipur state government.

6. Due to the offensives by the military junta in Myanmar, innocent civilians are fleeing their homes and seeking refuge in nearby border countries for survival. Among these, residents of Sagaing Region, which borders Manipur State in India, are also fleeing to Manipur State for safety. The government of Manipur is requested to show humanitarian consideration by arranging temporary shelter for these war victims. Additionally, since these refugees intend to return to their homes once stability is restored in Myanmar, it is kindly requested that they not be arrested for illegal stay.

Sagaing Federal Council (Preliminary)