

**Statement of Myanmar National Human Rights Commission on its inspection of
prisons, jails and lock-up in Myanmar during August to December 2020**

Statement No. (3/2021)

1. The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) has inspected prisons, jails, labour camps, police detention centers, court lock-ups and hospital guard-wards, on scheduled dates, in accordance with section 43 of the Commission Law in order to examine whether prisoners and detainees are treated in conformity with humanitarian norms, international human rights instruments and domestic legislation.
2. In inspecting, as stipulated in section 44 of the Commission law, spaces in the prisons, jails and lock-up and facilities for those detained were examined and independent interviews with the prisoners and detainees were conducted. The findings of the inspections together with recommendations were referred to the relevant Union-level organizations.
3. The Commission had already issued Statement No (11/2020) on the prison inspection from January to July 2020. The Commission subsequently inspected 2 prisons, 1 jail, 2 labour camps, 3 police detention centers, 3 courts lock-up and 3 hospital general wards as follows:
 - (a) Myingyan Prison, police detention centre, court lock-up and hospital guard ward from 12 to 13 August 2020;
 - (b) Mawlamyine Prison, Hpa-an Prison, Mar Lar Phu Labour Camp, Lat Kha Na Labour Camp, police detention centre, court lock-up and hospital guard wards from 18 to 22 August 2020.
4. From September to December 2020, the Commission suspended prison visits and field investigations because of COVID-19 pandemic.
5. In these inspection tours, 43 prisoners and detainees were allowed to separately meet the inspection team to freely reveal their difficulties, violations of their rights and judicial matters without the presence of prison officials. After

reviewing their revelations, the relevant organizations at the Union-Level have been informed accordingly.

6. The team carried out the inspections in accordance with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, contained in the Procedure of the MNHRC Law and based on findings, the following recommendations have already been put forward to the relevant Union-Level organizations:

• related to health	5
• related to education	1
• related to administration	18
• related to prison transfer	5
• related to sanitation	7
• related to prison buildings	3
• related to communication with the outside world	1
• related to family visit	1
• related to food	2
Total	43

7. While inspecting prisons, jails and lock-ups, the inspection team also monitored the implementation of the previous recommendations and progress achieved. The implementation of the new recommendations resulting from the current inspections will be re-examined as well on next inspection tours.

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

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