

■ BACKGROUNG BRIEF

Revenues from the oil and gas industry are the largest source of vital foreign exchange available to the military; they were forecasted to be USD 1.5 billion in 2021-2022. Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise collects these payments. The military has taken possession over MOGE and its bank accounts, meaning that the military will take control over the USD 1.5 billion. This money will be used to purchase weapons that can be used to continue their brutal operations against the people of Myanmar. For this reason, civil society and the National Unity Government have called for sanctions on MOGE so that oil and gas companies put payments into a protected account. They have not asked for natural gas production to stop. However, companies such as Total have stated that *if they stop paying MOGE*, they will be forced to stop gas production, which will have humanitarian impacts.

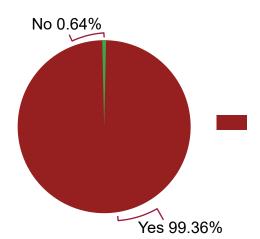




Can a company like Total decide to cut the supply of electricity to millions of people—causing the closure of hospitals and businesses, upending everyday life—with all the consequences that it will have? This is our second human rights dilemma, because access to energy is a fundamental right.

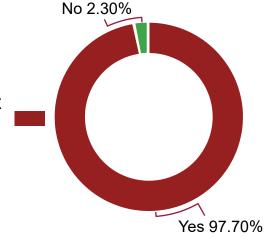
Patrick Pouyanne – CEO Total

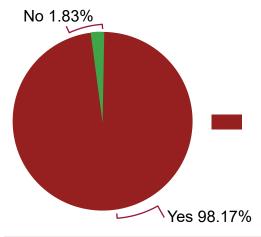
Survey Result



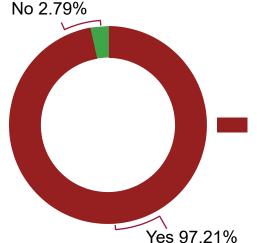
1. Should the international oil and gas companies operating in Myanmar stop paying revenue to the account of MOGE which is currently under the control of SAC/military?

2. Even if suspension of payment will lead to production halt and electricity blackout in Yangon, should the international oil and gas companies still suspend paying revenue to the SAC's controlled account?



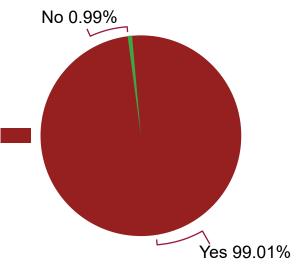


3. Even if suspension of payment will lead to production halt and electricity blackout in Yangon, should the international oil and gas companies still suspend paying revenue to the SAC's controlled account? (Yangon)



4. Even if suspension of payment will lead to production halt and electricity blackout in Yangon, should the international oil and gas companies still suspend paying revenue to the SAC's controlled account? (Other regions)

5. Should revenue from Myanmar oil and gas sector be kept in a separated account and transferred only after democratically elected government take power?



A survey was therefore carried to assess how the Myanmar people's own views on this. The survey results show that 98% of people still support suspending payments to accounts now controlled by the military, even if it means that electricity is cut off. Half of the survey respondents were from Yangon, which is the only city in Myanmar Total has pointed out it supplies electricity to.









One quote from respondent -

"It is doesn't matter whether the companies pay or not to the junta as we are alreadysuffering electricity cut off recently. Therefore, please stop providing your excuse and so called humanitarian reason. You are no different with the SAC at all."

The people of Myanmar are aware that the humanitarian consequences of military rule will be worse than electricity being cut off – each dollar that oil and gas companies are paying to the military regime helps cement their control over Myanmar, putting more and more of our lives at risk every day.