

OFFICE OF THE UNION MINISTER NUG SPOKESPERSON

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CONDOLENCES FOR THE AIR STRIKE VICTIMS IN HPAKANT. KACHIN STATE

24 October 2022

We join our Kachin brothers and sisters in their grief on this tragic day. The junta conducted an airstrike with 3 fighter jets in Hpakant, Kachin State on 23 October 2022, targeting a Kachin Independence Organization music festival held to celebrate the 62nd anniversary of the KIO. According to verified reports and sources, at least 50 Kachin people were killed including Kachin celebrities. The fascist military deliberately targeted this ceremony. This is proof that they carry out airstrikes with the express intention of targeting ethnic minorities, activists, and civilians. The military is escalating their air strikes across the country and particularly in Sagaing, Chin, Kayin, Kachin and Rakhine in a deliberate attempt to weaken the people's defensive war. The terrorist regime is using excessive force, violence and airstrikes in an attempt to maintain their power.

My thoughts and prayers are with the victims of the airstrikes in Kachin State. I would like to send my deepest condolences to the victims' family members. I would like to encourage the international community and the UN security council to take immediate action to protect the innocent people of Myanmar from the atrocities and war crimes committed by the junta. With the indifference and inaction of the international community thus far we are losing too many innocent lives. We need immediate tangible action and support from the international community to hold the junta accountable for their crimes. We urge you to collaborate with us to end these tragic attacks once and for all.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sasa

Union Minister of the Ministry of International Cooperation Spokesperson of the National Unity Government of Myanmar Former Myanmar Special Envoy to the United Nations

