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BURMA COUP WATCH FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2022: ASEAN sticks to failing consensus as crisis deepens

- As of 28 Oct, there had been at least 16,651 armed clashes and attacks, resulting in the displacement of 1,161,800 people since the coup began. Junta troops continued to slash their way through the country in October, torturing and killing civilians, and torching villages.
- On 23 Oct, regime jets bombed a music concert in Kachin State, killing up to 80 people and drawing international outrage, days before an ASEAN emergency meeting on the crisis. In Rakhine State, indiscriminate junta artillery fire amid intensifying clashes with the Arakan Army killed at least nine civilians in October, including three children.
- Junta forces have killed at least 2,404 civilians and arrested 16,016 as of 31 Oct. The regime continued to target former officials and NLD members, as well as perceived opponents and their families. A junta court sentenced Aung San Suu Kyi to a further three years in prison, bringing her total sentence to 26 years.
- Junta leader Min Aung Hlaing further cemented his grip on the military's proxy Union Solidarity and Development Party by appointing retired generals to key positions. The junta's Union Election Commission stepped up preparations for the regime's sham 2023 election.
- On 21 Oct, the Financial Action Task Force, a global finance watchdog, blacklisted Burma over the regime's failure to head off money laundering and other financial crimes.
- The junta tightened banking regulations and organized another gem emporium to secure much needed cash. More local companies went out of business while international energy firms boycotted regime tenders.
- ASEAN Foreign Ministers decided to stick to the failing Five-Point Consensus despite the regime's unwillingness to implement it. Human Rights Watch called the decision a huge disappointment.
- Malaysian Foreign Minister Saifuddin Abdullah, an outspoken junta critic, stopped attending ASEAN meetings after his government became a caretaker administration. Human rights groups and UN agencies lashed at Malaysia over the summary deportation of at least 2,000 Burma nationals since mid-August.

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Junta's quest to cement control

Gearing up for sham election

Junta head Min Aung Hlaing continued to cement his grip on the military-affiliated Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) ahead of the regime's sham 2023 election. On 4 Oct, it was reported that he was planning to retire more than 600 army officers, mostly colonels, with half going to junta ministries and the other half joining the USDP to fill its ranks. On 5 Oct, the USDP formally elected Khin Yi, a retired brigadier general and close Min Aung Hlaing associate, as chair.¹ On 28 Oct, the party appointed retired Lt-Gen Myo Zaw Thein as vice-chair and retired Lt-Gen Aung Soe as head of its external relations committee.² As of 12 Oct, the USDP was the only party publicly making campaign preparations for the election.³

On 5 Oct, the junta-controlled Union Election Commission (UEC) held a coordination meeting to task the regional and state election sub-commissions with updating voters' lists, preparing polling stations, and training polling staff.⁴ On 6 Oct, it was reported that the UEC had invited bids for plastic ballot boxes, voting booths, pens, envelopes, ballot papers, ropes, ink, and badges. The deadline for submissions was 30 Oct.⁵ On 18 Oct, it was reported that preparations for the election had started in Mon State's Paung, Kyaikmaraw, and Chaungsone Townships.⁶

New sentence against Suu Kyi as attacks against NLD members continue

On 12 Oct, a regime-controlled court sentenced ousted State Counselor Aung San Suu Kyi to another three years in prison for corruption, bringing her total sentence to 26 years.⁷ On 14 Oct, it was reported that Australian economist Sean Turnell, Suu Kyi's former economic advisor, had been transferred to Insein Prison (Yangon Region) following his three-year sentence for allegedly violating the Immigration Act.⁸ On 31 Oct, a junta court sentenced former National League for Democracy (NLD) MP Win Myint Hlaing to 148 years in prison for terrorism, bringing his total sentence to 173 years; the longest jail term given to an NLD member since the attempted coup.⁹

On 2 Oct, the regime arrested two NLD supporters they accused of funding the resistance in Bilin Township (Mon State).¹⁰ On 3 Oct, junta forces and members of the regime-affiliated Thwe Thout terror group abducted and killed six NLD supporters in Nyaung-U Township (Mandalay Region).¹¹ In Kyaukse Township (Mandalay Region), regime forces shot, injured, and ultimately arrested a local NLD supporter at his house on 5 Oct.¹²

Civil disobedience, crackdowns (more details at protests, CDM, and crackdowns tracker)

On 31 Aug, Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (Burma) (AAPP) said regime forces had sealed off at least 780 homes of pro-democracy activists since the attempted coup, and arrested at least 16,016 civilians.¹³

On 28 Oct, the regime adopted a new **Organization Registration Law prohibiting CSOs and NGOs from supporting or otherwise having direct or indirect links with groups and individuals that actively oppose the regime.** Its broadly-defined Article 39 carries jail sentences of up to five years for any act deemed to harm Burma's sovereignty, rule of law, national security, and national solidarity.¹⁴

¹ Myanmar Now (5 Oct 2022) Loyalists of Myanmar junta chief take over proxy party's key leadership positions

² Irrawaddy (31 Oct 2022) Myanmar Junta Generals Retire to Take Top Roles in Proxy Party

³ Myanmar Now (12 Oct 2022) Former Myanmar army general Shwe Mann dissolves his political party ⁴ Eleven Media (7 Oct 2022) Preparations are being made continuously to hold the general election after

⁴ Eleven Media (7 Oct 2022) Preparations are being made continuously to hold the general election after the emergency period provisions are completed: UEC chair

⁵ Irrawaddy (6 Oct 2022) Myanmar Junta Invites Bids for Election Equipment

⁶ Than Lwin Times (18 Oct 2022) Junta to prepare polling places for election in Mon State

⁷ Irrawaddy (12 Oct 2022) Myanmar Junta Sentences Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to Another Three Years for Corruption

⁸ Irrawaddy (14 Oct 2022) Australian Economist Sean Turnell Moved to Yangon Prison

⁹ Al Jazeera (3 Nov 2022) Myanmar court sentences ex-politician to 173 years in prison

¹⁰ Than Lwin Times (4 Oct 2022) Belin: NLD supporters, residents subject to wave of arrests

¹¹ Myanmar Now (6 Oct 2022) Six NLD supporters murdered in Mandalay's Nyaung-U Township

¹² Mizzima (9 Oct 2022) Myanmar army brutally arrest civilians in Mandalay

¹³ AAPP (31 Oct 2022) Daily Briefing in Relation to the Military Coup

¹⁴ Irrawaddy (5 Nov 2022) Junta Watch: Big-Spending Chief Demands Frugality; Police Too Busy to Fight Crime; and More

The junta continued to weaponize the judiciary. On 18 Oct, it was reported that the regime had instructed its courts to wrap up the political trials filed in 2021 by the end of October, and those filed in 2022 by the end of December.¹⁵ On 6 Oct, a junta-controlled court sentenced six already detained political prisoners to a further 10 years in prison, and four others to a further 20 years.¹⁶ On 20 Oct, the regime sentenced Sagaing-based protest leader Wai Moe Naing to four years in prison for incitement and violating COVID-19 restrictions, bringing his total sentence to 14 years.¹⁷

On 26 Oct, a junta-controlled court in Myingyan Township (Mandalay Region) sentenced two PDF members to death. They have been in custody since January 2022.¹⁸ As of 31 Oct, the regime had sentenced 126 people to death.¹⁹

The junta continued to target members of the Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM). The regime's Ministry of Health suspended 98 doctors' licenses in October, bringing the total number of revoked medical licenses to 557 since the attempted coup.²⁰ On 9 Oct, junta forces arrested a CDM female university lecturer and a primary school teacher at Yangon International Airport.²¹ On 14 Oct, it was reported that a regime-controlled court had sentenced a CDM teacher and Basic Education General Strike Committee member to three years in prison for incitement. She had already been sentenced to five years for terrorism in August.²²

On 23 Oct, junta forces arrested a CDM teacher and her husband in Tachileik Township (Shan State) and charged them with incitement.²³ On 24 Oct, it was reported that a regime-affiliated Telegram account had released a list of CDM professors working for the National Unity Government (NUG) for the junta to arrest.²⁴ On 29 Oct, the regime detained five striking health workers, including four women, for allegedly supplying medicines to PDFs in Mandalay. The NUG Health Ministry reported that the junta had arrested over 580 healthcare workers during Feb 2021-Aug 2022.²⁵

The junta continued to torture inmates. On 3 Oct, four prison staff beat a prisoner to death within a day of his arrival in Myingyan Prison (Mandalay Region).²⁶ On 4 Oct, it was reported that regime forces had killed over 145 people during interrogation as of late September.²⁷ On 5 Oct, it was reported that at least two political prisoners in Obo and Meiktila prisons (Mandalay Region) had died in mid-September after junta personnel denied them access to medical treatment.²⁸ On 25 Oct, it was reported that regime forces had recaptured five political prisoners who had escaped from a police station in Hkamti Township (Sagaing Region) on 18 Oct. One reportedly died shortly after, while the others were believed to be subjected to torture as of 25 Oct.²⁹

On 17 Oct, it was reported that political prisoners in Yangon's Insein Prison had revealed the names of officials and staff involved in beatings, torture, and other rights abuses. These included Corrections Department director Myo Oo, prison warden Zaw Lwin Aung, staff officers Tun Win Htike and Ye Kyaw Thu, and six other supervisors. The statement also revealed that 'about 5% of political prisoners arrested since the coup ha[d] been permanently disabled by the junta's brutal torture.³⁰

¹⁵ Irrawaddy (18 Oct 2022) Myanmar Junta Pressures Courts to Speed Up Trials of Political Opponents

¹⁶ Than Lwin Times (7 Oct 2022) 10 Dawei political prisoners sentenced to long prison terms; Development Media Group (DMG) (8 Oct 2022) Court tacks on heavy additional sentences for several political prisoners in Dawei ¹⁷ Myanmar New (24 Oct 2022) Powerd the Leadliness Manuary additional sentences for several political prisoners in Dawei ¹⁸ Myanmar New (24 Oct 2022) Powerd the Leadliness Manuary additional sentences for several political prisoners in Dawei ¹⁹ Myanmar New (24 Oct 2022) Powerd the Leadliness Manuary additional sentences for several political prisoners in Dawei ¹⁹ Myanmar New (24 Oct 2022) Powerd the Leadliness Manuary additional sentences for several political prisoners in Dawei ¹⁰ Myanmar New (24 Oct 2022) Powerd the Leadliness Manuary additional sentences for several political prisoners in Dawei ¹⁰ Myanmar New (24 Oct 2022) Powerd the Leadliness Manuary additional sentences for several political prisoners in Dawei ¹⁰ Myanmar New (24 Oct 2022) Powerd the Leadliness Manuary additional sentences for several political prisoners in Dawei ¹⁰ Myanmar New (24 Oct 2022) Powerd the Leadliness Manuary additional sentences for several political prisoners in Dawei ¹⁰ Myanmar New (24 Oct 2022) Powerd the Leadliness Manuary additional sentences for several political prisoners in Dawei ¹⁰ Myanmar New (24 Oct 2022) Powerd the Leadliness Manuary additional sentences for several political prisoners in Dawei ¹⁰ Myanmar New (24 Oct 2022) Powerd the New (24 Oct 2022) Powerd the

¹⁷ Myanmar Now (24 Oct 2022) Beyond the Headlines: Myanmar junta denies incarcerated activist permission to attend funeral of mother killed outside Insein Prison

¹⁸ Tachileik News Agency (27 Oct 2022) ဝမ်းတွင်းမြို့မှ PDF (၂) ဦးစလုံးကို စစ်ကောင်စီက သေဒဏ်ချမှတ်ပြီး တစ်ဦးကို ထောင်ဒဏ် (၂၂၅)

နှစ် နှင့် တစ်ဦးကို ထောင်ဒဏ် (၉၅) နှစ် ချမှတ်

¹⁹ AAPP (31 Oct 2022) Daily Briefing in Relation to the Military Coup

²⁰ Radio Free Asia (RFA) (1 Nov 2022) More than 550 doctors fired by Myanmar junta for refusing to work in protest

²¹ Chindwin News Agency, via facebook (9 Oct 2022) https://tinyurl.com/2p86xvst

²² RFA (15 Oct 2022) CDM ကျောင်းဆရာမ ဒေါ်သက်ဆုလှိုင်ကို ထောင်သုံးနှစ်ထပ်ချ

²³ Shan News (27 Oct 2022) စစ်ကောင်စီကို ဝေဖန်ရေးသားသည့်စာ လူမှုကွန်ရက်ပေါ်တင်သည့် CDM ကျောင်းဆရာမ တစ်ဦး ဖမ်းခံရ

²⁴ Shan News (24 Oct 2022) တက္ကသိုလ် ကြားကာလ ပါဝင်သင်ကြားမည့် CDM ဆရာ/မ များ အမည်စာရင်းပေါက်ကြား

²⁵ Irrawaddy (1 Nov 2022) Myanmar Regime Seizes 5 Medics for 'Supplying Resistance Fighters'

²⁶ Myanmar Now (10 Oct 2022) Prisoner beaten to death in Myingyan Prison

²⁷ RFA (4 Oct 2022) At least 145 deaths in custody since Myanmar coup

²⁸ Myanmar Now (5 Oct 2022) Political prisoners die after being denied emergency medical interventions in Mandalay

²⁹ Myanmar Now (25 Oct 2022) Four Hkamti prisoners tortured after failed escape bid

³⁰ Irrawaddy (17 Oct 2022) Myanmar Political Prisoners Issue List of Torturers in Junta's Insein Jail

The junta continued to target journalists. On 5 Oct, a regime-controlled court sentenced Japanese documentary filmmaker Toru Kubota to seven years in prison for violating the Electronic Transactions Law and to a further three years for incitement, to be served concurrently.³¹ On 12 Oct, the junta handed him another three-year sentence for allegedly breaching immigration laws, bringing his total sentence to 10 years.³²

On 7 Oct, the junta sentenced detained VOA journalist Sithu Aung Myint to three years in prison for incitement.³³ On the same day, it charged former reporter Mrat Thu Tun with incitement.³⁴ The regime also charged Narinjara News chief editor Khaing Myat Kyaw under Penal Code Section 505(a) and Telecommunications Law Section 66(d).³⁵ On 26 Oct, the regime revoked the license of local news outlet The Irrawaddy, arguing that its reporting had damaged 'state security, rule of law and public tranquility.'³⁶

Conflict and displacement (more details at conflict & displacement tracker)

NMSP calls for inclusive dialogue as EAOs lash at regime

On 11 Oct, a delegation from the New Mon State Party (NMSP) met with Min Aung Hlaing in Naypyidaw. They urged him to hold joint talks between the military, the NLD, including Suu Kyi, ethnic political parties, and EAOs to 'achieve peace for the country as soon as possible.' It is unclear what his response was.³⁷

On 15 Oct, the regime held a ceremony to mark the seventh anniversary of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA). The Chin National Front and All Burma Students' Democratic Front (ABSDF) did not attend the event. In a video address, Min Aung Hlaing called on the attendees to convince other EAOs to sign the NCA.³⁸ He also said the regime planned to amend the military-drafted 2008 Constitution to 'implement the demands and wishes of the ethnic groups.' The ABSDF called the statement 'unacceptable,' while Karen National Union (KNU) spokesperson Padoh Saw Taw Nee said the junta was the enemy of federalism and democracy. The Karenni National Progressive Party also condemned the move, adding that it did not trust nor accept the regime.³⁹

Regime eyes new jets as reliance on airpower grows

On 28 Oct, it was reported that, despite the setbacks faced by regime forces on the ground, the military's superior artillery and airpower had made it tough for rebel forces to mount significant offensives. The Myanmar Air Force has more than 100 combat-capable aircrafts, and is reportedly looking to acquire more. Resistance attacks on safe supply routes increased the junta's reliance on helicopters, which can fire weapons at close range and transport troops in and out of fights.⁴⁰

On 18 Oct, it was reported that, in June 2022, a regime delegation of eight Air Force pilots, eight technicians, and at least two armaments officers traveled to China in connection with the regime's purchase of several FTC-2000G fighter jets. It is unclear when the purchase agreement was reached or when delivery will take place. The jets are expected to be based in Namsang (Shan State).⁴¹ On 4 Oct, it was reported that China was considering using Pakistan as a proxy to sell and export military hardware to the junta.⁴²

³⁹ Than Lwin Times (19 Oct 2022) EAOs won't accept military leader's constitutional reform; Eleven Media (16 Oct 22) 7th Anniversary of Signing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) held in Nay Pyi Taw

³¹ Myanmar Now (6 Oct 2022) Myanmar junta court sentences Japanese filmmaker to 7 years in prison

³² Nikkei Asia (13 Oct 2022) Myanmar military sentences Japanese journalist to 3 more years in prison

³³ RFA (7 Oct 2022) Myanmar journalist Sithu Aung Myint sentenced to 3 years by junta

 ³⁴ DMG (7 Oct 2022) Regime charges detained ex-reporter with incitement in Mrauk-U
³⁵ Irrawaddy (11 Oct 2022) Myanmar Junta Jails and Files Cases Against Journalists

 ³⁶ Irrawaddy (31 Oct 2022) After Repeated Crackdowns, Myanmar Junta Officially Bans The Irrawaddy

³⁷ Than Lwin Times (16 Oct 2022) New Mon State Party pushes military leader to meet with all stakeholders

 ³⁸ Eleven Media (16 Oct 2022) 7th Anniversary of Signing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) held in Nay Pyi Taw

⁴⁰ RFA (28 Oct 2022) After setbacks on the ground, Myanmar junta holds power by ruling the skies

⁴¹ Irrawaddy (18 Oct 2022) Myanmar Regime Buys FTC-2000G Fighter Jets From China

⁴² Irrawaddy (4 Oct 2022) Will China use Pakistan as a Proxy to Arm Myanmar Military?

Update by State/Region

As of 28 Oct, there had been 766 armed clashes and attacks on civilians during the month. This brings the total number of incidents so far in 2022 to 8,988 (16,651 since 1 Feb 2021).⁴³ The Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) stated that junta forces had killed at least 2,404 civilians as of 31 Oct,⁴⁴ compared to ISP-M which reported on 12 Oct that the post-coup turmoil had killed at least 7,158 civilians, including at least 701 civilians who were tortured to death in regime custody.⁴⁵

According to UNHCR, there were 1,443,400 internally displaced people (IDPs) in Burma as of 31 Oct, including 1,113,000 displaced after 1 Feb 2021, with 48,800 refugees fleeing to neighboring countries; likely an underestimate.⁴⁶ According to ISP-M, as of 19 Oct, at least 1,650,611 people had been internally displaced since the coup.⁴⁷ On 27 Oct, the Karen Peace Support Network (KPSN) said regime offensives had forced more than 347,500 people to flee their homes throughout the seven KNU Districts, which include all of Karen State and parts of Mon State and Bago and Tanintharyi Regions; versus only 169,700 IDPs in those four State/Regions according to UNOCHA.⁴⁸

Kachin and Northern Shan States

The junta continued to target civilians in **Kachin State**. On 23 Oct, regime jets **bombed a music concert** organized by the Kachin Independence Organization in Hpakant Township to commemorate its 62nd anniversary,⁴⁹ killing up to 80 people.⁵⁰ Regime troops blocked access to the area until 24 Oct evening, preventing more than 100 injured people from receiving medical treatment.⁵¹ The junta dismissed reports of heavy civilian casualties in the attack as 'fake news,' saying it targeted a KIA base.⁵² On 31 Oct, it was reported that regime forces were seeking to arrest people who helped the victims of the bombing to charge them with unlawful association.⁵³ The NUG condemned the attack and urged the international community to take action against the junta, ⁵⁴ while the Kachin Independence Army vowed to step up the fight against the regime.⁵⁵

In **Hpakant Township**, junta forces shot dead a young civilian on 2 Oct before cremating his body. Soldiers reportedly injured another civilian.⁵⁶ On 18 Oct, it was reported that regime forces had shot dead two locals on a motorbike.⁵⁷ On 27 Oct, it was reported that soldiers had evicted around 30 households in Selzin village so they could build a new base.⁵⁸ In **Momauk Township**, regime artillery fire killed a woman from Mankhun village on 26 Oct.⁵⁹ On 29 Oct, junta shells injured three woman from Khar Nan and Man Pone villages.⁶⁰ In **Bhamo Township**, regime artillery fire killed one woman and injured a child near Mankhun village on 26 Oct.⁶¹

⁵² Myanmar Now (25 Oct 2022) Myanmar regime denies killing civilians in airstrikes on Kachin festival

⁴³ Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project (ACLED) (accessed 6 Nov 2022) Data export tool, available at: https://acleddata.com/data-export-tool/

⁴⁴ AAPP (31 Oct 2022) Daily Briefing in Relation to the Military Coup

⁴⁵ ISP, via Facebook (12 Oct 2022) https://tinyurl.com/mw8u4dvb

⁴⁶ UNHCR (1 Nov 2022) Myanmar Emergency Overview Map: Number of people displaced since Feb 2021 and remain displaced (As of 21 Oct 2022)

displaced (As of 31 Oct 2022)

⁴⁷ ISP-Myanmar (2 Nov 2022) IDPs Spread Across 96 Townships

⁴⁸ Myanmar Now (31 Oct 2022) Displacement crisis in southeastern Myanmar requires local humanitarian response, Karen groups say

⁴⁹ Al Jazeera (24 Oct 2022) Myanmar army air raids on ethnic rebel group concert 'kill 60'

⁵⁰ Democratic Voice of Burma (DVB) (25 Oct 2022) A Heinous and Cowardly Act Committed by Junta Against Kachin, state EAOs

⁵¹ DVB (25 Oct 2022) A Heinous and Cowardly Act Committed by Junta Against Kachin, state EAOs

⁵³ Kachin News (31 Oct 2022) Regime Arresting Attendees Of Hpakant Concert Bombing

⁵⁴ NUG, via Facebook (24 Oct 2022) https://tinyurl.com/3mey5982

 ⁵⁵ Irrawaddy (25 Oct 2022) Following Deadly Airstrike, Ethnic Armed Groups Call for Unified Fight Against Myanmar Junta
⁵⁶ Myanmar Now (5 Oct 2022) ဖားကန့်တွင် လူငယ်တစ်ဦးကို စစ်တပ်က ပစ်သတ်၊ အလောင်း ပြန်မပေး

⁵⁷ Kachin News Group (18 Oct 2022) Soldiers Kill Men During Hpakant Shakedown

⁵⁸ Kachin News Group (27 Oct 2022) ဆယ်ဇင်းတွင် စစ်ကောင်စီ တပ်စခန်းနေရာချရန် ဒေသခံပြည်သူများကို အတင်းအဓမ္မဖယ်ရှားခိုင်း

⁵⁹ DVB (31 Oct 2022) မိုးမောက်တွင် တိုက်ပွဲ ပြင်းထန်၊ လက်နက်ကြီး ကျသဖြင့် ရွာသားများ ဒဏ်ရာရ

⁶⁰ RFA (30 Oct 2022) မိုးမောက်မှာ ဒေသခံသုံးဦး လက်နက်ကြီးကျည် ထိမှန်ဒဏ်ရာရ

⁶¹ DVB (27 Oct 2022) ဗန်းမော်မြို့အနီး စစ်တပ်ကပစ်ခတ်သည့် လက်နက်ကြီးကျည်ထိမှန်ပြီး အမျိုးသမီး ၁ ဦးသေဆုံး

UNHCR said there were around 104,500 IDPs in Kachin State as of 31 Oct, including 13,000 who were displaced after 1 Feb 2021.⁶² On 25 Oct, it was reported that the regime had imposed severe restrictions on food shipments to Chipwi Township to cut off supplies to the KIA. Civilians who could not afford to bribe soldiers were reportedly facing difficulties to secure rice.⁶³

Clashes also continued in Northern Shan State. Regime artillery fire killed one civilian and injured three in Hsenwi Township on 7 Oct.⁶⁴ Junta shells also injured four civilians, including two women in Muse Township amid clashes with the KIA on 25 Oct.⁶⁵ On 10 Oct, it was reported that regime forces had looted houses and poisoned water sources in Sinlikaungyar village, Namtu Township.⁶⁶ In Nawnghkio Township, a bomb attack in Butar ward injured five people, including three women and a child on 26 Oct.67

UNHCR said there were around 16,000 IDPs in Northern Shan State as of 31 Oct, including 7,000 who were displaced after 1 Feb 2021.⁶⁸ On 4 Oct, it was reported that a junta administrator had ordered over 300 IDPs in Namtu Township to leave by 15 Oct.⁶⁹ On 19 Oct, it was reported that a drop in humanitarian assistance to IDP camps in N. Shan State had forced some displaced children to engage in child labor to support their families.⁷⁰ On 29 Oct, it was reported that the regime had ordered the closure of all of IDP camps in Northern Shan State by the end of the year.⁷¹

Sagaing Region

Junta forces continued their raids and arson attacks amid clashes with local resistance forces, committing scores of war crimes. On 31 Oct, it was reported that the regime was using state funds reserved for disaster relief and development projects to finance Pyu Saw Htee militia groups in the region.⁷² UNHCR said there were around 612,400 IDPs in Sagaing Region as of 31 Oct. All were displaced after 1 Feb 2021.73

In Katha District, regime forces abducted six Katha Township residents following a resistance attack on 4 Oct.⁷⁴ On 23 Oct, regime artillery fire killed a 12-year-old girl and injured another civilian.⁷⁵ On 18 Oct, it was reported that fighting and regime attacks in the township had left pregnant women and infants without access to vaccination in some villages.⁷⁶ In **Banmauk Township**, junta jets bombed a community hospital in Manyugyee village on 20 Oct, killing a female medical volunteer and injuring four children.⁷⁷ In Sagaing District, regime airstrikes on Payein Mar village, Myaung Township killed one disabled civilian and injured others.78

⁶² UNHCR (1 Nov 2022) Myanmar Emergency Overview Map: Number of people displaced since Feb 2021 and remain displaced (As of 31 Oct 2022)

⁶³ KNG (25 Oct 2022) Regime Restricts Food To Chipwi Township

⁶⁴ Shan News (7 Oct 2022) နမ့်စလပ်ကျေးရွာအတွင်း လက်နက်ကြီးကျ အရပ်သားတစ်ဦးသေဆုံး ထိခိုက်ဒဏ်ရာရသူများရှိ

⁶⁵ Kachin News Group (25 Oct 2022) မုံးပေါ် ယနေ့ညတိုက်ပွဲတွင် စစ်တပ်ပစ်ခတ်သော လက်နက်ကြီးကြောင့် ပြည်သူ ၄ ဦးခန့် ထိခိုက်မှုရှိ

⁶⁶ Kachin News Group (10 Oct 2022) နမ္မတူ ကချင်ကျေးရွာတစ်ခုကို စစ်ကောင်စီတပ် ဝင်မွေပြီး ပြည်သူပိုင်ပစ္စည်းများကို ဖျက်ဆီး, Kachin News Group (16 Oct 2022) Burma Army Ransacks Kachin Village In Northern Shan State

⁶⁷ DVB (27 Oct 2022) နောင်ချိုတွင် နေအိမ် ၁ လုံး ဗုံးပစ်ပေါက်ခံရ ၅ ဦး ဒဏ်ရာရ

⁶⁸ UNHCR (1 Nov 2022) Myanmar Emergency Overview Map: Number of people displaced since Feb 2021 and remain displaced (As of 31 Oct 2022)

⁶⁹ Shan News (2 Oct 2022) Namtu Villagers Need Emergency Aid

⁷⁰ Frontier Myanmar and Doh Athan (18 Oct 2022) Aid cuts drive displaced northern Shan youths into child labour

⁷¹ Mizzima (29 Oct 2022) Northern Shan IDP camps being forcibly closed by Myanmar junta

⁷² Myanmar Now (31 Oct 2022) Myanmar junta using relief funds to finance anti-resistance militia groups ⁷³ UNHCR (1 Nov 2022) Myanmar Emergency Overview Map: Number of people displaced since Feb 2021 and remain

displaced (As of 31 Oct 2022) ⁷⁴ Myanmar Now (7 Oct 2022) Myanmar military column takes civilians hostage after being hit by resistance force's explosives

in Sagaing ⁷⁵ DVB, via Facebook (25 Oct 2022) https://tinyurl.com/5bc4kdtu

⁷⁶ Myitkyina News (18 Oct 2022) ကချင်ပြည်နယ်အစပ် ကသာမြိုနယ်၊ ကျေးရွာအချို့က ကိုယ်ဝန်ဆောင်နှင့် အသက် (၁) နှစ်အောက်

ကလေးငယ်များ ကာကွယ်ဆေးထိုးခွင့်မရ

⁷⁷ RFA (21 Oct 2022) ဗန်းမောက်မှာ လေကြောင်းတိုက်ခိုက်မှုကြောင့် အမျိုးသမီးနဲ့ ကလေးသူငယ်တွေ ထိခိုက်သေဆုံးမှုရှိ

⁷⁸ Irrawaddy (28 Oct 2022) Disabled Civilian Killed in Myanmar Junta Airstrike

In **Shwebo District**, the junta launched airstrikes on three villages in **Wetlet Township** on 17 Oct, killing at least one woman.⁷⁹ As of 8 Oct, regime airstrikes in the township had already killed nine resistance members and two civilians.⁸⁰ On 4 Oct, it was reported that regime forces had killed at least 68 civilians and torched 2,100 houses in **Taze Township** since the attempted coup.⁸¹ On 16 Oct, junta troops arrested a 26-year-old man they ultimately killed on the next day. Soldiers also captured and tortured 11 villagers, including a monk they killed after accusing him of helping PDFs.⁸² As of 23 Oct, regime forces had torched over 2,500 houses in the township, including seven villages they completely burned down.⁸³

In **Yinmabin District**, regime attacks killed one pregnant woman and her mother in Pyar Oh village, **Yinmabin Township** on 19 Oct. Soldiers also kidnapped displaced villagers sheltering in the village.⁸⁴ On 20 Oct, junta forces decapitated two resistance fighters in Yin Baung Taing village. Prior to this, regime troops had arrested 37 civilians they used as forced porters.⁸⁵ On 20 Oct, junta forces torched at least eight houses in Shwe Hlan village. Locals subsequently found the charred bodies of nine resistance fighters and one unidentified civilian.⁸⁶ In **Pale Township**, the regime launched airstrikes on and raided a resistance-controlled village on 25 Oct.⁸⁷ The attack killed at least three resistance fighters, ten prisoners of the resistance, including two police officers, and several civilians, including a grade 9 student.⁸⁸

In **Monywa District**, regime forces raided two villages in **Monywa Township** on 4 Oct. Soldiers torched at least eight houses and detained over 300 residents, some of whom they tortured.⁸⁹ On 6 Oct, it was reported that junta troops had destroyed several roads connecting Monywa, where the Northwestern Regional Command is located, to nearby villages.⁹⁰ On 9 Oct, indiscriminate regime small arms fire killed a civilian in Monywa.⁹¹ On 24 Oct, junta troops arrested 45 residents aged 15 to 20 in Nyaung Pin Thar village. Soldiers also shot dead a motorcyclist.⁹² In **Chaung-U Township**, junta forces torched over 70 houses in Maethaegyokwin village on 11 Oct.⁹³ Regime troops raided ten villages during 14-15 Oct, forcing 20,000 locals to flee. They torched nearly 500 homes and killed four residents.⁹⁴ In **Budalin Township**, junta forces fired at Magyee Oak village on 25 Oct, killing one woman. Soldiers also abducted two villagers.⁹⁵

Magway Region

Junta soldiers continued to conduct scorched-earth operations, targeting civilians amid clashes with local resistance forces. On 13 Oct, locals found the bodies of four civilians in a village where junta troops torched at least 50 houses in **Htilin Township**.⁹⁶ On 16 Oct, regime troops raided Hpat Taw Yae village (**Natmauk Township**) following a resistance attack that killed four junta soldiers.⁹⁷ Locals said junta forces arrested and tortured more than 100 residents, killing three. Soldiers then raided a nearby village where they arrested and tortured about 80 villagers.⁹⁸ On 17 Oct, regime troops beheaded a

⁸³ Irrawaddy, via Facebook (31 Oct 2022) https://tinyurl.com/zsjnhwtu

⁷⁹ DVB, via Facebook (19 Oct 2022) https://tinyurl.com/bdhcf59n

⁸⁰ DVB, via Facebook (19 Oct 2022) https://tinyurl.com/bdhcf59n

⁸¹ Irrawaddy (4 Oct 2022) Myanmar Regime Raids Leave Over 10,000 Civilians Homeless in Taze Since Coup

⁸² Myanmar Now (19 Oct 2022) Junta troops kill villager, torture monk in Sagaing's Taze Township

⁸⁴ Myanmar Now (20 Oct 2022) Pregnant woman and her mother-in-law killed in Myanmar army ground and air assault in Sagaing

⁸⁵ DVB, via Facebook (24 Oct 2022) https://tinyurl.com/3b2hdvxc

⁸⁶ Myanmar Now (24 Oct 2022) Myanmar junta forces kill, burn 10 in southern Sagaing village

⁸⁷ Myanmar Now (26 Oct 2022) Myanmar's military raids Sagaing village, rescues prisoners

⁸⁸ Myanmar Now (31 Oct 2022) 17 bodies discovered in Pale Township village after junta raid

⁸⁹ Irrawaddy (5 Oct 2022) Myanmar Junta Troops Raid Pro-NLD Villages in Sagaing

⁹⁰ Myanmar Now (6 Oct 2022) Military destroys roads used to bypass Monywa checkpoints

⁹¹ Mizzima (12 Oct 2022) Young man killed by random firing from Myanmar Junta in Monywa

⁹²DVB, via Facebook (26 Oct 2022) https://tinyurl.com/y9mv4892

⁹³ Irrawaddy, via Facebook (12 Oct 2022) https://tinyurl.com/2yay23k3

⁹⁴ RFA (17 Oct 2022) Junta attacks on a Sagaing region township leave 4 dead and destroy 500 houses; Mizzima (19 Oct 2022) Myanmar junta troops forget grenades after setting village on fire; Myanmar Now (18 Oct 2022) Myanmar military kills four in Sagaing's Chaung-U Township

⁹⁵ DVB (26 Oct 2022) ဘုတလင်မြို့နယ်၌ စစ်တပ်ပစ်ခတ်မှုကြောင့် အမှိူးသမီး ၁ ဦးသေဆုံး၊ အမှူိုးသား၂ ဦး ဖမ်းဆီးခံရ

⁹⁶ Myanmar Now (17 Oct 2022) Four burned bodies found in Yaw region village after three-day junta occupation

⁹⁷ Myanmar Now (19 Oct 2022) Outgunned resistance forces kill four police in Natmauk village

⁹⁸ Irrawaddy (28 Oct 2022) Magwe Villagers Tortured to Death During Myanmar Junta Occupation

NUG teacher and hanged his head by the school's door in **Pauk Township**.⁹⁹ UNHCR said there were around 111,800 IDPs in Magway Region as of 31 Oct. All were displaced after 1 Feb 2021.¹⁰⁰

Chin State

In **Tedim Township**, regime artillery fire killed a woman in Lailoe village on 11 Oct.¹⁰¹ On 16 Oct, an unknown assailant shot dead a junta-appointed education department officer who refused to join the CDM in Matupi Township.¹⁰² On 17 Oct, it was reported that the regime had launched four airstrikes on resistance forces after they attacked a military column between Hakha and Thangtlang Townships.¹⁰³ On 19 Oct, junta shells killed two six-year-old boys and seriously injured a six-year-old girl in Bon Lun village, Hakha Township.¹⁰⁴

Clashes between the regime and the Arakan Army (AA) also continued in Paletwa Township. On 7 Oct, junta artillery fire injured a 46-year-old woman in Mon Daunt Chaung village.¹⁰⁵ UNHCR said there were around 52,700 IDPs in Chin State as of 31 Oct, including 46,200 who were displaced after 1 Feb 2021.¹⁰⁶ On 14 Oct, it was reported that junta forces had sealed off Matupi Township after losing 17 soldiers in a clash with the Chin National Defense Force (CDF) on 19 Sep. The move drove up prices in the area.¹⁰⁷

Rakhine State

As of late October, junta and AA forces were engaged in active fighting in Maungdaw, Buthidaung, Rathedaung, Minbya, Kyauktaw, and Ponnagyun Townships.¹⁰⁸ On 13 Oct, it was reported that regimeimposed restrictions on the transportation of drugs and related items in Maungdaw, Buthidaung, Rathedaung, and Mrauk-U Townships had led to medicine shortages in some villages.¹⁰⁹ On the same day, it was reported that the junta had blockaded an entire village-tract in Ann Township, driving up food and commodity prices in the area.¹¹⁰ On 29 Oct, it was reported that residents in northern Maungdaw Township were facing food shortages due to the regime's travel restrictions.¹¹¹

Junta forces kept arresting or otherwise targeting civilians over alleged AA links. On 8 Oct, it was reported that the regime had arrested at least 140 people statewide between Jun-21 Sep 2022. The junta released some civilians in October but over 60 people were still detained as of 8 Oct.¹¹² On 10 Oct, it was reported that regime forces had brutally tortured two village administrators from Buthidaung Township before charging them under the Unlawful Associations Act.¹¹³ On 14 Oct, junta troops shot and detained a local United League of Arakan (ULA)/AA leader in Ann Township. He ultimately died in custody.¹¹⁴

In October, indiscriminate regime artillery fire injured seven civilians, including a child and a teenager in Minbya Township (6-7 Oct);¹¹⁵ killed a 30-year-old Muslim woman in Kyauktaw Township (7 Oct);¹¹⁶ killed a 49-year-old female teacher, a 23-year-old woman and a 10-year-old child in Minbya

⁹⁹ Irrawaddy (18 Oct 2022) Myanmar Junta Troops Behead NUG Teacher

¹⁰⁰ UNHCR (1 Nov 2022) Myanmar Emergency Overview Map: Number of people displaced since Feb 2021 and remain displaced (As of 31 Oct 2022)

¹⁰¹ RFA (12 Oct 2022) တီးတိန်မှာ အမျိုးသမီးတစ်ဦး လက်နက်ကြီးကျည် ထိမှန်သေဆုံး

¹⁰² Khonumthung (21 Oct 2022) Matupi Education Officer Assassinated

¹⁰³ Khonumthung (21 Oct 2022) Regime Attack Chin Resistance With Fighter Jets

¹⁰⁴ Irrawady (20 Oct 2022) Three Children Killed By Random Myanmar Junta Shelling

¹⁰⁵ DMG (8 Oct 2022) Junta shelling injures woman in Paletwa Twsp village

¹⁰⁶ UNHCR (1 Nov 2022) Myanmar Emergency Overview Map: Number of people displaced since Feb 2021 and remain displaced (As of 31 Oct 2022)

Khonumthung Media Group (14 Oct 2022) Regime Maintains Death Grip On Mutupi

¹⁰⁸ DMG (30 Oct 2022) Junta shelling injures Grade 10 student in Kyauktaw Twsp

¹⁰⁹ DMG (13 Oct 2022) Villages in northern Arakan State face medicine shortages

¹¹⁰ DMG (15 Oct 2022) Regime isolates dozens of villages in Ann Twsp

¹¹¹ DMG (29 Oct 2022) Residents required to seek approval from administrators, police to travel in northern Maungdaw Twsp

¹¹² DMG (8 Oct 2022) Handful of detained Mrauk-U Twsp residents released

¹¹³ Narinjara News (10 Oct 2022) Village administrators from Buthidaung tortured and charged

¹¹⁴ DMG (15 Oct 2022) Local ULA/AA leader in Ann Twsp dies in junta custody

¹¹⁵ Narinjara News (7 Oct 2022) Village woman injured with shell explosion in Min Bya; DMG (7 Oct 2022) Six Minbya Twsp villagers injured by junta artillery strikes ¹¹⁶ DMG (18 Oct 2022) Shelling kills Muslim woman in Kyauktaw Twsp village

Township (17 Oct);¹¹⁷ killed a 40-year-old man in Buthidaung Township (18 Oct);¹¹⁸ killed a girl and injured another child in Rathedaung Township (19 Oct);¹¹⁹ injured two men in Kyauktaw Township (19 Oct);¹²⁰ injured a 63-year-old Muslim cleric in Buthidaung Township (27 Oct);¹²¹ injured a Grade 10 student and killed a mother, father and their 13-year-old daughter in Kyauktaw Township (29, 31 Oct);122

UNHCR said there were around 232,100 IDPs in Rakhine State as of 31 Oct, including 13,100 who were displaced after 1 Feb 2021.¹²³ On 26 Oct, it was reported that thousands of local IDPs were in dire need of warmer clothes and blankets for the upcoming cold season.¹²⁴ On 31 Oct, it was reported that women living in Rakhine IDP camps were in need of contraceptive pills and sanitary pads, as supplies were running low due to lack of support from donor organizations. The need to purchase these health items out of their own pockets is reportedly putting further strain on their finances at a time when opportunities to earn income are severely limited.¹²⁵

On 27 Oct, it was reported that regime forces were threatening to charge displaced civilians in Buthidaung Township with trespassing if they did not return to their villages. Soldiers have reportedly begun making lists of people living in camps in Rathedaung, Ponnagyun, Kyauktaw, and Mrauk-U Townships in order to pressure them to leave. The military offered no explanation as to why it was trying to empty the camps, but residents believe it is because junta troops want to use them as human shields amid growing tensions with the AA.¹²⁶

Karenni and Southern Shan States

On 3 Oct, it was reported that 57 clashes had broken out between junta and KNDF-led resistance forces in Karenni State in September. Junta airstrikes and artillery also killed nine civilians and injured 19.127 On 14 Oct, it was reported that regime artillery fire had killed over 20 children and injured a further 50 since the attempted coup.¹²⁸ Junta forces continued to target civilians amid clashes with resistance fighters in October.

On 8 Oct, regime troops fired at villages in **Demoso Township**, injuring a child and a woman.¹²⁹ On 21 Oct, soldiers abducted and tortured two locals following a clash with resistance fighters.¹³⁰ On 23 Oct, junta artillery fire killed an IDP couple and injured one of their children in Loikaw Township.¹³¹ Indiscriminate regime shelling also killed a child and injured seven civilians in the township on 26-27 Oct, prompting over 4,000 civilians to flee.¹³² Local aid workers said junta artillery fire had killed four people, including a four-year-old girl, and injured at least 20 others in October. Soldiers deliberately targeted displacement camps, forcing IDPs to move to safer locations.¹³³

¹¹⁷ Narinjara (20 Oct 2022) Thousands join funeral of Min Bya school teacher died in army shelling

¹¹⁸ DMG (18 Oct 2022) Man killed by junta shelling in Buthidaung Twsp

¹¹⁹ Myanmar Now (20 Oct 2022) Girl killed, boy injured by Myanmar army shelling in Rakhine State's Rathedaung Township

¹²⁰ DMG (19 Oct 2022) Two men wounded by artillery shell shrapnel in Kyauktaw Twsp

¹²¹ DMG (28 Oct 2022) Muslim cleric injured by shelling in Buthidaung Twsp

¹²² DMG (30 Oct 2022) Junta shelling injures Grade 10 student in Kyauktaw Twsp; DMG (1 Nov 2022) Junta shelling kills three family members in Kyauktaw Twsp village: residents

¹²³ UNHCR (1 Nov 2022) Myanmar Emergency Overview Map: Number of people displaced since Feb 2021 and remain displaced (As of 31 Oct 2022)

DMG (26 Oct 2022) Arakan IDPs in need of blankets and warm clothes

¹²⁵ DMG (31 Oct 2022) IDP women in Arakan State in need of contraceptive pills and sanitary pads

¹²⁶ Myanmar Now (27 Oct 2022) Myanmar army pressuring Rakhine IDPs to return to military-controlled villages

¹²⁷ DMG (3 Oct 2022) Nine civilians killed by junta strikes in Kayah State last month: resistance group

 ¹²⁸ Than Lwin Times (14 Oct 2022) More than 70 children killed or wounded by junta's mortar shelling in Kayah State
¹²⁹ Kantarawaddy Times (10 Oct 2022) လက်နက်ကြီး ပစ်ခတ်မှုကြောင့် ၅နှစ်အရွယ် ကလေးငယ်တစ်ဦးနဲ့ အမျိုးသမီးတစ်ဦး ဒဏ်ရာရ

¹³⁰ Kantarawaddy Times (26 Oct 2022) Two civilians were abducted and tortured by the military junta

¹³¹ Myanmar Now (25 Oct 2022) Myanmar army artillery fire in Karenni State hits shelter housing displaced family; RFA (25 Oct 2022) လက်နက်ကြီးကျည် ထိမှန်ထားတဲ့ လွိုင်ကော် ကုန်းသာရွာမှာ အမျိုးသမီးတစ်ဦး ထပ်မံသေဆုံး

¹³² Kantarawaddy Times (26 Oct 2022) လက်နက်ကြီးကျည်စထိမှန်မှုကြောင့် မိသားစုဝင်သုံးဦး ထိခိုက်ဒဏ်ရာရ, Kantarawaddy Times

⁽²⁷ Oct 2022) ကျေးရွာအတွင်း လက်နက်ကြီး ကျရောက်ခဲ့တဲ့အတွက် ဒေသခံ ၄၀၀၀ ကျော် စစ်ဘေးရှောင်နေရ, Kantarawaddy Times (26 Oct 2022) Three family members injured by junta mortar fire in Loikaw Township

¹³³ DMG (1 Nov 2022) Kayah State aid workers say five civilians killed, 20 wounded by junta artillery shells in October

UNHCR said there were around 79,700 IDPs in **Karenni State** as of 31 Oct. All were displaced after 1 Feb 2021.¹³⁴ This is likely a gross underestimate: the Karenni Civil Society Network said there were 146,115 IDPs in Karenni State as of 9 Oct.¹³⁵

Fighting also continued in **Southern Shan State**. On 14 Oct, it was reported that regime and resistance forces were still fighting over the control of Moebye, **Pekon Township**. As of that date, the regime had launched fifteen airstrikes as part of its push to retake the city, killing six civilians, including three children and injuring 13 residents.¹³⁶ On 30 Oct, it was reported that five days of clashes in Moebye had killed three civilians and prompted over 20,000 villagers from ten villages to flee.¹³⁷ According to UNHCR, there were around 58,900 IDPs in Southern Shan State as of 31 Oct, all of whom were displaced after 1 Feb 2021.¹³⁸

Karen, Bago, and Mon States/Region

In **Karen State**, regime fighter jets bombed and destroyed a Buddhist monastery in Kyainseikgyi Township on 6 Oct, injuring a monk.¹³⁹ Junta artillery fire amid clashes with the KNLA in KNU-defined **Hpapun District** also injured three civilians during 7-10 Oct.¹⁴⁰ In KNU-defined **Hpa-An District**, indiscriminate regime small arms fire injured two adults and three children on 12 Oct.¹⁴¹ On 21 Oct, clashes between junta troops and KNLA-led resistance forces in **Kawkareik Township** injured at least 17 civilians. Regime forces resorted to artillery fire, killing three residents.¹⁴² According to UNHCR, there were around 92,400 IDPs in Karen State as of 31 Oct, including 89,200 who were displaced after 1 Feb 2021.¹⁴³

Fighting also continued to impact civilians in **Bago Region**. On 22 Oct, regime forces raped and killed a woman in KNU-controlled **Mone Township**. They also torched two houses and a farm.¹⁴⁴ On 28 Oct, regime artillery fire killed one civilian and injured three others in Thitchaseik village.¹⁴⁵ According to UNHCR, there were around 44,200 IDPs in Bago Region as of 31 Oct, including 43,000 who were displaced after 1 Feb 2021.¹⁴⁶

In Northern **Mon State**, 24 PDFs in KNU-defined **Thaton District** put themselves under KNLA command.¹⁴⁷ On 7 Oct, the KNU said clashes between KNLA and junta forces in the district had killed 48 junta soldiers and injured 41 in September. Regime artillery fire also damaged four civilian houses and killed livestock.¹⁴⁸ On 12 Oct, it was reported that the regime was barring its soldiers' families from leaving military housing in Mon State; likely to prevent defections.¹⁴⁹ UNHCR said there were around 17,900 IDPs in **Mon State** as of 31 Oct. All were displaced after 1 Feb 2021.¹⁵⁰

သတ်ဖြတ်ပြီး ရွှေငွေများ ခိုးယူသွား

¹³⁴ UNHCR (1 Nov 2022) Myanmar Emergency Overview Map: Number of people displaced since Feb 2021 and remain displaced (As of 31 Oct 2022)

¹³⁵ Karenni Civil Society Network (25 Oct 2022) Oct 10-23, 2022; SAC human rights violations in Karenni State and Pekhon Township

¹³⁶ Kantarawaddy Times (14 Oct 2022) Burma Army Surrounds Mobye

¹³⁷ RFA (30 Oct 2022) မိုးဗြဲနှစ်ဖက်တိုက်ပွဲ ဒေသခံသုံးဦးသေဆုံးပြီး နှစ်သောင်းကျော် ထွက်ပြေးနေရ

¹³⁸ UNHCR (1 Nov 2022) Myanmar Emergency Overview Map: Number of people displaced since Feb 2021 and remain displaced (As of 31 Oct 2022)

¹³⁹ Mizzima (10Oct 2022) Myanmar junta monastery air attack in Karen State injures monk

¹⁴⁰ Than Lwin Times (14 Oct 2022) Nearly 20 military personnel killed in a 4-day battle in KNU's Hpapun District

¹⁴¹ Than Lwin Times (14 Oct 2022) Five locals injured by reckless shooting of junta forces in Hpa-an

 ¹⁴² RFA (21 Oct 2022) Shelling kills 3 civilians during the battle for control of a Kayin state township; Myanmar Now (21 Oct 2022) Myanmar military bombs Karen State town from air as Karen resistance alliance strikes junta targets
¹⁴³ UNHCR (1 Nov 2022) Myanmar Emergency Overview Map: Number of people displaced since Feb 2021 and remain displaced (As of 31 Oct 2022)

¹⁴⁴ Khit Thit Media (31 Oct 2022) မုန်းမြို့နယ်၊ တခေါ့ပွာကျေးရွာမှ အမျိုးသမီးတစ်ဦးကို စစ်တပ် ခမရ ၅၉၉ တပ်ဖွဲ့က အဓမ္မပြုကျင့်

¹⁴⁵ Than Lwin Times (1 Nov 2022) 1 civilian killed, 3 others injured by mortar shell attack on KNU's Nyaunglaybin District ¹⁴⁶ UNHCR (1 Nov 2022) Myanmar Emergency Overview Map: Number of people displaced since Feb 2021 and remain displaced (As of 31 Oct 2022)

¹⁴⁷ Irrawaddy (11 Oct 2022) Myanmar Resistance Forces Unite Under KNU Leadership in Mon State

¹⁴⁸ Than Lwin Times (8 Oct 2022) Nearly 50 military personnel killed in one month in Thaton District

 ¹⁴⁹ Than Lwin Times (12 Oct 2022) Military council threatens not to guarantee safety of junta families leaving military housing
¹⁵⁰ UNHCR (1 Nov 2022) Myanmar Emergency Overview Map: Number of people displaced since Feb 2021 and remain
displaced (As of 31 Oct 2022)

On 12 Oct, a clash between regime and resistance forces killed three women and injured 13 people near a Buddhist pilgrimage site in Kyaikto Township. On 14 Oct, the junta said it will charge local news outlets BBC Burmese and The Irrawaddy under the Telecommunications and News Media laws for failing to publish statements blaming the KNLA, NUG, CRPH and PDFs for the incident.¹⁵¹ Fighting between KNLA and regime forces continued during 14-18 Oct, killing 14 soldiers and four KNLA fighters.¹⁵² On 19 Oct, junta troops looted and torched five houses in Painnegon village, and threatened to burn down the entire village if the KNLA kept attacking them.¹⁵³ On 25 Oct, it was reported that regime artillery fire had prompted more than 8,000 Kyaikto residents to flee.¹⁵⁴

Tanintharyi Region

Resistance forces continued their operations. They attacked regime forces, checkpoints, convoys or junta-affiliated militias in **Palaw** (3 Oct),¹⁵⁵ **Launglon** (4 Oct),¹⁵⁶ **Dawei** (6, 14 Oct),¹⁵⁷ **Bokepyin** (8 Oct),¹⁵⁸ **Ye** (11 Oct),¹⁵⁹ and **Yebyu** (14 Oct) **Townships**.¹⁶⁰ On 18 Oct, resistance forces shot dead a retired police officer they accused of being a military informant and providing training to pro-regime militias in Launglon Township. Her daughter, a CDM member, denied these claims.¹⁶¹ On 23 Oct, unknown gunmen shot dead four civilians, including a headmistress, and injured another person in Yebyu Township.¹⁶²

On 13 Oct, regime forces used combat drones against the resistance in Palaw Township; a first in the region.¹⁶³ On 14 Oct, it was reported that the junta had been building up troops in and was transporting jet fuel and ammunition to Tanintharyi Region; likely in preparation for a heavy offensive.¹⁶⁴ On 18 Oct, it was reported that military convoys traveling on the Myeik-Dawei highway had forced civilians to drive near army vehicles to prevent PDF attacks.¹⁶⁵ UNHCR said there were around 20,800 IDPs in Tanintharyi Region as of 31 Oct. All were displaced after 1 Feb 2021.¹⁶⁶

Mandalay Region

Fighting between regime and junta forces continued to impact civilians. Resistance fighters attacked regime forces, police, and convoys in Wundwin (9 Oct),¹⁶⁷ Myittha (23, 26 Oct),¹⁶⁸ Pyinoolwin (23 Oct),¹⁶⁹ Natogyi (26 Oct),¹⁷⁰ Nyaung-U (29 Oct),¹⁷¹ and Singu (29, 31 Oct) Townships.¹⁷² They also continued to target civilians, killing or injuring regime administrators, civil servants or alleged junta

¹⁶⁵ Than Lwin Times (18 Oct 2022) Military council takes advantage of civilian cars for their security in Tanintharyi

¹⁵¹ Myanmar Now (13 Oct 2022) Three women killed in Mon State shooting near Buddhist pilgrimage site; DVB (17 Oct 2022) Junta lays charges against BBC and Irrawaddy; Issues a warning to the Arakan National Party; Irrawaddy (17 Oct 2022) Senior Myanmar Junta Figures Behind Legal Action Against Irrawaddy, BBC

Than Lwin Times Media (20 Oct 2022) Fighting intensifies in KNU-controlled Kyaikto

¹⁵³ Than Lwin Times Media (21 Oct 2022) Military regime burns down residences in Kyaikto

¹⁵⁴ NMG (25 Oct 2022) Thousands Displaced By Junta Shelling In Mon State

¹⁵⁵ Mizzima (6 Oct 2022) 20 Myanmar junta soldiers killed in Palaw Township attack in Tanintharyi Region

¹⁵⁶ Mizzima (8 Oct 2022) Three Pyu Saw Htee members 'executed' in Tanintharyi's Dawei District

¹⁵⁷ Than Lwin Times (8 Oct 2022) Military column ambushed in Dawei, killing 3 soldiers; DMG (15 Oct 2022) Five junta soldiers reportedly killed in attack on Tanintharyi Region security checkpoint

¹⁵⁸ Mizzima (11 Oct 2022) Myanmar Junta convoy attacked in Bokepyin Township, Tanintharyi Region

¹⁵⁹ Mizzima (13 Oct 2022) Myanmar junta convoy attacked in Tanintharyi's Dawei Township

¹⁶⁰ Than Lwin Times Media (15 Oct 2022) 4 soldiers killed, 2 others injured in checkpoint attack at Kalainaung Bridge

¹⁶¹ DVB (21 Oct 2022) CDM worker denies her slain father was a military informant

¹⁶² DVB (24 Oct 2022) ရေဖြူမြို့နယ်တွင် ကျောင်းအုပ်ဆရာမကြီးအပါအဝင် ရွာသား ၄ ဦး ပစ်သတ်ခံရ

¹⁶³ Than Lwin Times (19 Oct 2022) Junta using combat drones in Tanintharvi

¹⁶⁴ Than Lwin Times (14 Oct 2022) Military Council prepares to launch fierce offensive in Tanintharyi in open season

¹⁶⁶ UNHCR (1 Nov 2022) Myanmar Emergency Overview Map: Number of people displaced since Feb 2021 and remain displaced (As of 31 Oct 2022)

¹⁶⁷ Myanmar Now (11 Oct 2022) Local Myanmar junta personnel assassinated by Mandalay Region guerrilla forces

¹⁶⁸ DVB (23 Oct 2022) မတ္တရာတွင် စစ်ကောင်စီတပ် မိုင်းဆွဲခံရ၊ နွားထိုးကြီး၌ စစ်တပ်စစ်ဆေးရေးဂိတ် ဒရုန်းဖြင့် တိုက်ခိုက်ခံရ ; DVB (26 Oct

²⁰²²⁾ မတ္တရာတွင် စစ်ကောင်စီတပ်ဖွဲ့ဝင်များ မိုင်းခွဲတိုက်ခိုက်ခံရပြီး ၄ ဦးသေဆုံး

¹⁶⁹ Mizzima (26 Oct 2022) Myanmar junta army truck hit by mine in Mandalay Region

¹⁷⁰ Mizzima (30 Oct 2022) Myanmar PDF drone bombing kills 5 junta soldiers in village in Mandalay

 ¹⁷¹ Irrawaddy (31 Oct 2022) Eleven Myanmar Junta Police Killed in Resistance Raid on Station
¹⁷² DVB (31 Oct 2022) စဉ့်ကူးမြို့နယ် ရွှေပြည်ရွာအနီးမှာ စစ်ကောင်စီယာဉ်တန်း နှစ်ရက်ဆက်တိုက် မိုင်းဆွဲတိုက်ခိုက်ခံရ, Myanmar

Pressphoto Agency (31 Oct 2022) နွယ်ရှံ ရဲစခန်းတိုက်ခိုက်ခံရပြီးနောက် စစ်တပ်က ရဟတ်ယာဉ် နှစ်စင်းဖြင် လာရောက်ပစ်ခတ်

informants in Chanmyathazi (10 Oct),¹⁷³ Patheingyi (16, 24 Oct),¹⁷⁴ Wundwin (17 Oct),¹⁷⁵ Mattaya (17 Oct),¹⁷⁶ and **Pyigyidagun** (31 Oct)¹⁷⁷ Townships.

On 3 Oct, resistance forces attacked a junta convoy in **Sintgaing Township**, killing a police officer and injuring several others. Junta troops responded by arresting 40 people and ultimately killing two.¹⁷⁸ In Natogvi Township, the pro-junta Thwe Thout group killed five civilians during 3-4 Oct.¹⁷⁹ On 15 Oct, regime forces raided two monasteries in Pyigyitagon Township. Soldiers tortured two youths and a novice monk.¹⁸⁰ On 27 Oct, it was reported that junta troops in Wundwin Township had arrested about 190 people in connection with the murders of a police inspector and a township administrator there.¹⁸¹

Yangon Region

On 19 Oct, bombs planted by resistance group Special Task Agency of Burma (STAB) hit a crowd queueing to drop off parcels for inmates at Insein Prison. Junta personnel responded by opening fire to scatter passersby. The incidents killed at least three prison staff and five visiting relatives of political detainees, and injured 18 others, including five staff and 13 civilians. The regime pinned the deaths on the explosions, while STAB blamed the shooting. The NUG condemned the bombings and vowed to prosecute anyone found responsible.¹⁸²

Resistance fighters continued to target civilians, killing or injuring regime administrators, civil servants or alleged junta informants, as well as their families. On 22 Oct, a resistance group killed a civilian and critically injured his wife, both alleged informants, in North Dagon Township.¹⁸³ Unknown gunmen shot dead a junta-appointed administrator, his wife and his nephew in **Hlaing Township** (22 Oct);¹⁸⁴ injured an administrator and killed his wife in Shwepyithar Township (24 Oct);¹⁸⁵ and seriously injured another administrator in North Okkalapa Township (26 Oct).¹⁸⁶

Bomb attacks targeted a regime interrogation center in Hlaing Township (12 Oct);¹⁸⁷ a court in **Kyimyindaing Township** (15 Oct);¹⁸⁸ a Kanbawza Bank in **Hlaing Township** (21 Oct);¹⁸⁹ a betel nut shop in **Shwepyithar Township** (24 Oct);¹⁹⁰ and an administration office in **Hmawbi Township** (25 Oct).¹⁹¹ On 14 Oct, a bomb attack against junta forces injured at least two women in **Dala Township**.¹⁹² On 20 Oct, gunmen shot dead an army officer, his wife, and another soldier in **Hlaing Township**.¹⁹³

¹⁷⁴ DVB (17 Oct 2022) ပုသိမ်ကြီးတွင် အုပ်ချုပ်ရေးမှူးတဦး သေနတ်ဖြင့် ပစ်သတ်ခံရ; DVB (25 Oct 2022) ပုသိမ်ကြီးမြို့နယ်၌

¹⁸⁰ Myanmar Now (18 Oct 2022) Junta troops raid Mandalay monasteries with ties to activist monk

¹⁷³ Mizzima (12 Oct 2022) Myanmar junta-appointed Mandalay ward administrator killed

အိုးအိမ်ဝန်ထမ်းတိုက်ခန်း ဗုံးပစ်ခံရပြီး ဝန်ထမ်း ၂ ယောက် ဒဏ်ရာရ

¹⁷⁵ Mizzima (20 Oct 2022) Wundwin Township administrator shot dead

¹⁷⁶ DVB (20 Oct 2022) မတ္တရာမြို့နယ် တံငါမြောက်ရွာ အုပ်ချုပ်ရေးမှူး ပစ်သတ်ခံရ

¹⁷⁷ DVB (31 Oct 2022) ပြည်ကြီးတံခွန်၌ ရပ်ကွက်အုပ်ချုပ်ရေးမှူးရုံး ဗုံးပစ်တိုက်ခိုက်ခံရပြီး အုပ်ချုပ်ရေးအဖွဲ့များ ဒဏ်ရာရ

 ¹⁷⁸ Irrawaddy (7 Oct 2022) Two Die in Myanmar Junta Crackdown Following Mandalay Resistance Ambushes
¹⁷⁹ Myanmar Now (5 Oct 2022) Killings in Mandalay's Natogyi Township linked to Thwe Thout

¹⁸¹ RFA (27 Oct 2022) Around 190 locals arrested in Myanmar's Mandalay region

¹⁸² Myanmar Now (19 Oct 2022) Bomb blasts, gunfire at Myanmar's biggest prison kills eight, including guards; Irrawaddy (21 Oct 2022) Myanmar Revolutionaries Condemn Insein Prison Bombing; Myanmar Now (21 Oct 2022) Myanmar prisons suspend delivery of mail, parcels to inmates 'until further notice'

¹⁸³ DVB (22 Oct 2022) မြောက်ဒဂုံ ဦးကြင်ဥဈေး၌ လင်မယားနှစ်ဦး ပစ်ခတ်ခံရ

¹⁸⁴ DVB (22 Oct 2022) လှိုင်မြို့နယ်တွင် ရာအိမ်မှူးအပါအဝင် ၃ ဦး ပစ်သတ်ခံရ

¹⁸⁵ DVB (24 Oct 2022) ရွှေပြည်သာ၂၇ ရပ်ကွက် အုပ်ချုပ်ရေးမှူးရုံး ပစ်ခတ်ခံရ၊ သေဆုံး ထိခိုက်ဒဏ်ရာရသူများရှိ

¹⁸⁶ DVB (26 Oct 2022) မြောက်ဥက္ကလာပတွင် ရာအိမ်မှူး ၁ ဦး ပစ်ခတ်ခံရ

¹⁸⁷ Mizzima (17 Oct 2022) Myanmar junta interrogation centre in Yangon bombed

¹⁸⁸ DVB (15 Oct 2022) ကြည့်မြင်တိုင် မြို့နယ်တရားရုံး တိုက်ခိုက်ခံရ

¹⁸⁹ DVB (21 Oct 2022) လှိုင်မြို့နယ် သီရိမင်္ဂလာဈေးသစ်အနီးရှိ KBZ ဘဏ်ရှေ့တွင် ဗုံးပေါက်

¹⁹⁰ DVB (24 Oct 2022) ရွှေပြည်သာမြို့နယ်တွင် ဗုံးပေါက်ကွဲပြီး၂ ဦး ဒဏ်ရာရ

¹⁹¹ DVB (25 Oct 2022) ရွှေပြည်သာနှင့် မှော်ဘီတို့တွင် ဗုံးပေါက်ကွဲပြီး ထိခိုက်ဒဏ်ရာရရှိသူများရှိ

¹⁹² DVB (14 Oct 2022) ဒလမြို့နယ် နာရီစင်အနီး ဗုံးပေါက်၊ ထိခိုက်ဒဏ်ရာရသူများရှိ

¹⁹³ Myanmar Now (24 Oct 2022) Beyond the Headlines: Myanmar junta denies incarcerated activist permission to attend funeral of mother killed outside Insein Prison

Women remain defiant despite hardships (more details at women tracker)

On 7 Oct, the Burmese Women's Union reported that the regime had killed at least 300 women, detained a further 2,400, and sentenced over 200 on various charges during Feb 2021-Sep 2022. The junta sentenced a total of nine women to death, 10 to life imprisonment, and over 50 to at least nine years in prison.¹⁹⁴ On 17 Oct, NUG ambassador to the UN Kyaw Moe Tun told the UN General Assembly that a significant percentage of IDPs in Burma were women and children. He added that they were at particular risk of becoming victims of human trafficking.195

On 4 Oct, it was reported that the post-coup economic turmoil had led more women to turn to sex work in Yangon Region to feed their families. Sex workers are poorly remunerated, and particularly vulnerable to arrest, gang violence, and extortion.¹⁹⁶ On 17 Oct, it was reported that about 100 Burma women were forced to live off begging in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). They reportedly left Burma to work as domestic workers due to economic hardships and job shortages, but brokers confiscated their passports upon arrival and subjected them to inhumane treatment.¹⁹⁷ On 16 Oct, it was reported that the number of Facebook ads for arranged marriages with foreign men were on the rise in border areas. They present these unions as a way to live overseas legally and become richer.¹⁹⁸

On 14 Oct, ABC News published an article about Burmese-Australian model Sophia Sarkis, a finalist in the Mrs. Universe Australia pageant who used this platform to speak up against the junta and raise awareness about the situation in Burma. Sarkis also took the floor at rallies, met with politicians, and spoke at a parliamentary hearing to urge the Australian government to take action against the regime. She said some of her relatives had to go into hiding due to her activism, adding that it will not deter her from continuing.¹⁹⁹ On 26 Oct, the Myaung Women Warriors (M2W) held a ceremony in Sagaing Region to mark their one-vear anniversary. The NUG's Deputy Women, Youths and Children Affairs Minister attended the event online. M2W is the NUG's only all-female battalion.²⁰⁰

COVID-19 update (more details at COVID-19, healthcare, and education tracker)

Regime numbers showed a steady decrease in infections throughout the month: 473 on 1 Oct,²⁰¹ 325 on 15 Oct,²⁰² and 91 on 30 Oct.²⁰³ On 25 Oct, local sources reported an increase in COVID-19 infections in Mon State since September. The regime required private hospitals to transfer patients to public facilities, but poor cooperation among public servants was reportedly delaying the process.²⁰⁴

Vaccination rates remained low. Only 37,396,461 people had received shots as of 29 Oct,²⁰⁵ from a population of 55.8 million.²⁰⁶ It is unclear how many had been fully vaccinated, or boosted. On 22 Oct, the junta-controlled Health Ministry said the Myanmar Red Cross Society had taken delivery of 100,000 doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine donated by Thailand.²⁰⁷

Business and economics (more details at business & economic responses tracker)

Economy remains in the red as finance watchdog blacklists regime

On 7 Oct, junta mouthpiece Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM) reported that the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) had delisted 3,700 companies that failed to submit

¹⁹⁴ Than Lwin Times (9 Oct 2022) More than 300 women died in post-coup Myanmar

¹⁹⁵ RFA (18 Oct 2022) နေရပ်စွန့်ခွာသူ အမျိုးသမီးနဲ့ ကလေးငယ်တွေ လူကုန်ကူးခံရနိုင်ခြေရှိတယ်လို့ ကုလသမဂ္ဂထံတင်ပြ

¹⁹⁶ Frontier Myanmar (4 Oct 2022) Yangon sex workers risk violence to feed their families

¹⁹⁷ RFA (17 Oct 2022) ယူအေအီးနဲ့ အိုမန်ရောက် မြန်မာမိန်းကလေး ၁၀၀ ခန့် တောင်းရမ်းစားသောက်နေရ

¹⁹⁸ Myanmar Pressphoto Agency (16 Oct 2022) နိုင်ငံခြားသားများနှင့် လက်ထပ်ပေးသည့်လုပ်ငန်းများ ယခုရက်ပိုင်းအတွင်း ထွက်ပေါ်

¹⁹⁹ ABC News Australia (15 Oct 2022) Meet the women using beauty and fashion to reveal the ugly truth about military rule in Myanmar

DVB, via Facebook (28 Oct 2022) https://tinyurl.com/y9uecwk5

²⁰¹ GNLM (2 Oct 2022) 473 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 1 October, total figure rises to 623,639

²⁰² Xinhua (15 Oct 2022) Myanmar reports 325 new COVID-19 cases

²⁰³ Xinhua (31 Oct 2022) Myanmar reports 91 new COVID-19 cases

²⁰⁴ Independent Mon News (25 Oct 2022) Delays in Transferring Covid Patients to Mawlamyine Hospital

²⁰⁵ GNLM (31 Oct 2022) 91 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 30 October, total figure rises to 631,625

²⁰⁶ GNLM (4 Oct 2022) Population of Myanmar estimated at 55.8 million on 1 October 2022

²⁰⁷ Eleven Media (22 Oct 2022) 100,000 doses of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines donated by Thailand for Children arrive in Yangon

annual returns over the past nine months;²⁰⁸ likely because they had to cease operations as a result of the coup-induced economic crisis. On 16 Oct, junta mouthpiece GNLM reported that 39 foreign companies had invested USD 1.24 billion in Burma during the first half of fiscal 2022-23, including USD 702.4 million in the power sector.²⁰⁹ Singaporean companies remained the top investors, with USD 1.095 billion.²¹⁰ The six-month figure pales in comparison to fiscal years 2019–20 and 2020–21, when Burma attracted USD 4.9 and 3.8 billion in FDI, respectively.²¹¹

On 4 Oct, it was reported that the value of Burma's exports had reached USD 8.15 billion between 1 Apr-23 Sep, up from 6.8 billion compared to the same period last year.²¹² Imports reached USD 8.159 billion, up from 6.6 billion.²¹³ However, on 5 Oct, it was reported that the regime's import and export policies had boosted illicit border trade, and that the depreciation of the MMK had prompted smaller importers to switch to the black market, thus passing higher import prices on to consumers.²¹⁴

On 21 Oct, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), a global finance watchdog, blacklisted Burma over the regime's failure to head off money laundering and other financial crimes, adding the country now required stronger due diligence. The junta-controlled Central Bank of Myanmar downplayed the situation, saying it had an action plan in place to address the blacklisting.²¹⁵

Russia, China to the rescue as energy companies boycott regime tenders

On 10 Oct, Chinese Ambassador to Burma Chen Hai and the regime's Deputy Electricity Minister inaugurated a Beijing-backed 135-MW power plant in the Kyaukpyu Special Economic Zone (Rakhine State).²¹⁶ On 18 Oct, it was reported that the regime had signed an agreement with Inter RAO-Export Company, a major Russian power generation firm, for the implementation of the Middle Paunglaung Hydropower project, a concrete type dam being built on the Paunglaung River (Naypyidaw Union Territory). The dam, which is expected to generate 530.4 million kWh of electricity, will not be operational until 2026-27.217

On 13 Oct, it was reported that only two local companies, including crony firm Gold Energy Co. had responded to junta tenders for 18 solar projects in Yangon, Navpvidaw, Mandalay, Ayeyarwady, and Magway Regions. An industry source said Chinese firms did not compete because of security concerns, while other companies deemed the projects not commercially viable due to the MMK volatility. The source pointed out that some 50 companies from China, India, Thailand, Japan, and Burma made bids for solar projects under the NLD government, adding that the current situation showed the investors' lack of confidence in the regime.²¹⁸

Junta goes after businessmen, banks while cashing in on gems

On 3 Oct, Min Aung Hlaing met with representatives from the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Yangon-based small and medium-sized enterprise owners in Naypyidaw. Attendees reported that the meeting aimed at forcing them to pay taxes to the regime.²¹⁹ On 25 Oct, it was reported that the junta was compiling a database of bank accounts for firms operating in Yangon's industrial zones; likely to tighten financial regulations. The junta gave factory owners and businessmen until 21 Oct to submit their bank details.²²⁰

²⁰⁸ GNLM (7 Oct 2022) 3,700 companies struck off register in past 9 months due to AR absence: DICA

²⁰⁹ GNLM (16 Oct 2022) Myanmar manufacturing sector attracts \$129 million from China in H1

 ²¹⁰ GNLM (25 Oct 2022) Myanmar logs over US\$1.24 bln of FDI from 10 foreign countries in H1
²¹¹ Reuters (27 Jan 2022) Myanmar junta reports \$3.8 bln FDI since coup, says stability restored

²¹² GNLM (4 Oct 2022) Myanmar's exports soar to \$8.15 bln as of 23 Sept

²¹³ GNLM (5 Oct 2022) Imports indicate increase of \$1.55 bln as of 23 September this FY against that of mini-budget period. MoC reports

²¹⁴ Frontier (5 Oct 2022) Junta trade policies spark a smuggling revival at Thai border

²¹⁵ AP News (24 Oct 2022) Myanmar downplays blacklisting by money laundering watchdog, Eleven (22 Oct 2022) FATF adds Myanmar to a global financial blacklist

Irrawaddy (13 Oct 2022) Chinese-Backed Power Plant Opens in Myanmar's Rakhine State

²¹⁷ Eleven Media (18 Oct 2022) Myanmar signs Middle Paunglaung Hydropower project with Russia

²¹⁸ Irrawaddy (13 Oct 2022) Myanmar Junta Solar Projects Attract Only Two Bidders

²¹⁹ DVB (4 Oct 2022) လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များ အခွန်ဆောင်ရန် အာဏာသိမ်းစစ်ခေါင်းဆောင် ဖိအားပေး

²²⁰ Irrawaddy (25 Oct 2022) Myanmar Junta Orders Yangon Factories to Submit Bank Account Info

On 3 Oct, junta mouthpiece GNLM reported that the regime's Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Ministry had sold 455.75 ticals (7474.29 grams) of gold during 5-16 Sep.²²¹ The junta also held its fourth gem emporium during 19-25 Oct. It sold four hundred pearl lots (at least USD 1,000 each), 120 gem lots (USD 500 each), and 2,150 jade lots (from USD 1,000 to 5,000 each) through an open tender system. Russian embassy officials and over 200 local and foreign businessmen attended the event. The regime allowed payments in USD, EUR, RMB, THB, and MMK.²²²

On 13 Oct, it was reported that the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) had ordered private banks to deposit 2.5% of their cash reserves at the CBM, up from 2.25%. It added that banks must now keep only 0.5% of all money deposited with them as cash, down from 0.75%; and threatened to fine the banks that fail to comply. Banking experts said the CBM's purpose was to 'give itself more cash,' and warned that the new policy could cause banks to face a liquidity crisis.²²³

Israeli, Korean companies in trouble over arm deals with Burma

On 19 Oct, it was reported that the South Korean police were investigating POSCO International, Daesun Shipbuilding & Engineering, and Korea's Ministry of Defense in connection with the sale of the Landing Platform Dock UMS Mottama to Burma in 2019. Leaked documents submitted to the Korean police by a CDM Navy member revealed that the companies sought to conceal that the Mottama had been built to military specifications, in violation of South Korea's Foreign Trade Act. Justice for Myanmar (JfM) and Korean Civil Society in Support of Democracy in Burma welcomed the development and called on South Korea's public prosecutor to take swift action to indict the individuals responsible.²²⁴

On 26 Oct, JfM reported that 60 Israeli citizens, including former Knesset speaker Avraham Burg, had requested the country's Attorney General to investigate whether Israeli arms companies Israel Aerospace Industries, Elbit Systems, and Israel Shipyards, as well as Defense and Foreign Affairs Ministries officials were involved in corruption in Burma. The complaint argues that, by selecting crony company Star Sapphire Trading to act as their sole representative in Burma, the three firms and the government officials who greenlit the move ignored possible corruption and bribery, in violation of the Israeli legislation. JfM called on Israel's Attorney General to take urgent action in response to the application, order the immediate seizure of all relevant documents, and prevent the concealment of evidence, including all agreements with and payments to Star Sapphire Trading.²²⁵

Toyota opens new plant as more companies slam the door

On 12 Oct, Japanese car manufacturer Toyota Motor Corporation announced that it had begun assembling cars at a new plant in Yangon, which was put on hold for more than 19 months after the attempted coup. The firm said its business in Burma was not directly related to state-owned and military-affiliated companies.²²⁶ On 20 Oct, it was reported that Dutch-owned C&A, Ireland's Primark, UK-based Tesco PLC, and Marks & Spencer had decided to stop sourcing products from Burma's garment factories due to the ongoing worker rights violations in the country.²²⁷

On 5 Oct, Swiss-owned Puma Energy, Burma's main supplier of aviation fuel, said it had sold its stakes in Puma Energy Asia Sun (PEAS) and National Energy Puma Aviation Services (NEPAS), a joint venture with the junta-controlled Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, to a locally owned company. Puma Energy initially suspended its Burma operations following the attempted coup, but later resumed

²²¹ GNLM (3 Oct 2022) Gold retreats as global gold spot prices, dollar fall

²²² GNLM (20 Oct 2022) SAC Chairman PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attends opening of Mid-Year Myanmar Gems Emporium 2022; GNLM (22 Oct 2022) Over 170 lots of pearl sold out on third day of 2022 Mid-Year Gems Emporium; GNLM (24 Oct 2022) Fifth day of 2022 Mid-Year Gems Emporium proceeds with sale of 665 gem lots; DVB (21 Oct 2022) Daily Briefing: Friday, October 21,2022

²²³ DVB (13 Oct 2022) Private banks may face a liquidity crisis due to the junta's new banking regulations

²²⁴ Myanmar Now (19 Oct 2022) Korean police investigating illegal sale of warship to Myanmar, Justice for Myanmar (19 Oct 2022) JUSTICE FOR MYANMAR AND KOREAN CIVIL SOCIETY IN SUPPORT OF DEMOCRACY IN MYANMAR CALL FOR SWIFT INDICTMENT OVER TRANSFER OF US\$42M KOREAN WARSHIP

²²⁵ JfM (26 Oct 2022) JFM calls on Israel's Attorney General to take urgent action following application for criminal investigation into Myanmar arms sales

²²⁶ Reuters (12 Oct 2022) Toyota opens new Myanmar plant put on hold following coup

²²⁷ Myanmar Now (20 Oct 2022) More international clothing companies pull out of Myanmar's factories, citing deteriorating labour conditions

distribution for civilian purposes. JfM called on Puma Energy to responsibly disengage, including by preventing the regime from gaining control of its jet fuel infrastructure. It also urged the company to disclose the name of the buyer, along with its human rights due diligence.²²⁸

International responses (more details at international responses tracker)

UN

On 25 Oct, **UN Special Envoy on Burma** Noeleen Heyzer warned the UN General Assembly's Human Rights Committee that the political, human rights, and humanitarian crisis in the country was deepening and taking 'a catastrophic toll on the people.' Heyzer said she was critical of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' (ASEAN) Five-Point Consensus (FPC) due to its failure to deal with the Rohingya. She added that humanitarian aid under the FPC worked through military channels and did not reach the people most in need. Heyzer warned that many more people will be forced to flee Burma to escape violence, and vowed to keep pressing ASEAN to 'develop a regional protection framework for refugees and forcibly displaced persons.'²²⁹

On 26 Oct, **UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burma** Tom Andrews stated that Russian weapons were being used to kill people in both Ukraine and Burma, and called on the international community to form a coalition to target the regime with sanctions and an arms embargo. 'If you want a playbook, look at Ukraine,' he added.²³⁰

ASEAN

On 3 Oct, the **Cambodian** Foreign Affairs Ministry confirmed that the country will not invite Min Aung Hlaing to the upcoming ASEAN summit in November.²³¹ On 5 Oct, **Philippines** President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. said he would propose 'concrete' steps at the summit on how to bring the regime to the table and discuss the Rohingya crisis.²³² On 21 Oct, the junta hosted a second ad hoc coordination meeting of the Task Force to facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance to Burma through the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management.²³³

On 27 Oct, ASEAN Foreign Ministers held emergency talks on the situation in Burma without junta representatives. **Indonesian** Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi said some attendees had expressed their frustration at the regime's lack of progress in implementing the FPC, adding that the 'approach of sweeping problems under the rug should no longer be an option.' The ministers ultimately 'reaffirmed the importance and relevance' of the FPC, and 'underscored the need to further strengthen its implementation through concrete, practical and time-bound actions.'²³⁴

Human Rights Watch called the outcome of the meeting a 'huge disappointment.' It urged the bloc to 'get tough by establishing clear, time-bound human rights benchmarks' on the regime, adding that they should be accompanied by clear penalties in case of non-compliance. The **NUG** said the benefit of ASEAN holding to the FPC was 'questionable,' and repeated its calls for the bloc to engage with its administration. **Malaysian** Foreign Minister Saifuddin Abdullah, the regime's fiercest critic within ASEAN, did not attend the 27 Oct talks due to his government being now a caretaker administration ahead of a general election slated for 19 Nov. He will not be attending the bloc's November summit either.²³⁵ Political analysts said his party had little chance of winning, and warned that the country could take a backseat on Burma if he is no longer minister.²³⁶

²²⁸ JfM, via Facebook (6 Oct 2022) https://tinyurl.com/2nzxvbv4; Irrawaddy (6 Oct 2022) Myanmar's Main Supplier of Aviation Fuel Withdraws from Country; DVB (6 Oct 2022) မြန်မာနိုင်ငံမှ တာဝန်သိသိ သိက္ခာရှိရှိ ထွက်ခွာရန် ပူးမားစွမ်းအင်ကုမ္ပဏီကို တိုက်တွန်း

²²⁹ AP News (26 Oct 2022) UN envoy: Myanmar crisis deepens, taking 'catastrophic toll'

²³⁰ Al Jazeera (27 Oct 2022) Ukraine-type approach required for Myanmar's military: UN expert

²³¹ Phnom Penh Post (4 Oct 2022) Cambodia stands firm on 5PC: No invite for Myanmar to ASEAN Summit this year

²³² RFA (6 Oct 2022) Marcos eyes lead role for Philippines in ASEAN peace-keeping actions

²³³ GNLM (22 Oct 2022) 2nd Ad-hoc Coordination Meeting of Task Force to facilitate provision of Humanitarian Assistance to Myanmar through AHA Centre

²³⁴ RFA (27 Oct 2022) ASEAN sticks to failed peace plan despite ongoing bloodshed in Myanmar

²³⁵ RFA (27 Oct 2022) ASEAN sticks to failed peace plan despite ongoing bloodshed in Myanmar ²³⁶ REA (14 Oct 2022) Malaysia's upcoming elections could cost Myanmar's NUC one of its biggest allies

²³⁶ RFA (14 Oct 2022) Malaysia's upcoming elections could cost Myanmar's NUG one of its biggest allies

On 6 Oct, Malaysia deported six Myanmar Navy defectors, four of whom had sought UN refugee status. The regime detained one of them along with his wife upon arrival in Yangon.²³⁷ On 20 Oct, UNHCR urgently appealed to countries in the region to immediately stop forced returns of Burma nationals seeking safety from serious harm, adding that sending them back was 'placing countless lives at risk.²³⁸ On 24 Oct, Human Rights Watch reported that Malaysian immigration authorities had summarily deported over 2,000 Burma nationals without assessing their asylum claims or other protection needs since mid-August 2022, in violation of international law.²³⁹ On 25-26 Oct, UNHCR and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights urged Malaysia to halt the deportations.²⁴⁰ In response, Malaysian Home Minister Hamzah Zainudin said UN agencies and other groups should 'stop meddling in Malaysia's internal affairs.'241

International

On 6 Oct, the **US** imposed sanctions on crony company Dynasty International and businessmen Aung Moe Myint, Hlaing Moe Myint, and Myo Thitsar for their role in buying **Russian**-made weapons in Belarus for the junta. The US also imposed travel restrictions on former police chief and deputy Home Affairs Minister Than Hlaing for his involvement in the killing of peaceful protestors.²⁴²

On 6 Oct, the European Parliament condemned the regime's crackdown on media freedom and called for the release of 'every unfairly detained journalist.' It also urged the regime to immediately end its abuses, including arbitrary arrests and detention, torture, sexual violence and other ill-treatment, as well as unfair trials against people working in the media.²⁴³

On 11 Oct, Human Rights Watch reported that the regime had used civilian ships donated by Japan in combat operations. It urged the Japanese government to suspend non-humanitarian aid to Burma and sanction junta officials implicated in serious human rights violations.²⁴⁴

Junta-appointed police chief Maj-Gen Zin Min Htet attended the 90th Interpol General Assembly in India during 18-21 Oct. He reportedly discussed the handover of Burma nationals the regime regards as 'terrorists' with representatives from Malaysia and Indonesia. On 22 Oct Zin Min Htet met with Thai Police Major General Khemmarin Hassiri in Bangkok to discuss illegal migration and crossborder police cooperation against 'terrorists.'245

On 24 Oct, envoys representing diplomatic missions in Burma, including Australia, the UK, the US, and the EU condemned the junta's 23 Oct airstrike on a concert in Kachin State. They said the attack 'underscore[d] the military regime's responsibility for [the] crisis and instability in Myanmar and the region and its disregard for its obligation to protect civilians and respect the principles and rules of international humanitarian law.'246

On 25 Oct, Australian MP Zoe Daniel introduced a motion to the legislature calling on the government to 'immediately introduce targeted sanctions against the Myanmar Junta to isolate it and its supporters from access to international funds and resources enabling it to maintain its military campaign of repression against its citizens.' The motion noted that the regime's ongoing access to an international supply of aviation fuel had facilitated the continued perpetration of airstrikes responsible for displacing hundreds of thousands of people nationwide.²⁴⁷

²³⁷ RFA (27 Oct 2022) Malaysian official tells UN to stop interfering about Myanmar deportations

²³⁸ UNHCR (20 Oct 2022) UNHCR issues urgent appeal to stop forced returns of Myanmar nationals

²³⁹ Human Rights Watch (24 Oct 2022) Malaysia: Surge in Summary Deportations to Myanmar

²⁴⁰ Reuters (25 Oct 2022) Malaysia's deportation of Myanmar refugees violates international law - UN; UN News (25 Oct 2022) Malaysia's forced return of Myanmar's most vulnerable must stop: UNHCR; UN News (26 Oct 2022) UN rights chief appeals for a halt in forced returns to Myanmar ²⁴¹ RFA (27 Oct 2022) Malaysian official tells UN to stop interfering about Myanmar deportations

²⁴² Myanmar Now (7 Oct 2022) US imposes sanctions on Myanmar junta's arms dealers

²⁴³ AP News (6 Oct 2022) EU lawmakers condemn Myanmar's crackdown on media freedom

²⁴⁴ Human Rights Watch (11 Oct 2022) Myanmar: Military Used Japan-Funded Ships

²⁴⁵ Irrawaddy (25 Oct 2022) Myanmar Junta Police Chief Demands International Action Against Opponents

²⁴⁶ GCR2P (26 Oct 2022) Atrocity Alert No. 323: Myanmar (Burma), Sudan and Democratic Republic of the Congo

²⁴⁷ Myanmar Now (25 Oct 2022) Australian MP calls for 'immediate' sanctions against Myanmar following junta massacre of Kachin State civilians

CRPH & NUG (more details at <u>CRPH & NUG tracker</u>)

On 1 Oct, the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Investment launched its 'Spring Mandalay Investment' programme to raise funds for the revolution. As of 3 Oct, the NUG had raised over USD 9 million from the sale of land illegally seized by the junta.²⁴⁸ On 5 Oct, the Home Affairs and Immigration Minister was quoted as saying that the number of striking civil servants in Sagaing Region had increased since the NUG announced it would take action against non-CDM staff.²⁴⁹ On 15 Oct, the NUG opened a court in Katha Township (Sagaing Region). The local resistance said it will deal with the cases that the village administrative bodies cannot handle.²⁵⁰

On 7 Oct, the Communications, Information and Technology Minister claimed that the NUG had deployed anti-aircraft weapons in some areas. It was also reported that the NUG was procuring drones and other air-defense weapons from abroad; and that the Defense Ministry had raised USD 5.5 million to fund PDFs.²⁵¹ On 14 Oct, NUG spokesperson Nay Phone Latt was quoted as saying that they expected to overthrow the regime by the end of 2023.²⁵² On the same day, a Ta'ang National Liberation Army spokesperson was quoted as saying that the NUG needed to build further trust and develop stronger links with EAOs to 'form more meaningful alliances.'²⁵³ On 26 Oct, the NUG and the Bamar People's Liberation Army (BPLA) agreed to cooperate in the fight against the junta.²⁵⁴

On 17 Oct, the National Unity Consultative Council (NUCC) congratulated Chinese President Xi Jinping, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), and the people of China on the occasion of the CCP's 20th National Congress. The NUCC also called on Beijing to help restore peace and stability in Burma.²⁵⁵ On 26 Oct, representatives from the Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (CRPH) met with seven Australian MPs to try and convince the country to adopt economic sanctions against the junta, deliver humanitarian aid in coordination with the NUG, and increase the number of refugee visas for Burma citizens to 10,000.²⁵⁶

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²⁴⁸ Irrawaddy (3 Oct 2022) NUG Raises Over US\$9 Million Selling Land Illegally Seized by Myanmar Military

²⁴⁹ DVB (5 Oct 2022) Non CDM ဝန်ထမ်းများနှင့်ပတ်သက်သည့် ကြေညာချက်ကြောင့် အလင်းဝင်လာသူများရှိဟု NUG ဝန်ကြီးပြော

²⁵⁰ DVB, via Facebook (18 Oct 2022) https://tinyurl.com/3a5658ta

²⁵¹ DVB (9 Oct 2022) The NUG claims "the decisive year of the final battle" with air defence capabilities

²⁵² NMG (14 Oct 2022) NUG: We Will Defeat Military Regime Within A Year

²⁵³ Myanmar Now (14 Oct 2022) NUG must 'build trust to form more meaningful alliances,' TNLA leader says

²⁵⁴ Network Media Group (28 Oct 2022) NUG Forms Alliance With BPLA

²⁵⁵ DVB (18 Oct 2022) NUCC seeks ties with China to restore democracy in Burma

²⁵⁶ DVB (26 Oct 2022) ဩစတြေးလျအစိုးရအနေဖြင့် စစ်ကောင်စီကိုဒဏ်ခတ်အရေးယူရန် CRPH/NUG ပံ့ပိုးကူညီမှုအဖွဲ့ တိုက်တွန်း