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#### BN 2024/2104 16 October 2024

# **BURMA COUP WATCH FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2024:** Junta weaponizes natural disaster yet again

- As of 27 Sep, there were at least 37,469 armed clashes and attacks against civilians since 1 Feb 2021. As of 3 Oct, there were at least 3,165,900 displaced people since 1 Feb 2021. Junta troops continued their violent crimes.
- Typhoon Yagi worsens seasonal floods, kills 433, affects 1 million. Meanwhile, junta responds with airstrikes and aid blockage.
- Junta sends fake invitation to resistance to join fake election.
- Junta flotilla departs Mandalay, only one third survives journey to Bhamo.
- Junta bombs camp sheltering over 500 children, kills 7 pupils and 2 adults.
- Junta kills their own in airstrikes on AA detention centers, twice.
- Junta preparations to execute 5 sparks alarm on capital punishment.
- MNDAA appeases Beijing: cuts ties • with NUG and China's adversaries.
- Thailand closes 6 Burmese migrant schools, cracks down on others.
- Migrants refouled by Thailand escape conscription, join fight against junta.
- India invites NUG, CNF, KIA and AA to • join November federalism seminar.
- Europe's Airbus linked to junta via Chinese aviation firm AVIC.
- Junta economic remedy dead on arrival, exacerbates medicine shortage.
- Bangladesh continue refoulement of • fleeing Rohingya despite new govt promises to protect new arrivals.
- US pledges USD 199 million for • Rohingya refugees.

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## Typhoon Yagi and junta pose dual threat

**On 8 Sep, Typhoon Yagi hit Burma** with strong winds and heavy rainfall which triggered severe flooding and landslides nationwide. **During 11-16 Sep**, in Naypyidaw Territory and Shan, Karen, Mon, Karenni, Bago, and Mandalay states and regions, flooding and landslides **killed at least 226 people**, with 77 reported missing. Pro-junta social media accounts reported that **230 people were killed** in Mandalay Region alone and that dozens were missing in S. Shan State. Around **Inle Lake (S. Shan State)**, flooding had **displaced over 20,000 people** from over 170 villages. In Taungoo Township (Bago Region) an aid worker reported that at least 30 villages were **completely submerged**. On 11 Sep, in **Karenni State**, the Karenni Nationalities Defense Force (KNDF) reported that 18 medics drowned during a training session.<sup>1</sup>

On 13 Sep, the junta announced that heavy rain caused **63 dams to overflow** nationwide. In Naypyidaw Territory, two dams overflowed and caused more floods in at least five townships, and 19 bodies had been recovered. On 11 Sep, in Wundwin Township (Mandalay Region), residents reported that the Samon Dam breached and further flooded villages within Wundwin and Thazi Townships.<sup>2</sup> On 24 Sep, in Mandalay Region, **flooding damaged around 1,900 pagodas** at the Bagan UNESCO World Heritage site. An archaeologist reported that many of the ancient Buddhist temples were **at risk of collapsing**.<sup>3</sup>

As of 30 Sep, floods had reportedly killed at least 433 people and impacted 1 million across 70 townships in nine states and regions.<sup>4</sup>

## Regime bombs and arrests aid workers in lieu of flood response

On 17 Sep, in Yedashe Township (Bago Region) and in Loikaw Township (Karenni State) locals reported the **junta had set up checkpoints** to block aid to villagers from resistance-controlled areas. In Karenni State, an aid worker reported that the **junta had stopped them from accessing flood-affected areas**. In Yedashe Township, the junta reportedly prevented residents from leaving submerged areas and forced them to stay at monasteries or in tall buildings. In S. Shan State, residents reported that the junta had only helped clean up main roads and some schools, and had prematurely stopped search and rescue efforts.<sup>5</sup>

On 25 Sep, in **Taungoo District** (Bago Region), the **junta threatened to arrest flood relief groups** suspected of aiding villagers in resistance held areas. A junta officer warned that delivering aid in surrounding areas controlled by the Karen National Union (KNU) and PDF forces could result in **arrests** and up to **10 years in jail** for supporting armed groups under the junta's amended counterterrorism law.<sup>6</sup>

In addition to disrupting aid efforts, during 8-27 Sep in flood-affected Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Sagaing, and Tanintharyi regions and Mon, Karen, Arakan, and Shan states, **the junta had launched 94** airstrikes; **28 attacks; and 36 artillery strikes which killed 135 civilians.** Airstrikes alone killed 72 civilians.<sup>7</sup>

#### Junta's aid relief "efforts"

In Kalaw Township (S. Shan State), rescue teams reported that by 17 Sep, at least 250 homes were destroyed, over 600 buildings were damaged, and that dozens of people remained missing. However, residents reported that the **junta did not provide any food or clean-up assistance**, and residents had only received relief supplies from individual donors. As of 30 Sep, several villages in Taung Koelone mountains (Kalaw Township) were still cut off by landslides. Residents had to clear the roads themselves. In Mandalay and S. Shan states, residents also reported that some of the hardest-hit townships **did not receive any assistance from the junta**.<sup>8</sup>

On 14 Sep, junta boss Min Aung Hlaing made a rare appeal for foreign aid. Junta media reported that the coup leader urged junta officials "to contact foreign countries to receive rescue and relief aid to be provided to the victims."<sup>9</sup> On the same day, the junta **accused independent media of spreading rumors** 

<sup>6</sup> Irrawaddy (25 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Threatens Flood Relief Volunteers With Counterterrorism Law

<sup>7</sup> ACLED (8 Oct 2024) Data accessed on 8 Oct 2024

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> RFA (16 Sep 2024) Flooding from typhoon swamps northern Laos, Myanmar's Inle Lake area; RFA (16 Sep 2024) Myanmar floods kill about 160 people, many trapped, residents say

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Mizzima (22 Sep 2024) Myanmar dams overflow at Emergency Level 1 as flooding crisis continues:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> RFA (24 Sep 2024) Archaeologist: Some 1,900 pagodas at Myanmar's Bagan in need of repair

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> UN OCHA (27 Sep 2024) MYANMAR Flood Situation Report No.3; Irrawaddy (30 Sep 2024) Myanmar Death Toll Soars Amid 'Disastrous' Regime Flood Response; Irrawaddy (18 Sep 2024) At Least 30 Dead, Dozens Missing as Floods Devastate Myanmar Tourist Hub Kalaw

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Myanmar Now (17 Sep 2024) Junta accused of obstructing flood relief efforts in central Myanmar; RFA (20 Sep 2024) Myanmar junta blocks aid to thousands impacted by Typhoon Yagi

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> UN OCHA (27 Sep 2024) MYANMAR Flood Situation Report No.3; Irrawaddy (30 Sep 2024) Myanmar Death Toll Soars Amid 'Disastrous' Regime Flood Response; Irrawaddy (18 Sep 2024) At Least 30 Dead, Dozens Missing as Floods Devastate Myanmar Tourist Hub Kalaw

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> DW (14 Sep 2024) Typhoon Yagi: Myanmar makes rare request for aid — report

and minimizing its relief efforts, and on 16 Sep, the junta's spokesperson accused members of the diaspora of spreading misinformation to cause panic. However, the Irrawaddy reported that the **junta failed to mount real-time responses to the flooding**. Naypyidaw residents also reported that the junta wasn't prepared to supply emergency rescue equipment to volunteers to start rescue operations. Pro-junta media has also not yet reported on mudslides that buried entire villages in Yamethin Township (Mandalay Region) or on flooded villages around Inle Lake (S. Shan State).<sup>10</sup>

On 21 Sep, in Naypyidaw, junta cronies donated MMK 32.2 billion (USD 15.2 million) to the regime as flood-relief funds. The junta boss feigned humility and said he had only expected MMK 3-4 billion. It was reported that prior to the donation ceremony, junta-linked CB and Ayeyarwady Banks pledged to donate a total of MMK 4 billion, and the head of KBZ bank donated MMK 10 billion.<sup>11</sup> On 1 Oct, it was reported that the junta had allocated **just MMK 30 billion** (USD 14.3 million) for flood relief efforts - almost **200 times less** than the MMK 5.6 trillion (USD 2.7 billion) military spending in 2023. Although Min Aung Hlaing cited budget constraints for flood relief, the Irrawaddy forecasted an increase in the regime's military spending for 2024 as it continued to struggle against resistance advances.<sup>12</sup>

#### Coup leader pushes sham election

On 17 Sep, in Naypyidaw, coup leader Min Aung Hlaing said that **displaced flood victims must return home** so that the junta could conduct its census in October. Census data would be used to compile voter lists in the junta's sham election. The regime's own media reported that 163,573 individuals had sheltered at camps in Naypyidaw, Karenni, Karen, Mon, and Shan states and Bago, Magwe, Mandalay and Ayeyarwady regions. The coup leader claimed that flood clean-up should finish within six months but did not mention any plan of action.<sup>13</sup> It was reported that Typhoon Yagi hit Naypyidaw the hardest, and residents in the capital opposed the census. One resident said that the junta would produce census results however it saw fit, similar to the military Constitutional referendum after Cyclone Nargis in 2008.<sup>14</sup>

## NUG and International response to floods

The NUG reported that PDF forces had provided relief to flood-affected areas under resistance control, and **accused the junta of seizing aid and relief supplies**, and deliberately **disrupting communications** to hinder relief efforts. In a joint statement, the NUG, the KNU, the Karenni National Progressive Party (KNPP), and the Chin National Front (CNF) urged the UN, EU, ASEAN, and other humanitarian organizations to provide aid directly to civil society groups, EROs, and the NUG's Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management.<sup>15</sup> On 19 Sep, the **World Food Programme (WFP)** announced a one-month ration of emergency food, including rice, fortified biscuits, and nutrition products, to assist up to **500,000 flood-affected people** affected by Typhoon Yagi.<sup>16</sup>

## Food poisoning from contaminated food aid

On 17 Sep, in Tatkon Township (Naypyidaw Territory), **contaminated food aid** caused **severe food poisoning** amongst over 100 locals and rescue volunteers, including children and elderly.<sup>17</sup> On 18 Sep, in Taungoo Township (Bago Region), contaminated donated food aid also resulted in an **outbreak of food poisoning** which affected over 400 people in Wat Phyu Gone village.<sup>18</sup>

## Impacts of illegal forced conscription law

On 2 Sep, in **Kawthoung Township** (Tanintharyi Region), the junta began barring conscription aged men from crossing into Thailand.<sup>19</sup>

On 4 Sep, in **Hkamti Township** (Sagaing Region), it was reported that junta administrators had attempted to meet a conscription quota of 50 youths in August by arresting 20, including three women. In mid-August, the Hkamti Township administration office arrested two residents who requested travel permits.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Irrawaddy (17 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Accuses Independent Media of Spreading Rumors About Flooding; DVB (17 Sep 2024) International aid needed to assist response; Regime accuses media of not reporting military relief efforts

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Irrawaddy (23 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Cronies Donate \$15 Million to Flood-Relief Effort

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Irrawaddy (1 Oct 2024) In Flood-Torn Myanmar, Junta Spends 200 Times More on Military Than Relief

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Irrawaddy (19 Sep 2024) Myanmar Flood Victims Told to Return Home as Junta Boss Frets Over Poll Plan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Myanmar Now (24 Sep 2024) Myanmar's 'flood census' brings back memories of 'Nargis constitution'

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Mizzima (27 Sep 2024) Thousands of dead or missing as floods devastate Myanmar, MOD and ethnic groups call for international aid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> DVB (19 Sep 2024) WFP to launch flood response in Myanmar to assist people affected by Typhoon Yagi

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Myanmar Now (18 Sep 2024) More than 100 fall ill with food poisoning amid flooding near Myanmar capital

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Mizzima (19 Sep 2024) Over 400 affected by food poisoning at flood relief centre in Taungoo township, Myanmar <sup>19</sup> Myanmar Now (3 Sep 2024) Young men no longer allowed to leave southern Myanmar town to enter Thailand

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> NMG (4 Sep 2024) Junta abducting youths for conscription in Hkamti Township, Sagaing Region

During 4-5 Sep, in **Pu Law Township** (Tanintharyi Region), after clashes broke out in the area, junta forces detained over 60 residents of Pa La town, including women and the elderly. On 5 Sep, the junta released over 40 and kept in detention at least 20 conscription aged men and women.<sup>21</sup>

On 17 Sep, in **Pyin Oo Lwin Township** (Mandalay Region), it was reported that the junta arrested locals for conscription in Pyin Oo Lwin town and surrounding villages. Locals said the junta conscripted at least seven residents of each ward.<sup>22</sup>

On 24 Sep, in **Myitkyina Township** (Kachin State), it was reported that since August, the junta had conducted military training for local "public security forces" in its Northern Command.<sup>23</sup>

#### The junta's 5th conscript batch begins training

On 9 Sep, the junta began training a **fifth batch of conscripts** at military training schools under Yangon, South Eastern, Eastern, Eastern Central, Southern, North Western, and Triangle Region Commands. They did not report the number of conscripts in this batch. It was reported that the junta had already trained 15,000 forced recruits, and deployed recruits to various battalions and units nationwide.<sup>24</sup>

## Junta forcibly recruits men up to 65 into militias

On 5 Sep, it was reported that, since August, the junta had begun forcibly recruiting men **up to age 65** and those **living with a disability**. In Hinthada, Pantanaw, Nyaungdon, Yae Kyi, and Danubyu townships (Ayeyarwady Region), the junta placed travel restrictions on men aged 35-65. In Yae Kyi (Ayeyarwady Region) and Hpa-an (Karenni State) townships, the junta forced locals with disabilities to serve in "public security forces".<sup>25</sup> In Yangon Region, it was reported that the junta **offered** motorized trishaw drivers **permission to purchase fuel at any gas station in exchange for enlistment** in local militias. A 54-year-old trishaw driver said that his militia membership card allowed him to evade arrest for driving an illegal vehicle. Another driver said that he needed the authorization to buy gas "for survival."<sup>26</sup>

## New passport rule forces youths to return to Burma

On 16 Sep, the junta enacted a rule that forced Burmese nationals in Thailand to **return to Burma for passport renewal**. The regulation would apply to people on non-formal education visas (Non-Ed), enrolled in Thai language or English teaching courses.<sup>27</sup> It would not apply to students enrolled in Thai universities but would require them to apply for a "Passport for Education" (PE). It is feared the new restriction would force more people from Burma to stay in Thailand illegally.<sup>28</sup>

## Migrants refouled by Thailand escape conscription, join fight against junta

On 8 Sep, in Tanintharyi Region, **29 forcibly conscripted men** en route to the No. 12 Advanced Military Training Depot in Pulaw Township, killed two junta guards and escaped to KNU territory. One man died during the escape and another went missing.<sup>29</sup> They were among a group of 270 that the junta immediately conscripted after **deportation by the Thai authorities** in early September. Twenty-two of the men joined the KNU and five planned to return home.<sup>30</sup>.

#### The junta conscripts those living with HIV and TB

On 4 Sep, in Mandalay Region, it was reported that the junta had violated its own conscription law by **refusing medical exemptions**. In Chanmyathazi Township, the junta detained for conscription a man living with drug-resistant Tuberculosis and a liver condition, and demanded a ransom of USD 600 for his release. In Chanayethazan Township, the junta forcibly recruited two men **living with HIV** who only had one month's worth of retroviral medication.<sup>31</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> HURFOM (10 Sep 2024) 20 civilians arrested in Pa La Battle not released yet

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> SHAN (17 Sep 2024) ပြင်ဦးလွင်မြို့စစ်ကောင်စီမှ မတရားလိုက်လံဖမ်းဆီးပြီး တပ်သားစုဆောင်းနေ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Kachin News Group (24 Sep 2024) မြစ်ကြီးနားမြို့ပေါ် ရပ်ကွက် နယ်မြေမှူးတစ်ချို့ကို စစ်တပ်က စစ်သင်တန်းပေးနေ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Irrawaddy (10 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Begins Training Fifth Batch of Military Draftees; AFP via CNA (10 Sep 2024) Myanmar junta says fifth batch of conscripts begins training

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> RFA (5 Sep 2024) Myanmar junta begins conscripting men up to age 65 to protect towns against rebels

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Irrawaddy (5 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Lures Trishaw Drivers Into Militias With Incentives

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Myanmar Now (13 Sep 2024) Myanmar nationals in Thailand face new passport hurdle

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> RFA (20 Sep 2024) Myanmar students in Thailand must renew passports at home, junta says

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> DVB (13 Sep 2024) Two children from Myanmar die during flooding in Thailand; One killed escaping conscription in Tanintharyi Region

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> RFA (11 Sep 2024) 29 young men escape Myanmar junta's conscription

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Irrawaddy (20 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Recruiting HIV and TB Sufferers

## Illegal junta's quest for control

#### Junta hands out terrorist designation, bogus invites to sham election

On 2 Sep, the junta issued a statement to brand the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA), Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA), and Arakan Army (AA) as **"terrorist groups"** and accused the Three Brotherhood Alliance members of killing civilians and forced recruitment. The "terrorist" designation would **prevent further dialogue** or "peace talks" between the junta and the Alliance. This would also bar China from hosting talks between both parties. A military analyst said the junta was likely looking to secure Russian cooperation on "counterterrorism." On 3 Sep, coup leader Min Aung Hlaing stated the regime would regard anyone with ties to the Alliance as supporters of terrorism.<sup>32</sup>

On 26 Sep, the junta invited the **NUG**, **EROs**, and resistance groups to "solve political problems politically" through participation in its sham election. The NUG's spokesperson dismissed the junta's offer as "bogus" and said the junta only intended to make itself "look good internationally."<sup>33</sup> The day after the junta's invitation, in Lashio city (N. Shan State), junta aircraft dropped 15 bombs, killed two civilians and injured six others.<sup>34</sup> On 28 Sep, it was reported that the NUG, KNU, Chin National Army (CNA), and TNLA rejected the junta's offer to participate in their planned sham elections.<sup>35</sup>

# CRPH, NUG & Other Democratic Forces (more at <u>CRPH, NUG & other Democratic</u> <u>forces tracker</u>)

*NUG drafts legislation against non-CDM govt staff:* On 11 Sep, during a press conference, NUG Minister for Justice, Thein Oo, said the NUCC had drafted legislation to take action **against non-CDM government staff** who had collaborated with the junta for personal benefit or to harm civilians. Thein Oo said collaborators would face prosecution under the **controversial 2014 Counter-Terrorism Law.** He did not indicate if the NUG would apply the law in its original form without the junta's amendments.<sup>36</sup>

*EROs take tougher stance on drugs and crime:* On 4 Sep, the Karenni Interim Executive Council (IEC) stated that on 24 Sep, they would implement a **new Rule of Law Action Plan** to combat a rise in crime. The order prohibited the use of crystal meth, yaba pills, and heroin; sexual violence against women; gambling; and providing information to the junta. They would also introduce a firearms and weapons registration system.<sup>37</sup> On 17 Sep, the **Thabeikkyin PDF** (Mandalay Region) also announced they would **harshly punish drug-related charges** in areas under its control. The PDF stated that they would hold in custody people previously arrested on drug charges to face trial under an interim administration.<sup>38</sup>

*NUG investigates NLD member's sexual assault case:* On 13 Sep, the NUG Ministry of Women, Youth and Children Affairs opened an investigation into the alleged **sexual assault of a 5-year-old gir**l by NLD executive member, Aung Min, in Apr 2023. The NUG Deputy Minister of Justice stated that after considerable shortcomings on part of the NUG, the court had now accepted the case for trial. The NUG said it would arrest Aung Min if he entered NUG jurisdiction.<sup>39</sup>

*Elephants join resistance:* On 3 Sep, in Mandalay Region, the armed wing of the Communist Party of Burma (CPB) announced they had **taken control of 138 elephants** from 21 junta camps in Thabeikkyin and Singu townships. The junta had exploited the elephants for logging. The PLA reported they would hand the elephants over to authorities when a democratic government was formed.<sup>40</sup>

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

#### Junta threatens to use death penalty again

On 19 Sep, it was reported, citing a source close to Insein Prison, that the junta had **made preparations** to execute five inmates, including a woman. The source reported that prison authorities had set up gallows and allowed the inmates to meet their families. Thaik Tun Oo of the Political Prisoners Network – Myanmar speculated that the junta deliberately spread rumors of the executions as a "psychological

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Irrawaddy (4 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Designates Brotherhood Alliance Members 'Terrorist' Groups

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> AFP via Irrawaddy (27 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Invites Armed Groups to Stop Fighting, Start Talks; RFA (27 Sep 2024) Myanmar junta invites insurgents, 'terrorists' to join election

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Irrawaddy (28 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Airstrikes Follow Peace Talk Proposal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> RFA (27 Sep 2024) Myanmar junta invites insurgents, 'terrorists' to join election; Irrawaddy (28 Sep 2024) Armed Groups Snub Myanmar Junta 'Peace' Offer; BBC (26 Sep 2024) Myanmar rebels reject embattled junta's peace offer

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Mizzima (13 Sep 2024) NUG Pledges to Take Action Against Non-CDM Government Officials Working with SAC And Harming The Civilians

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Interim Executive Council of Karenni State via Facebook (4 Sep 2024) https://tinyurl.com/yc25v25v

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> MPA (17 Sep 2024) Drug Dealers and Users in PDF-Controlled Thabeikkyin Township Will Face Severe Punishment

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> MPA (13 Sep 2024) To apprehend Across Borders the Suspect of Child Molestation in Mae Sot Not Feasible at Present, Says NUG

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Myanmar Now (4 Sep 2024) Armed wing of Myanmar's Communist Party seizes 138 elephants from junta

**operation.''** Jason Tower of the United States Institute of Peace said that China's disregard of the junta's violence against civilians had signaled to the regime that it could move ahead with executions with impunity.<sup>41</sup> In May 2023, the junta-controlled civilian court in Insein Prison handed down the death penalty to the five political prisoners for their alleged involvement in a shooting on a Yangon circle train that killed six junta police officers in Aug 2021. The junta charged them under the 1949 Arms Act and the 2014 Counterterrorism Law. It was the first time a civilian court handed down the death penalty.<sup>42</sup>

## UN reports torture and death inside junta prisons

On 17 Sep, in a report, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) highlighted that since the failed coup, the junta had **killed at least 1,853 people in custody, including 88 children and 125 women.** The report listed physical torture used by the junta, such as beatings, suspension from ceilings without food or water, asphyxiation and mock execution, burning and electrocution, cutting of body parts, and pulling fingernails. OHCHR also highlighted that junta personnel **commonly used sexual violence** in detention such as gang rape, sexualized torture, invasive vaginal searches and sexual humiliation. Former inmates reported unhygienic and inhumane conditions inside prison cells, and said prisons lacked supplies and qualified staff. The founder of the Women's Organization of Political Prisoners highlighted a case where delayed care caused a woman political prisoner to lose her baby during labor.<sup>43</sup>

## Jail terms handed to survivors of massacre

On 2 Sep, in Sittwe town (Arakan State), a junta court handed down three-year jail sentences to around 144 civilians accused of supporting the AA. The junta court sentenced all of them under Section 17(1) of the Unlawful Associations Act. In late May, the junta arrested the accused from Byine Phyu village after its forces raided the village and killed nearly 80 residents.<sup>44</sup> On 6 Sep, in Sittwe town (Arakan State), a junta court handed down three-year jail sentences to an additional 93 civilians for alleged ties to the AA.<sup>45</sup>

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

On 6 Sep, the NUG reported that across Chin and Shan states and Magway Region, junta **airstrikes killed 27 civilians in a single day**, including at least 10 children and a pregnant woman.<sup>46</sup>

On 10 Sep, the **Three Brotherhood Alliance (3BHA)** condemned the junta's airstrikes in N. Shan State which killed children, the elderly, pregnant women, monks, and captive junta troops. They called the attacks a **crime against humanity** and urged the junta pilots to stop attacking civilians.<sup>47</sup>

*Junta deploys Y-12 aircraft and refines cluster bomb manufacturing:* On 23 Sep, it was reported that since late 2023, the junta had deployed up to six **Y-12 aircraft** to conduct aerial attacks on resistance groups. CDM Major Naung Yoe reported that Y-12 aircrafts were more economical than fighter jets and helicopters, as they used less fuel and could stay airborne longer. Sources close to the regime reported that **since 2024**, the junta had developed and used mortar rounds and **cluster bombs** that could be deployed manually from aircraft. These bombs were reportedly produced by the No. 3 Weapons Factory in Pyay Township (Bago Region). Experts warned that the manual bombing systems were **less accurate** and therefore **posed a greater risk to civilians**.<sup>48</sup>

## **Sagaing Region**

During 15 Aug - 7 Sep, it was reported that the junta used Yak-130 jets, Mi-35 helicopters, and Y-12 transport planes to drop **around 300 bombs** on **Pinlebu town**. A local resistance fighter said "the bombs are falling like rain".<sup>49</sup>

Flotilla attacks from Ayeyarwady River: During 28 Aug- 2 Sep, on the Ayeyarwady river, junta warships transporting over 70 troops, weapons, supplies, and escort aircraft attacked multiple villages

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> VOA (21 Sep 2024) Rights group says Myanmar military to execute activists; RFA (23 Sep 2024) Rumors swirl that Myanmar junta will execute 5 anti-military activists

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Myanmar Now (19 May 2023) Myanmar regime sentences five to death for alleged role in 2021 train attack

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> RFA (18 Sep 2024) UN report describes torture and death of hundreds in custody since Myanmar coup; UN (17 Sep 2024) A/HRC/57/56: Situation of human rights in Myanmar - Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights -Advance unedited version

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> RFA (2 Sep 2024) Myanmar military court jails 144 villagers detained after massacre; Myanmar Now (3 Sep 2024) Myanmar junta imprisons more than 140 Rakhine State residents for alleged AA ties

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Narinjara via BNI (6 Sep 2024) 93 Byine Phyu villagers sentenced to three years prison

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Mizzima (8 Sep 2024) Spring Revolution Daily News for 8 September 2024; NUG (9 Sep 2024) Weekly Update (37/2024)
 <sup>47</sup> Irrawaddy (11 Sep 2024) Brotherhood Alliance: Myanmar Junta Airstrikes on Civilians Increasing; Mizzima (12 Sep 2024)

Three Brotherhood Alliance statement denounces Junta airstrikes and crimes against humanity

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Mizzima (23 Sep 2024) Myanmar junta deploys Y-12 aircraft for aerial bombing campaigns

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> MPA (7 Sep 2024) SAC Air Force Conducts 70 Airstrikes During Three-Week Battle of Pinlebu

en route from Mandalay Region to Bhamo city (Kachin State).<sup>50</sup> On 1 Sep, the junta flotilla docked in Tigyaing Township. On the same day, in Tigyaing Township, a junta airstrike on Maung Kone village killed nine civilians, including **a pregnant woman and a child**, and injured at least 12 others. On 2 Sep, resistance forces ambushed the flotilla and damaged two junta warships. In response, the junta fleet and aircraft attacked the riverbank and killed at least two people. <sup>51</sup> On 3 Sep, in **Katha Township**, the junta flotilla docked at Tha Hpan Kaing port. The junta forces launched artillery and air strikes on villages near the riverbank, **killed at least four** civilians, injured at least ten others, and displaced residents from five nearby villages. <sup>52</sup> On 4 Sep, the flotilla departed with weapons supplies, <sup>53</sup> and on 5 Sep, it arrived in Shwegu Township (Kachin State).<sup>54</sup> (*Note*: Flotilla activity continues in Kachin State conflict).

*Helicopter attack on Kawlin Township:* On 28 Sep, in Kawlin Township, the junta's 6006 Artillery Battalion (AB) used Mi-35 and Mi-2 helicopters to bomb and shell a school in Ta Gaung Aing village, and injured a child and an adult.<sup>55</sup> On 29 Sep, the junta launched airstrikes and dropped **two 500-lb bombs** on Ywar Thit village, killed one civilian, and injured 15 others. There had been no fighting prior to the bombing.<sup>56</sup> On 30 Sep, the junta carried out airstrikes on Oke Kan village, killed seven civilians including three women, and injured four others. There had been no fighting prior to the attack.<sup>57</sup>

*Junta tortures civilians accused of resistance membership:* On 12 Sep, in Shwebo Township, a column of around 80 junta troops from Infantry Battalion (IB) 42 raided and shelled Hta Naung Wun village, killed two civilians, and detained six others to use as human shields. Later, the junta detained 80 more villagers and confiscated their phones. On 15 Sep, they released them all, except for one man. Residents later recovered the bodies of all six hostages. The bodies all showed signs of severe torture, such as strangulation, facial disfigurement, gunshot wounds to the head, and missing teeth and eyes. The junta had also dressed the bodies in military uniforms.<sup>58</sup> On 17 Sep, in Mingin Township, a junta flotilla on the Chindwin River docked at Taung Phyu village, raided nearby Yarr village, and arrested three civilians falsely accused of being resistance force members.<sup>59</sup> On 26 Sep, in Sagaing town, the junta arrested three more civilians accused of being resistance members. On 28 Sep, they killed them.<sup>60</sup>

#### **Magway Region**

*Junta targets Myaing Township:* On 5 Sep, in Myaing Township, it was reported that resistance forces controlled around 70% of the township.<sup>61</sup> On 6 Sep, a junta jet strafed and dropped 300-lb bombs on Lat Yat Ma village, killed six locals, including a child, injured over 10 others, destroyed a school and houses, and killed a dozen cows. No prior clashes had taken place. <sup>62</sup> On 23 Sep, the junta carried out airstrikes on Inn Yaung village, damaged several houses, and forced about 3,000 locals from seven surrounding villages to flee. There had been no fighting prior to the attack.<sup>63</sup>

#### **Chin State**

During Feb 2021 - Sep 2024, in Chin State, CHRO reported that junta shelling, airstrikes and landmines had killed at least 73 children.<sup>64</sup>

**CDF** arrests Indian nationals: On 1 Sep, in Falam Township, the Chinland Defense Force -Hualngoram (CDF-Hualngoram) arrested and reportedly tortured two boys from Mizoram State

လေကြောင်းကဗုံးကြဲလို့ ပြည်သူ ၇ ဦး သေဆုံး

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Myanmar Now (5 Sep 2024) Junta flotilla travelling up the Ayeyarwady terrorises Sagaing Region villages; The Voice of Shan Ni via BNI (4 Sep 2024) Junta Warships Arrive in Katha Town; Deploy Weapons, Food Supplies, and Troops

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Myanmar Now (3 Sep 2024) Civilians killed by shelling, bombing on Ayeyarwady's banks as military flotilla navigates upriver; Irrawaddy (4 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Airstrike Targets Near Chinese Factory; KNG via BNI (3 Sep 2024) Two Junta Warships Hit Again; One Ship Catches Fire

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> The Voice of Shan Ni via BNI (4 Sep 2024) Junta Warships Arrive in Katha Town; Deploy Weapons, Food Supplies, and Troops; Myanmar Now (5 Sep 2024) Junta flotilla travelling up the Ayeyarwady terrorises Sagaing Region villages

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Irrawaddy (6 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Fleet Shells Villages as It Sails Up Irrawaddy River

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Kachin News Group (19 Sep 2024) ဗန်းမော်မြို့ကို စစ်သင်္ဘောတစ်စီးရောက် လာတယ်လို့ ဗိုလ်မှူးကြီး နော်ဘူအတည်ပြု

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> DVB (28 Sep 2024) ကောလင်းနှင့် ပေါက်မြို့နယ်ကို စစ်ကောင်စီက ဗုံးကြဲတိုက်ခိုက်; Myaelatt Athan (1 Oct 2024) ကောလင်းမှာ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> Mizzima (3 Oct 2024) Myanmar junta airstrikes in Sagaing Region leave 8 dead and 19 injured

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> RFA (1 Oct 2024) ကောလင်းမှာ ဗုံးကြဲတိုက်ခိုက်မှုကြောင့် အရပ်သားခုနစ်ဦး သေဆုံး

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> Myanmar Now (19 Sep 2024) Eight killed in Myanmar junta raid on village near Shwebo in Sagaing Region

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> DVB (18 Sep 2024) မင်းကင်းတွင် ပြည်သူ ၃ ဦးကို စစ်တပ်က ဖမ်းဆီး၊ ကနီမြစ်ကမ်းဘေးရွာများ စစ်ဘေးရှောင်

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> RFA (30 Sep 2024) စစ်ကိုင်းက အရပ်သား သုံးဦး PDF စွပ်စွဲချက်နဲ့ သတ်ဖြတ်ခံရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> MPA (5 Sep 2024) Revolutionary Forces Encircle Mying

<sup>62</sup> Irrawaddy (7 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta's 'Counterattack' Targets Civilians, Killing 40, Including Children

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> Mizzima (25 Sep 2024) Thousands of residents flee as Myanmar's junta launches aerial bombing in Myaing township despite lack of conflict

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> Khonumthung News via BNI (24 Sep 2024) Junta Has Killed at Least 73 Chin Children Since Coup

(India) for attacking one of their members in Rikhawdar town. On 6 Sep, CDF-Hualngoram released the two boys, following negotiations with Mizoram State officials.<sup>65</sup>

*Junta bombing campaign over Mindat Township:* On 21 Sep, in **Mindat Township**, Myanmar Now reported that since the beginning of September, the junta had carried out **at least 15 airstrikes** across the township.<sup>66</sup> During 6-9 Sep, in Mindat Township, the junta carried out repeated airstrikes on at least three villages, injured one civilian and damaged a number of local roads.<sup>67</sup> During 14-19 Sep, the junta burned down 11 houses in Mindat town's western ward and carried out at least four airstrikes on the town.<sup>68</sup>

*Chinland Council - Chinland Brotherhood set ceasefire terms:* On 22 Sep, the Chinland Council and the Chinland Brotherhood Alliance agreed to establish a committee to draft a **long-term ceasefire** between them. The groups stated that, while a truce had been agreed, most major disputes **remained unresolved**, including the Chinland Council's command structures for armed groups, and some of its constitutional provisions. The next meeting would be convened before the end of 2024.<sup>69</sup>

*CC/CNA takes ground in Thantlang Town:* On 17 Sep, the Chin National Army took control of one of four remaining junta positions in **Thantlang town**. After the seizure, junta troops continued to hold positions in the town's former NLD office, at the police station, and at the local CB Bank branch.<sup>70</sup>

*AA cracks down on civilians in Paletwa:* During 17-26 Sep, in **Paletwa Township**, a civil society group reported that the AA **arrested 14 ethnic Khumi locals** from four villages and held them in Mee Zar village. Locals believed the AA arrested the men on suspicion of maintaining ties to the Chinland Council-aligned CDF-Paletwa.<sup>71</sup> On 29 Sep, the AA detained three more civilians, including Dr. Aye Kyaw, the head of the township's main public hospital. Myanmar Now noted that Aye Kyaw was involved in social assistance activities and business across the township.<sup>72</sup>

#### Arakan State

In Arakan State, during 10 Nov 2023 - 14 Sep 2024, DMG reported that junta attacks **killed at least 494** civilians and injured 886 others.<sup>73</sup>

On 25 Sep, in **Myebon Township**, the junta carried out an airstrike on a monastery, a nearby religious hall and a temple in Kan Htaunt Gyi village, killed two people, and injured at least ten others.<sup>74</sup>

On 26 Sep, in **Ann Township**, the AA reportedly began attacking junta troops based at Mae Taung Hill, approximately 8 km outside of Ann town.<sup>75</sup>

*Intense fighting continues in Maungdaw*: On 8 Sep, in **Maungdaw Township**, it was reported that the AA had seized the junta's fifth Border Guard Police positions at Maungdaw town's social welfare relief and resettlement office, and a monastery.<sup>76</sup> In response, the junta carried out airstrikes on the town and shelled it from several nearby navy ships.<sup>77</sup> On 9 Sep, the junta carried out airstrikes on Wai Thar Li village and completely **destroyed a UN office building used for providing aid**.<sup>78</sup> On 25 Sep, it was reported that both the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) and the Rohingya Solidarity Organization (RSO) had attacked AA positions along the Bangladeshi border on 23 Sep and during 17-18 Sep, prompting movement restrictions on locals.<sup>79</sup> On 27 Sep, the junta carried out approximately six airstrikes on two wards around the base and one nearby village. A local reported that the attacks **burnt down at least 100 houses**. The junta had reportedly stopped providing land and water reinforcements to Maungdaw and relied on its air power to reinforce ground troops in the town.<sup>81</sup>

<sup>67</sup>Khonumthung News via BNI (11 Sep 2024) Junta bombs Mindat Township in Chin State despite no fighting in area
<sup>68</sup> Myanmar Peace Monitor (20 Sep 2024) Military continues bombing Mindat in Chin State; Khonumthung News via BNI (18 Sep

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> DVB (10 Sep 2024) Chinland Defense Force accused of torturing teenagers; Military pledges 'security' for its nationwide census

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> Myanmar Now (21 Sep 2024) Junta airstrikes continue to plague Myanmar's western Chin State

<sup>2024)</sup> Junta Burns Down 11 Houses in Mindat Town, Chin State

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> Myanmar Now (24 Sep 2024) Chin anti-junta groups in northwest Myanmar agree to end mutual hostilities

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> Mizzima (20 Sep 2024) Chinland Council forces continue to capture remaining junta camps in Thantlang, Chin State

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> Myanmar Now (2 Oct 2024) Rakhine ethnic armed group detains Khumi resistance members in northwest Myanmar

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Myanmar Now (4 Oct 2024) Arakan Army detains doctor, two others, in western Myanmar's Paletwa Township

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> DMG (14 Sep 2024) Nearly 1,400 civilian casualties in Arakan since onset of latest fighting

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> DMG (25 Sep 2024) Two civilians killed, several injured in junta airstrike on Kanhtaunggyi

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> Myanmar Now (1 Oct 2024) AA launches new offensive to seize another Rakhine State town from Myanmar junta

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> Narinjara (10 Sep 2024) AA captures last 2 outposts in Maungdaw

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> Narinjara (10 Sep 2024) Junta launches another airstrike on Maungdaw using 2 jet fighters

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> Narinjara via BNI (13 Sep 2024) Junta airstrikes destroy UN Office in Maungdaw Township, Arakan State

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> DMG (25 Sep 2024) Frequent AA-ARSA hostilities reported in Maungdaw Twsp

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> DMG (29 Sep 2024) Junta escalates air campaign as AA plans more attacks in Arakan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> DMG (30 Sep 2024) Scores of homes reduced to ashes in Maungdaw airstrikes

*AA seizes influential Thandwe naval base:* On 5 Sep, in **Thandwe Township**, the AA confirmed it had seized the Maung Shwe Lay naval base. The base was a large naval training center, and was the last junta position in Thandwe Township. An observer stated the junta only had one more naval base remaining in Arakan State and that the seizure would **allow the AA to control goods** entering the township via a nearby port.<sup>82</sup> On 11 Sep, road and waterway closures by the junta and AA, as well as the junta's ban on transporting rice from Ayeyarwady Region had left over 7,000 IDPs unable to access essential food supplies and medicine.<sup>83</sup> On 22 and 26 Sep, the junta launched airstrikes on Pauk Tu village and Thandwe Town, **killed 17 locals** including a child and injured 28 others.<sup>84</sup> In Thandwe Town, the attacks targeted a town hall and township administrative office, both of which housed a total of around 200 IDPs.<sup>85</sup>

*Junta bombs AA detention centers, kills scores of its own:* On 8 Sep, in AA-controlled **Pauktaw Township**, the junta launched an airstrike on an AA camp, destroyed a medical center for **prisoners of war**, killed 17 people including 10 locals, and injured 10 others. Those killed included members of the RSO, ARSA, the pro-junta Rakhine nationalist Arakan Liberation Party (ALP), as well as others arrested but not yet charged by the AA.<sup>86</sup> The following day, in Maungdaw Township, the junta carried out airstrikes on an AA border security post being used as a detention center. The strikes **killed more than 50 prisoners of war**, including junta personnel, junta informants, Rohingya militia members, members of the Arakan Liberation Party, and several individuals "arrested following suspicious activities".<sup>87</sup>

On 6 Sep, in **Sittwe Township**, the junta **sentenced nearly 100 more civilians** who were originally arrested in Byine Phyu village to three years in prison.<sup>88</sup> On 26 Sep, Irrawaddy reported that over 50,000 Byine Phyu village civilians that the junta evicted after the brutal massacre in May, were struggling to survive. The survivors were sheltering at 26 monasteries in Sittwe town, but did not have enough space and were facing health issues and starvation.<sup>89</sup> On 16 Sep in Sittwe Township, it was reported that the junta had forcibly relocated hundreds of residents from near the Sittwe Town entrance.<sup>90</sup>

#### **Kachin State**

*Only one junta warship and two tugboats arrived at Bhamo:* On 5 Sep, the junta flotilla that departed for Kachin State from Katha Township (Sagaing Region), arrived in Shwegu Township.<sup>91</sup> On 17 Sep, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and its allies ambushed five junta ships traveling from Shwegu to Bhamo Township, destroyed two ships near Zin Bon village, and forced the flotilla to retreat. As the flotilla continued to travel upriver, the junta launched airstrikes to guard the fleet and massed about 50 troops at the exit of the Shwegu town.<sup>92</sup> It was reported that the junta's efforts to push the flotilla through to Bhamo and the accompanying airstrikes were in response to the attacks of the KIA and its allies.<sup>93</sup> On 18 Sep, Col. Naw Bu, the spokesperson of the KIA, confirmed that only one junta warship and two tugboats from the original flotilla arrived in Bhamo Town. The KIA and its allies had destroyed the other eight junta ships which included warships, barges, and tugboats. The flotilla had reportedly left Gaw Wein Jetty of Mandalay City (Mandalay Region) for Bhamo in the last week of August.<sup>94</sup>

*Junta bombed Hpakant Township in response to KIA's attempts to capture it:* On 4-6 Sep, in **Hpakant town,** the junta clashed with the KIA and its allies in Mashi Kahtaung and Aung Myae Kwat Thit wards and forced locals to flee. Junta artillery attacks injured a civilian and **destroyed a school building**.<sup>95</sup> During 6-10 Sep, the KIA and its allies clashed with junta troops in **Hseng Taung village**. On 7 Sep, junta troops raided a hotel, **killed seven people**, and arrested over 10 others.<sup>96</sup> On 12 Sep, the KIA and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>82</sup> RFA (9 Sep 2024) Rebel army captures major Myanmar navy training base; Narinjara (7 Sep 2024) AA confirms complete capture of Maung Shwe Lay naval base in Thandwe

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>83</sup> Narinjara via BNI (11 Sep 2024) Over 7,000 IDPs Need Aid in Thandwe Township, Arakan State

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>84</sup> DMG (23 Sep 2024) Junta airstrike kills three civilians, injures three others in Thandwe Twsp

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>85</sup> Irrawaddy (26 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Airstrikes Kill 14 Displaced Civilians: AA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>86</sup> Myanmar Now (10 Sep 2024) Dozens killed by Myanmar junta airstrikes in Rakhine State

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup> Irrawaddy (10 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Airstrikes Kill Regime Detainees: Arakan Army
 <sup>88</sup> Narinjara (8 Sep 2024) Another group of 100 Byine Phyu residents imprisoned for 3 years

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>89</sup> Irrawaddy (26 Sep 2024) Another group of 100 Byine Phyli residents imprisoned for 3 years
 <sup>89</sup> Irrawaddy (26 Sep 2024) Over 50,000 Face 'Starvation' in Sittwe After Massacre, Eviction by Myanmar Junta

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> DMG (16 Sep 2024) Junta evicts hundreds of households in Sittwe Twsp; DMG (18 Sep 2024) Hundreds of Sittwe evictees face food, accommodation challenges

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> Kachin News Group (19 Sep 2024) ဗန်းမော်မြို့ကို စစ်သင်္ဘောတစ်စီးရောက် လာတယ်လို့ ဗိုလ်မှူးကြီး နော်ဘူအတည်ပြု

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>92</sup> Kachin News Group (17 Sep 2024) ရွှေကူကနေ ဆန်တက်လာတဲ့စစ်သင်္ဘော ပစ်ခတ်ခံရလို့ ပြန်ဆုတ်ခွာ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>93</sup> Kachin News Group (19 Sep 2024) ဗန်းမော်ကိုဆက်တက်ဖိုကြိုးစားနေတဲ့ စစ်သင်္ဘော ဒုတိယမြစ်ကျဉ်းကိုမကျော်နိုင်သေး

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>94</sup> Kachin News Group (19 Sep 2024) ဗန်းမော်မြို့ကို စစ်သင်္ဘောတစ်စီးရောက် လာတယ်လို့ ဗိုလ်မှူးကြီး နော်ဘူအတည်ပြု

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>95</sup> Kachin News Group (6 Sep 2024) ဖားကန် အထက်တန်းကျောင်းနီး လက်နက်ကြီးကျပေါက်ကွဲပြီး ဆိုင်ကယ်

ကယ်ရီသမားတစ်ဦးလက်နက်ကျည်ထိမှန်

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>96</sup> Kachin News Group (10 Sep 2024) ဆိုင်းတောင်တိုက်ပွဲမှာ အပြစ်မဲ့အရပ်သားပြည်သူတွေ ဖမ်းဆီး ပစ်သတ်ခံနေရ

its allies **captured a junta police station** in Hseng Taung village. In retaliation, the **junta bombed the village** and destroyed several houses. The KIA spokesperson claimed that the bombing killed and injured civilians, although the number was unconfirmed.<sup>97</sup> Junta troops also **torched several houses**.<sup>98</sup> On 16 Sep, clashes between junta troops and the KIA and its allies in Ngatpyawtaw Ward and in nearby Hparyin and Hmaw Taung villages killed two civilians and injured 13 others.<sup>99</sup> On 7-17 Sep, it was reported that junta airstrikes, shellings, and shootings **killed at least 30 civilians** and resistance members in Hseng Taung village. In Ward 4 of Hpakant town and in nearby Yu Mar and Hpar Pyin villages, junta and Shanni Nationalities Army troops **burned down over 400 houses.**<sup>100</sup> On 19 Sep, it was reported that intensified clashes had forced thousands of residents in and around Hpakant town to flee.<sup>101</sup>

*KIA captured Chipwi town:* It was reported that in early Sep, **in Chipwi Township**, the KIA and its allies **captured a joint camp** of the junta's border guard troops and Kachin Special Zone 1 People Militia Force in La Gway village in Panwa area. On 9 Sep, junta and PMF forces launched artillery attacks on KIA's Brigade 7.<sup>102</sup> On 29 Sep, the KIA and its allies captured a police station and four junta bases and **took control of the Chipwi town.** In response, the junta bombed the town and forced residents to flee.<sup>103</sup>

*Junta's Yan Naing Min Operation:* On 18 Sep, it was reported that the junta had started **nighttime flybys** of suspected KIA and allied military targets, and increased security checkpoints in and around Myitkyina town.<sup>104</sup> On 20 Sep, KIA spokesperson Col. Naw Bu reported it had warned civilians about the **junta's Yan Naing Min operation**. He said that the operation started on 1 Sep and its **"Four Cuts strategy"** of targeting access to food, funds, information, and recruitment from civilians would have a huge impact on local communities. Resistance forces said that the junta had shelled areas around Myitkyina and Waingmaw towns and had **quadrupled the number of aerial attacks** carried out in Bhamo, Hpakant, Momauk, Panwa, and Kachin-Sagaing border areas.<sup>105</sup>

## **Northern Shan State**

*Junta airstrikes in Hsipaw Township:* On 1 Sep, junta troops fired **shells in Hsipaw town**, killed one civilian, and injured another.<sup>106</sup> On 2 Sep, In **Hsipaw Township**, junta artillery attacks injured a civilian in **Kone Son village**.<sup>107</sup> During 15-16 Sep, junta airstrikes killed a woman and destroyed three houses.<sup>108</sup> During 13-24 Sep, locals reported the junta had **bombed residential areas daily**, killed at least 15 civilians, and injured eight in the township.<sup>109</sup>As a result, large numbers of people fled Hsipaw town for safer areas.<sup>110</sup> On 23 Sep, junta airstrikes on Hsipaw town and Nar Loi village killed five civilians and injured three others.<sup>111</sup> During 23-29 Oct, it was reported the TNLA and its allies **captured the junta's Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) 503 and 504 bases.** During 28-29 Sep, in response, the junta **launched airstrikes on Hsipaw town and Hkar Lein Hkar Lway village**, killed four civilians, including a child, injured 11 others, and destroyed at least 10 houses and shops.<sup>112</sup> On 29 Oct, gunfire between MNDAA and junta troops hit buses traveling near Namlan town, killed two passengers, and injured four others.<sup>113</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>97</sup> Kachin News Group (12 Sep 2024) ဆိုင်းတောင်ရွာကို စစ်တပ်ဗုံးကြဲတိုက်ခိုက်ခဲ့ပြီး လူနေအိမ်အများအပြား မီးလောင်ပျက်စီး

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>98</sup> SHAN (12 Sep 2024) နိုင်ငံတဝှမ်း ရေဘေးသင့်နေစဉ် စစ်တပ် ဗုံးကြဲ၍ ဖားကန့် ဆိုင်းတောင်ရွာ မီးလောင်နေ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>99</sup> Kachin News Group (19 Sep 2024) မြို့တွင်း လက်နက်ကြီးကျပေါက်ကွဲမှုတွေကြောင့် ဖားကန့်မြို့စွန့်ခွာသူများလာ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>100</sup> Kachin News Group (17 Sep 2024) ဖားကန့်မှာ တစ်ပတ်အတွင်း ပစ်သတ်ခံရသူ ၃၀ ဦးထက်မနည်းရှိလာပြီး နေအိမ် ၄၀၀ ခန့်မီးရှိဖျက်ဆီးခံရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>101</sup> Myanmar Now (20 Sep 2024) တိုက်ပွဲပိုမိုပြင်းထန်လာနိုင်သည့် ဖားကန့်မြို့ကို ဒေသခံအများအပြား စွန့်ခွာ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>102</sup> Kachin News Group (11 Sep 2024) ပန်ဝါ တိုက်ပွဲ ၅ ရက်ခန့် ကြာမြင့်လာ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>103</sup> Kachin News Group (30 Sep 2024) ချီဖွေမြို့သိမ်းတိုက်ပွဲမှာ မြို့အပါအဝင် တပ်စခန်း ၅ နေရာကို KIA သိမ်းပိုက်ထား

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>104</sup> Kachin News Group (18 Sep 2024) မြစ်ကြီးနားမြို့အနီးတဝိုက် စစ်တပ်က စစ်ရေးလှုပ်ရှားနေပြီး မြို့တွင်းဂိတ်တစ်ချို့မှာ ဘီးခွန် စတင်ကောက်ခံ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>105</sup> Kachin News Group (20 Sep 2024) ရန်နိုင်မင်း စစ်ဆင်ရေးစတင်လာတဲ့အတွက် ပြည်သူတွေစစ်ရေးအထူးသတိရှိကြဖို့ KIO ပြော

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>106</sup> SHAN (3 Sep 2024) စစ်ကောင်စီမှ လေကြောင်း ဗုံးကြဲတိုက်ခိုက် အသက်၆၀ အရွယ် အမျိုးသမီးတစ်ဦး ထိခိုက်ဒဏ်ရာ ရရှိ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>107</sup> SHAN (2 Sep 2024) သီပေါ လက်နက်ကြီးကြောင့် မြို့ထဲပစ္စည်းပြန်သယ်သည့် စစ်ရှောင်အမျိုးသမီး၂ ဦး သေဆုံး

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>108</sup> SHAN (16 Sep 2024) သီပေါမြို့နယ် စစ်ကောင်စီ လေကြောင်း ဗုံးကြ အရပ်သားတစ်ဦး သေဆုံး

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>109</sup> SHAN (24 Sep 2024) သီပေါမြို့စစ်ကောင်စီလေကြောင်းဗုံးကြဲ အရပ်သား ၅ဦးသေဆုံး၊ ၃ ဦးဒဏ်ရာရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>110</sup> SHAN (18 Sep 2024) သီပေါ် (၅)ရက်အတွင်း စစ်ကောင်စီဗုံးကြဲတိုက်ခိုက် ပြည်သူ( ၁၀ )ဦးထက်မနည်းသေဆုံး

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>111</sup> SHAN (24 Sep 2024) သီပေါမြို့စစ်ကောင်စီလေကြောင်းဗုံးကြဲ အရပ်သား ၅ဦးသေဆုံး၊ ၃ ဦးဒဏ်ရာရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>112</sup> SHAN (1 Oct 2024) သီပေါ လေကြောင်းဗုံးကြဲခံရခြင်းကြောင့် ကလေးနှင့်အမျိုးသမီးအပါအဝင် (၄) ဦးသေဆုံး၊ မြို့အဝင်ကို TNLA တင်းကြပ်စစ်ဆေးနေ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>113</sup> SHAN (1 Oct 2024) နမ့်လန်မြို့အနီး စစ်ကောင်စီနှင့် MNDAA တိုက်ပွဲကြား ခရီးသည်(၂) ဦး သေနတ်ကျည်ထိမှန်သေဆုံး

*Junta airstrikes on TNLA-controlled towns:* On 3 Sep, the junta conducted **airstrikes on TNLA-controlled Manton town**, injured a civilian and destroyed at least four houses and a factory.<sup>114</sup> On 6 Sep, the junta bombed two wards of **TNLA-controlled Namhkam town**, killed at least 11 civilians, including a pregnant woman and two children, and destroyed over five houses.<sup>115</sup>

*Junta airstrikes and clashes in Nawnhkio Township:* On 3 Sep, junta troops clashed with the TNLA and its allied forces near Tawng Hkam village in Nawnghkio Township. The junta's Artillery Operations Command (AOC) 902 and troops from Pyin Oo Lwin (Mandalay Region) shelled the area, killed a civilian, and injured two others in Me Poke village. The junta also bombed Shwe Ku Let Pan Kone village, killed three civilians, including two women, and destroyed at least five houses.<sup>116</sup> On 13 Sep, the junta bombed Pang Son village, killed two women, injured one other, and destroyed a house.<sup>117</sup> During 13-14 Sep, junta fighter jets dropped at least 15 bombs on TNLA-controlled Nawnghkio town, injured a woman, and destroyed several houses.<sup>118</sup> 13 Sep, the allied resistance forces seized the junta's AOC 902 and AB 354 in Tawng Hkam village. The capture meant the TNLA controlled all four junta artillery bases in the area, and Tawng Hkam village.<sup>119</sup>

*MNDAA tries to assure Beijing:* On 18 Sep, the MNDAA officially stated that they would (1) pursue genuine self-autonomy and not engage in secession, the seizure of state power, or the establishment of a new state; (2) not form alliances or work together with those who are against China and cut ties with the NUG politically and militarily; and (3) request China to mediate and help address the deteriorating situation in Myanmar.<sup>120</sup> China reportedly met with the MNDAA, the TNLA, and the KIA in late Aug (only KIA gave public confirmation).<sup>121</sup> Political analysts said the statement demonstrated Beijing's efforts to exert pressure on the MNDAA and to control Burma's political landscape.<sup>122</sup>

*Junta Reinforcements in Mongyai:* On 9-10 Sep, in **Mongyai Township**, junta reinforcements arrived in Nar Sang, Nar Yang, and Nawng Pyit villages to **build a checkpoint** designed to halt the transport of fuel and rations to Lashio city. The junta also **launched drone and artillery attacks** around Mongyai.<sup>123</sup>

*Junta's nonstop bombing to take Lashio city from the MNDAA:* On 8 Sep, in Lashio city, the junta **bombed Ward 12** and destroyed homes.<sup>124</sup> On 9 Sep, the junta **bombed Ward 1,** damaged the General Administration Office and injured 12 civilians.<sup>125</sup> On 10 Sep, it was reported that the airstrikes had forced locals to flee once again, which severely **impacted the mental health and wellbeing** of women and children.<sup>126</sup> On the same day, the junta bombed Namma Coal Mining near Nam Pawng village and destroyed buildings. The **MNDAA warned locals of the threat of airstrikes** as the junta attacked areas they had lost to the Three Brotherhood Alliance.<sup>127</sup> During 13-14 Sep, the junta **bombed Nam Pawng village**, killed five civilians, injured eight others, and destroyed several buildings.<sup>128</sup> On 24 Sep, the junta **dropped four 500-lb bombs on Ward 2**, killed a civilian, injured at least nine others, and destroyed buildings.<sup>129</sup> On 27 Sep, the **junta dropped 15 bombs on Myoma Market, Wards 1 and 2** of the city, killed two civilians, injured six others, and destroyed more buildings.<sup>130</sup> On 27 Sep, the Ta'ang Women's

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>114</sup> SHAN (4 Sep 2024) မန်တုံမြို့ကို စစ်ကောင်စီမှ ဂျက်လေယာဉ်ဖြင့် ဗုံးကြဲတိုက်ခိုက်၊ ဒေသခံ တစ်ဦးထိမုန်

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>115</sup> SHAN (6 Sep 2024) လူအိပ်မောကျခိုန် စစ်ကောင်စီ နမ့်ခမ်းမြို့လေကြောင်းဗုံးကြဲ၊ ကိုယ်ဝန်ဆောင်မိခင်နှင့် ကလေးအပါအဝင် ၁၁

ဦးထက်မနည်း သေဆုံး; Kachin News Group (6 Sep 2024) နမ့်ခမ်းမြို့လေကြောင်းတိုက်ခိုက်ခံရမှု ကလေးငယ်၊ကိုယ်ဝန်ဆောင်မိခင်အပါအဝင် ၁၃ ဦးသေဆုံး

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>116</sup> SHAN (5 Sep 2024) နောင်ချို စစ်ကောင်စီတပ် တာဝေးပစ်အမြောက်ကျည်ကြောင့် အရပ်သား ၁ ဦးသေ၊ ၂ ဦးဒဏ်ရာရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>117</sup> SHAN (13 Sep 2024) နောင်ချို စစ်ကောင်စီလေကြောင်းဗုံးကြဲ အမျိုးသမီး နှစ်ဦးသေဆုံး၊ အမျိုးသား တစ်ဦးဒဏ်ရာရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>118</sup> SHAN (14 Sep 2024) လားရှိုးနှင့် နောင်ချို လေကြောင်းဖြင့် ဆက်တိုက်ဗုံးကြဲခံရ၊ အရပ်သား ၅ ဦး သေဆုံးပြီး ၁၀ ဦးထက်မနည်း ဒဏ်ရာရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>119</sup> SHAN (13 Sep 2024) နောင်ချိုမြို့နယ် တောင်ခမ်း အမြောက်တပ်ကွပ်ကဲမှုဌာနချုပ် (မစခ-၉၀၂) ကို TNLA ပူးပေါင်းအဖွဲ့ အပြီးသတ်သိမ်းပိုက်

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>120</sup> The Kokang (18 Sep 2024) https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=850770377158337&set=a.407258341509545
 <sup>121</sup> Burma News International (19 Sep 2024) MNDAA Declares No Military or Political Alliance with NUG, Will Not Launch Offensives in Mandalay and Taunggyi Cities

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>122</sup> Voice of America (24 Sep 2024) China pressures Myanmar ethnic groups to cut ties from forces perceived as close to US <sup>123</sup> SHAN (10 Sep 2024) မိုင်းရယ်စစ်ကောင်စီတပ် အင်အားဖြည့်၊ ဒရုန်းဗုံးနှင့် အမြောက်ပစ် လုံခြုံရေးစိုးရိမ်ရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>124</sup> SHAN (8 Sep 2024) စစ်ရှုံးသည့် စစ်ကောင်စီ လူအိပ်မောကျခိုန် လားရှိုးမြို့ပေါ် ဗုံးလာကြ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>125</sup> SHAN (9 Sep 2024) လေကြောင်း ထပ်မံဗုံးကြဲခံရသည့် လားရှိုးမြို့အရပ်သား ၁၂ ဦး ထိခိုက်ဒဏ်ရာရ၊ သေဆုံးမှုရှိ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>126</sup> SHAN (10 Sep 2024) လားရှိုးမြို့ဗုံးကြဲ၍ မြို့ခံများပြန်လည် စွန့်ခွာ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>127</sup> SHAN (11 Sep 2024) လားရှိုး နမ္မကျောက်မီးသွေးတွင်း ဗုံးထပ်ကြခံရ၊ လေကြောင်းအန္တရာယ် သတိထားရန် ညီနောင်မဟာမိတ် သတိပေး

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>128</sup> SHAN (14 Sep 2024) လားရှိုးနှင့် နောင်ချို လေကြောင်းဖြင့် ဆက်တိုက်ဗုံးကြဲခံရ၊ အရပ်သား ၅ ဦး သေဆုံးပြီး ၁၀ ဦးထက်မနည်း ဒဏ်ရာရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>129</sup> SHAN (24 Sep 2024) လားရှိုးမြို့ပေါ် စစ်ကောင်စီ ထပ်မံလေကြောင်းဗုံးကြဲ အရပ်သား ၁၀ ဦးထက်မနည်းဒဏ်ရာရ၊ ၁ ဦးသေဆုံး

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>130</sup> SHAN (27 Sep 2024) လားရှိုးမြို့စစ်ကောင်စီ ဖျက်အားပြင်း ဗုံး ၁၅ လုံးကျော် ကြဲချမှု ပြည်သူ၂ ဦး သေဆုံးပြီး ပျက်စီးမှုများပြား

Organization (TWO) reported that the junta carried out a total of seven airstrikes on the city during 30 Aug-27 Sep. <sup>131</sup> On 28 Sep, junta **airstrikes on Ward 8** destroyed several homes and cars.<sup>132</sup> On 30 Sep, **airstrikes on Man Nar village near Ward 12** injured nine civilians and destroyed several homes.<sup>133</sup>

## Southern Shan State

On 21 Sep, in **Kyethi Township**, junta-planted landmines killed a civilian in Wan Sein Ywar Ma village and injured two others.<sup>134</sup>

*Junta targets Bankok IDP camp:* On 5 Sep, in Pekon Township, the junta shelled and dropped two 500-lb bombs directly on **Bankok IDP Camp** near La Ei village, killed at least seven children and two adults and injured 20 others.<sup>135</sup> The camp sheltered over 700 IDPs, including about 500 students from across S. Shan State who attended the camp's high school. Junta forces conducted the attacks the day after coup leader Min Aung Hlaing visited Loikaw (Karenni State), around 35 km to the south-east.<sup>136</sup>

**PNLO splits over junta:** On 17 Sep, it was reported that the **Pa-O National Liberation Organization** (PNLO) had split. One faction, led by Khun Okkar and named the "**PNLO Splinter Group**", stated that it adhered to the 2015 NCA, would **halt anti-junta military activities**, and instead work closely with the pro-junta Pa-O National Organization (PNO). The **'Anti-Dictatorship PNLO'** group led by former PNLO Chairman Khun Thurein would **continue to fight against the junta**. In Jan 2024, the PNLO revoked the 2015 NCA to take up arms against the regime.<sup>137</sup>

## Karenni State

On 4 Sep, in Loikaw city, the KNDF reportedly shelled the junta's Loikaw Regional Operations Command (ROC) and the Loikaw State Hall **during a visit by coup leader Min Aung Hlaing**. On 5 Sep, the **junta retaliated** with **air and artillery strikes** on areas around Loikaw, including **Demoso** and **Nan Mei Khon** towns in Demoso Township. The junta airstrikes **killed one civilian and injured seven**. Junta media confirmed that the coup leader had visited Loikaw to discuss the junta's planned census.<sup>138</sup>

## Karen State

*115 clashes between the junta and KNLA in August:* On 8 Sep, the KNU's 5th Brigade reported that in August, the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) **clashed with the junta 115 times** and reportedly killed 35 junta soldiers. They also reported that the junta fired over 20 shells and injured a civilian.<sup>139</sup>

*Junta continues to target civilians:* On 9 Sep, in Kyainseikgyi Township, a junta airstrike on Kyon Kha Wun village seriously injured a child and an elderly man, and displaced hundreds of residents from over four villages.<sup>140</sup> On 22 Sep, in Kyaikmaraw Township, it was reported that since fighting had erupted in Anan Kwin on the Thanbyuzayat-Hpayarthonesu highway in mid-August, phone lines and internet services had been cut off in more than 10 nearby villages. A local stated it wasn't clear whether phone towers were destroyed during clashes or if the junta had purposely cut the lines.<sup>141</sup>

#### **Bago Region**

On 8 Sep, in **Yedashe Township**, a **junta drone strike on a school** in Ke Lin Seik and Shar Taw villages **killed three civilians** and **injured 12** others. There had been no clashes in the area prior to the attack.<sup>142</sup> On 25 Sep, in **Letpadan Township**, a villager died from injuries caused by a junta landmine - junta roadblocks prevented the man from accessing medical treatment.<sup>143</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>131</sup> Ta'ang Women's Organization via Facebook (27 Sep 2024) https://tinyurl.com/2k453hjh

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>132</sup> SHAN (29 Sep 2024) လားရှိုးမြို့ရပ်ကွက် (၈) စစ်ကောင်စီ ဗုံးကြဲမှု ထိခိုက်ပျက်စီးမှု များပြား

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>133</sup> SHAN (1 Oct 2024) လားရှိုးတွင် စစ်တပ်မှလေကြောင်းဗုံးကြဲမှုကြောင့် အရပ်သား ၉ ဦးထိခိုက်ဒဏ်ရာရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>134</sup> SHAN (24 Sep 2024) နွားစာ မြက်သွားရိတ်သည့် မိုင်းနောင်ဒေသခံ (၃)ဦး မိုင်းနင်းမိပြီး တစ်ဦးသေ၊ နှစ်ဦး ဒဏ်ရာပြင်းထန်

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>135</sup> DVB (6 Sep 2024) Nine civilians killed in airstrike on Pekon in southern Shan State

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>136</sup> Karenni Human Rights Group (9 Sep 2024) The Karenni Human Rights Group Condemns the Airstrike on Bangkok IDP Camp in Pekon Township, southern Shan State; Free Burma Rangers (7 Sep 2024) https://tinyurl.com/43e6t49c

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>137</sup> Irrawaddy (17 Sep 2024) Pa-O Armed Group Splits Over Myanmar Junta Peace Deal; Myanmar Now (20 Sep 2024) PNLO patron Khun Okkar resigns, sides with pro-regime militia
 <sup>138</sup> RFA (5 Sep 2024) Myanmar rebels say they launched mortar attack on coup leader; Irrawaddy (5 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>138</sup> RFA (5 Sep 2024) Myanmar rebels say they launched mortar attack on coup leader; Irrawaddy (5 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Boss Targeted in Artillery Attack While Visiting Karenni Capital; Myanmar Now (5 Sep 2024) Resistance forces fire on Karenni capital during visit by junta leader

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>139</sup> Mizzima (8 Sep 2024) KNU reports 35 Military Council soldiers killed in August clashes in Hpapun District, Myanmar

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>140</sup> HURFOM (12 Sep 2024) Junta's air assault injures child and an adult in Kyarinnseikyi

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>141</sup> MonNews (22 Sep 2024) Internet and Phone Blackouts in Anan Kwin Area as Conflict Escalates

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>142</sup> Mizzima (11 Sep 2024) Spring Revolution Daily News for 11 September 2024

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>143</sup> DVB (27 Sep 2024) At least 13 killed by airstrikes on southern Arakan State's Thandwe; Flood death toll continues to rise

## Tanintharyi Region

On 27 Sep, in Dawei and Palaw townships, it was reported that the junta had looted and torched at least 91 houses in September.<sup>144</sup>

*Junta increases arrests in Kawthoung Township:* On 1 Sep, in Kawthoung Township, junta troops raided docks in Kawthoung town and arrested 10 workers, including dock owner's son. The junta detained the workers at its LIB 262 base for conscription.<sup>145</sup> On 7 Sep, the junta arrested and extorted money from two residents in Chan Hpan Village Tract on allegations of trading rubber without official licenses. A local reported that the junta released the residents on the same day after they paid MMK 1 million each and THB 30,000 for their vehicle.<sup>146</sup>

*Violence intensifies in Launglon Township:* During 30 Aug-3 Sep, junta troops **arrested and killed four residents** from Bu Chine village and **torched 10 houses** in Bu Chine and Hpwar Boke Pyin villages. On 31 Aug, locals found the body of one of the victims which bore evidence of torture.<sup>147</sup> During 9-17 Sep, resistance forces attacked the pro-junta Pyu Saw Htee militia base in Kyauk Ni Maw village. In retaliation, around 100 junta troops were deployed to the village via navy ship. Afterwards, a regiment of around 20 junta troops **shelled** and **raided five nearby villages**, **injured a resident**, and **forced around 120 villagers to flee**. Locals stated that the junta also arrested and **shot dead a resident**. An IDP reported that the **junta raided**, **looted**, **and destroyed nearly all houses in Za Lut village**. On 12 Sep, the junta raided and destroyed the village's monastery. On 16 Sep, the junta carried out drone strikes on Nyaung Pin village. On 17 Sep, the junta torched five more houses in nearby villages.<sup>148</sup>

*Junta arrests civilians and IDPs in Palaw Township:* During 4-5 Sep, in Palaw Township, clashes erupted between the junta and resistance forces in Pala town. During 4-5 Sep, **junta forces arrested over 60 residents**, including women and elderly people. On 5 Sep, the junta released over 40 of the detainees, but **detained 20 conscription-age men and women**.<sup>149</sup> During 18-19 Sep, around **200 junta troops** raided Shat Pon village, **torched 34 houses**, **killed three civilians** including an elderly woman and a mentally-ill man, and **displaced thousands**. The junta **arrested 50 IDPs** sheltering in the village monastery. A local reported the junta released the women but **detained 30 men** at the LIB 385 in Palaw town. The junta reportedly released one of the men after he paid them MMK 3 million.<sup>150</sup>

*Junta cuts off electricity and telecommunications in Yebyu Township:* On 1 Sep, the junta's Mawrawaddy Navy Command shelled **Kaleinaung Town** and **killed a man**.<sup>151</sup> On 16 Sep, a regiment of around **150 junta troops** stationed themselves outside of Zar Di village and **forced the entire village to flee**. On 17 Sep, the regiment also **cut off electricity and telecommunication networks** in Zar Di village and in five surrounding villages. On 18 Sep, the junta shelled the village and injured a local.<sup>152</sup>

*Arbitrary arrest in Thayetchaung Township:* On 4 Sep, in Thayetchaung Township, junta troops stationed at the "Pan Taw" security gate beat and **detained a man accused of supporting the NUG** at the LIB 404 base. On 6 Sep, the junta released the man on bail of MMK 1.5 million.<sup>153</sup>

#### Mon State

On 29 Sep, in Mon State, it was reported that in September, at least **11 people had been extrajudicially killed**. The junta and resistance forces were accused of the killings. In one instance on 26 Sep, in **Paung Township**, a farmer found the body of a deceased man in a creek with a **gunshot wound to the head** and **bruised eyes**, which indicated that he had been tortured. On 25 Sep, in Mudon Township, **another man was also shot dead and killed**.<sup>154</sup>

*Junta shells Ye Township indiscriminately:* During 5-6 Sep, in Ye Township, the junta's **317th** AB **shelled Hnit Kayin village** and injured three residents, including a woman.<sup>155</sup> On 20 Sep, it was reported that the junta's 317th AB and IB 106 indiscriminately **shelled areas** around Mawt Ka Nin village **almost** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>144</sup> MonNews (27 Sep 2024) Military Junta Troops Persist in Burning Entire Villages in Dawei

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>145</sup> HURFOM (4 Sep 2024) Junta arrests ten men from boatyard in Kaw Thaung

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>146</sup> HURFOM (16 Sep 2024) Junta arrests and extorts two local men from Kaw Thaung

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>147</sup> HURFOM (10 Sep 2024) Junta's regiment arrests and kills four villagers in Long Lone

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>148</sup> HURFOM (20 Sep 2024) Junta's regiment based in Kyauk Ni Maw burns down other five residential houses; HURFOM (18

Sep 2024) Junta launches military operation in Kyauk Ne Maw forcing residents to flee home

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>149</sup> HURFOM (10 Sep 2024) 20 civilians arrested in Pa La Battle not released yet

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>150</sup> HURFOM (23 Sep 2024) Junta's troops burn and kill three villagers in Pu Law

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>151</sup> HURFOM (9 Sep 2024) Junta's artillery attack kills a civilian in Ka Lane Aung

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>152</sup> HURFOM (25 Sep 2024) Junta's regiment forces entire village to flee: Villager injured by artillery attack

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>153</sup> HURFOM (11 Sep 2024) Local man beaten and arrested by junta's security forces in Tha Yet Chaung

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>154</sup> HURFOM (29 Sep 2024) Man Found Dead with Gunshot Wounds in Paung

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>155</sup> Mon News (11 Sep 2024) Three Injured by Military Junta's Mortar Attack

**daily**, despite no active fighting. A local reported that the constant shelling instilled fear among villagers and forced farmers to abandon tens of thousands of acres of land.<sup>156</sup>

*Junta arrest and beat residents in Ye Township:* During **10-11 Sep**, in Ye Township, the junta **arrested eight people**, including five women, **accused of supporting PDFs**. Residents reported that two of the women were later released. The junta detained the others at the town police station for five days and **beat them**. Their whereabouts remained unknown.<sup>157</sup> On 19 Sep, it was reported that since the second week of September, junta troops had stationed themselves at village entrances and roads between villages, and interrogated passing villagers. In some cases, they **targeted young men** and **extorted phones** and **money**. A resident reported that around 30 junta troops stationed on the Lamine-Thaung Pyin Road had **interrogated** and **beat two teenage boys with rifle butts**. It was also reported that on 16 Sep, hundreds of junta LIB 106 troops entered Kaw Dut village which raised fears of potential clashes.<sup>158</sup> On 27 Sep, it was reported that since 16 Sep, the junta had selected **50 middle-aged civilians** from Ye town and surrounding villages to form a "public security force". The selected individuals were reportedly sent to the junta's 19th Military Operation Command in Ye town for two weeks of military training.<sup>159</sup>

*Junta wrongfully accuse and target civilians:* On 2 Sep, in **Paung Township**, around 20 junta troops shot and **arrested four young men** in Tha Byu Chaung village **for allegedly being PDF members**. A resident stated that the men were not PDF members, and their parents were negotiating with village administrators for their release.<sup>160</sup> On 5 Sep, in **Chaungzon Township**, junta troops arrested a couple in Ywar Lut village and **accused them of fraud** and **human trafficking**. A resident stated they had been wrongly accused.<sup>161</sup> On 23 Sep, in **Thaton Township**, the junta arrested two men from Inn Kwe village **accused of being PDF members**. A local reported that the two men were civilians. They were detained and interrogated at the Thu Dhamma Wa D police station and had not been allowed to meet with family.<sup>162</sup>

*Junta collaborators targeted by armed groups:* On 18 Sep, in Mudon Township, unknown gunmen shot dead a man in Kar Ma Wet village for allegedly being a junta informant.<sup>163</sup> On 23 Sep, in Kyaikto Township, a group of gunmen shot dead the local village secretary and his daughter in Moke Kha Mu village for allegedly being members of the pro-junta Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP).<sup>164</sup>

*Junta deliberately targeting civilians:* On 20 Sep, it was reported that in **Thanbyuzayat Township**, the junta's 315th AB shelled Ah Nan Kwin village (Karen State) and nearby villages daily and had displaced thousands of residents. A resident reported that the junta was **"deliberately targeting civilians"**.<sup>165</sup>

#### Ayeyarwady Region

On 2 Sep, in **Kangyidaunt Township**, a civilian stabbed a junta administrator to death and injured his wife after the administrator ordered him to pay MMK 10 million to avoid conscription.<sup>166</sup> On 26 Sep, it was reported that, in **Myanaung and Kyangin townships**, 100 junta troops had begun raiding areas along the **Arakan State** border since the first week of September. They also arrested three farmers on suspicion of being resistance fighters, causing other locals to stop their farming activities.<sup>167</sup>

## **Mandalay Region**

On 1 Sep, in Kyaukpadaung Township, 2 junta planes dropped six bombs on Myin Chan Kone village, killed three women and a 10-year-old child, and injured two others. There had been no prior fighting.<sup>168</sup>

In Taungtha Township, junta forces arrested and killed six resistance fighters in Thar Yar Gyi village on 16 Sep. Junta soldiers then clashed with resistance reinforcements. Junta forces shelled the area and forced resistance fighters to retreat. Junta soldiers then looted Thar Yar Gyi village and torched houses.<sup>169</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>156</sup> Mon News (20 Sep 2024) Residents of Ye Fear for Safety Amid Military Junta's Mortar Shelling

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>157</sup> Mon News (16 Sep 2024) Five Locals, Including Two Women, Arrested in Ye Township; HUROM (19 Sep 2024) Junta arrests six residents in Ye: Accusing them of supporting the PDF

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>158</sup> HURFOM (29 Sep 2024) Junta's troops beat young men during their interrogation

<sup>159</sup> HURFOM (27 Sep 2024) Junta trains 50 civilians to form "Public Security Team" in Ye Township

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>160</sup> HUROM (5 Sep 2024) Junta shoots and arrests four young men in Paung
 <sup>161</sup> HUROM (9 Sep 2024) Junta arrests a couple in Chaung Zone

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>162</sup> HURFOM (30 Sep 2024) Junta accuses two youths of being PDF members and arrests them in Thaton

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>163</sup> Mon News (20 Sep 2024) Man Shot Dead in Kamawet Township

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>164</sup> HURFOM (26 Sep 2024) Father and Daughter from the USDP Shot Dead in Kyaikto

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>165</sup> Mon News (20 Sep 2024) Junta's 315th Artillery Battalion Shells Ahnankwin Daily, Forcing Residents to Flee

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>166</sup> DVB (3 Sep 2024) ကန်ကြီးထောင့်တွင် ကျေးရွာအုပ်ချုပ်ရေးမှူး ၁ ဦး ဓားခုတ်ခံရပြီး သေဆုံး

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>167</sup> DVB (26 Sep 2024) ကြံခင်းနှင့် မြန်အောင်တွင် စစ်ကြောင်းထိုး နယ်မြေရှင်းလင်းနေသဖြင့် ဒေသခံများ အခက်ကြုံ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>168</sup> Myanmar Now (3 Sep 2024) Four civilians killed, two injured in Myanmar junta airstrike south of Mandalay; DVB (2 Sep 2024) ကျောက်ပန်းတောင်းတွင် စစ်တပ်ဗုံးကြသဖြင့် မိသားစုဝင် ၄ ဦး သေဆုံး၊ ကလေးမြို့က နေအိမ် ၄ လုံး မီးရှို့ခံရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>169</sup> Myanmar Now (18 Sep 2024) Myanmar regime forces capture and kill six resistance fighters in Mandalay Region

On 23 Sep, junta airstrikes on Yadanarbon and Ywarthayar villages injured one civilian and damaged two homes.<sup>170</sup> On the same day, the junta shelled two nearby villages. There had been no prior fighting.<sup>171</sup>

*Conflict reaches Mandalay:* On 3 Sep, Brave Warriors for Myanmar (BWM) fired 107mm rocket shells on the junta's Central Regional Military Command (CRMC) near Mandalay Palace in **Aungmyaythazan Township**, injured a civilian and 18 junta personnel, and damaged three buildings. Following the shelling, the junta locked down the palace and tightened security across Mandalay city.<sup>172</sup> On 29 Sep, BWM attacked CRMC again with six 107mm rocket shells. The number of casualties was unknown.<sup>173</sup>

*Fighting intensifies in Myingyan:* On 7 Sep, in **Myingyan Township**, junta troops raided six villages in the northeast of the township and displaced over 10,000 villagers. On 8 Sep, junta shelling **killed three women** from two villages and junta airstrikes damaged buildings in Pyar village.<sup>174</sup> On 22 Sep, the junta launched two airstrikes on Chay Sin village, killed a woman, injured three others, including a pregnant woman, and forced locals to flee. No clashes had taken place prior to the attack.<sup>175</sup> On 27 Sep, over 120 junta troops raided resistance forces' positions in Chay Sin village, killed two villagers, and shelled the surrounding areas.<sup>176</sup> On 25 Sep, 100 junta troops raided Phon village, captured and shot dead three men, torched three houses, and forced over 1,000 villagers to flee.<sup>177</sup>

*Junta shells Madaya Township:* On 3 Sep, in **Madaya Township**, two junta airstrikes on Mway Pon Kan village injured eight civilians.<sup>178</sup> On 18 Sep, the junta shelled Thone Se Pay village and killed three civilians.<sup>179</sup> On 21 Sep, junta forces raided the village and clashed with resistance forces.<sup>180</sup> Junta troops shelled the area around the fighting and killed six civilians, including a nursing mother and her infant. After resistance forces retreated, junta troops torched seven houses and forced villagers to flee.<sup>181</sup>

*Locals flee Ngazun airstrikes:* On 20 Sep, in Ngazun Township, junta airstrikes on Ngan Myar village killed 12 civilians and 2 resistance fighters. On 21 Sep, junta airstrikes on Ngan Myar and two nearby villages forced over 1000 locals to flee.<sup>182</sup> On 24 Sep, the junta conducted airstrikes on Myaytaing village, killed two men, damaged seven houses, and forced villagers to flee. There had been no prior fighting.<sup>183</sup>

## Yangon Region

In **Yangon**, the University Students' Union Alumni Force reported that the junta **arrested four youths** who had joined protests against high commodity prices and mandatory military service on 19 Sep. Junta forces also raided possible hideouts of others who participated.<sup>184</sup>

In **Dagon Myothit (South) Township**, two unknown gunmen shot dead a junta administrator and a household administrator compiling a list for conscription on 20 Sep.<sup>185</sup> On 20 Sep, RFA reported that during Feb-Sep 2024, resistance forces **killed 102 junta administrative staff** over forced conscription.<sup>186</sup>

On 28 Sep, the junta announced they had **arrested 12 members of Anonymous Force** for allegedly assassinating several administrators in Yangon region. It was unconfirmed whether those arrested were actually from Anonymous Force. The junta also arrested four former administrators and a driver.<sup>187</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>170</sup> Mizzima (26 Sep 2024) Myanmar Air Force carries out airstrikes on two villages in Taungtha Township, Mandalay Region

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>171</sup> RFA (24 Sep 2024) တောင်သာမြို့နယ်က ရွာနှစ်ရွာ လေကြောင်းတိုက်ခိုက်ခံရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>172</sup> Myanmar Now (4 Sep 2024) Rocket attack by urban guerrillas targets Myanmar military's regional headquarters in Mandalay <sup>173</sup> DVB (29 Sep 2024) မန္တလေးနန်းတွင်းက အလယ်ပိုင်းတိုင်းစစ်ဌာနချုပ်ကို ရှော့တိုက်ဒုံးများဖြင့် ပစ်ခတ်တိုက်ခိုက်

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>174</sup> RFA (9 Sep 2024) မြင်းခြံမှာ စစ်ကြောင်းကြောင့် ဒေသခံ တစ်သောင်းကျော် ထွက်ပြေးနေရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>175</sup> Myanmar Now (23 Sep 2024) One woman killed, three others injured by Myanmar junta airstrikes in Myingyan Township; Myanmar Now (23 Sep 2024) မြင်းခြံ ချေဆေးရွာကို လေတပ်တိုက်ခိုက်၊ တစ်ဦးသေပြီး သုံးဦးဒဏ်ရာပြင်းထန်

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>176</sup> RFA (28 Sep 2024) မြင်းခြံမြို့နယ်က PDF စခန်းတွေ စီးနင်းတိုက်ခိုက်ခံရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>177</sup> Myanmar Now (26 Sep 2024) Myanmar junta troops kill three civilians in Mandalay Region's Myingyan Township; RFA (26 Sep 2024) မြင်းခြံမြို့နယ် ဖုံရွာမှာ လူသုံးဦး သတ်ဖြတ်ခံရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>178</sup> Myanmar Now (6 Sep 2024) Myanmar junta airstrikes injure eight civilians in Mandalay Region

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>179</sup> Myanmar Now (24 Sep 2024) Four children among civilians killed by Myanmar junta shelling, airstrikes north of Mandalay <sup>180</sup> RFA (21 Sep 2024) မန္တလေးမြို့အနီး တိုက်ပွဲဖြစ်နေပြီး စစ်ကောင်စီတပ်က လေကြောင်းက တိုက်ခိုက်

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>181</sup> Myanmar Now (24 Sep 2024) Four children among civilians killed by Myanmar junta shelling, airstrikes north of Mandalay <sup>182</sup> RFA (22 Sep 2024) ငါန်းမြာကြီးရွာ ဗုံးကြဲခံရမူ သေဆုံးသူ ၁၄ ဦးအထိ ရှိလာ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>183</sup> DVB (26 Sep 2024) ငါန်းဇွန်မြို့နယ် မြေတိုင်းကျေးရွာကို လေကြောင်းဗုံးကြဲမှုကြောင့် ပြည်သူ၂ ဦး သေဆုံး

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>184</sup> Irrawaddy (23 Sep 2024) Four Young Protesters 'Disappeared' After Yangon Rally Against Myanmar Dictatorship

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>185</sup> DVB (20 Sep 2024) တောင်ဒဂုံ ၁၀၇ ရပ်ကွက် အုပ်ချုပ်ရေးမှူးနှင့် ရာအိမ်မှူး ပစ်ခတ်ခံရပြီး သေဆုံး

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>186</sup> RFA (20 Sep 2024) တောင်ဒဂုံမှာ အုပ်ချုပ်ရေးမှူးနဲ့ ရာအိမ်မှူး သတ်ဖြတ်ခံရ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>187</sup> DVB (29 Sep 2024) Anonymous Force အဖွဲ့ဝင်များကို ဖမ်းမိဟု စစ်ကောင်စီထုတ်ပြန်

# Rohingya

On 10 Sep, **MSF** stated that since Jun 2024, they had only been able to operate in Sittwe Township and were **unable to access northern or central Arakan State**. As a result, during Sep 2023-Apr 2024, MSF total outpatient consultations fell from 6,684 to 236. Many Rohingya stated that wherever they fled, they still faced violence at the hands of the AA or the junta. This included Rohingya women being raped and killed while fleeing conflict.<sup>188</sup> On 8 Sep, Maya Region Human Rights Documentation Centre (MHRDC) documented the AA's 4 Aug entrapment and **alleged murder** of Rohingya residents of Maung Ni Ward in **Maungdaw town**. MHRDC stated that AA troops surrounded the houses of at least 9 Rohingya families, and MHRDC lost contact with the families shortly after. The group added that there was credible evidence the AA had also killed and injured other Rohingya Maung Ni Ward residents.<sup>189</sup>

## Yunus promises welcome and protection, police continue harassment and refoulement

During 1-10 Sep, **over 18,000 Rohingya entered Bangladesh** and more than 50,000 were waiting at the border in Arakan State to cross. Local sources stated that Rohingya crossed at 25-30 points along the border.<sup>190</sup> Local government officials had yet to decide whether or not they would register recent arrivals.<sup>191</sup> On 11 Sep, it was reported that both the AA and Bangladesh brokers had **robbed or extorted** gold and cash from fleeing Rohingya. A Rohingya resident of Maungdaw said that during 5 - 20 Aug, the AA had looted up to 2,000 Rohingya-owned shops in the township. Other sources stated that brokers would take any valuables from fleeing Rohingya in exchange for passage into Bangladesh, while some brokers would extort money from Rohingya by **holding them hostage** after arriving in Bangladesh.<sup>192</sup>

On 11 Sep, leader of the Bangladesh interim government, **Mohammad Yunus**, told DW that Bangladesh "can't stop [Rohingya], we can't push them back. Pushing them back means we are pushing them to death... So we welcome people who come, let them come in." He also said the new arrivals placed a growing burden on Bangladesh and he was seeking assistance from the international community to manage the situation.<sup>193</sup> On 25 Sep, at a UN General Assembly side event, Yunus stated that the continued arrival of Rohingya into Bangladesh had placed the country at its limit and challenged the country's development gains. He stated that **repatriation** remained the only sustainable solution for Bangladesh.<sup>194</sup>

On 25 Sep, **HRW** noted that despite promises from the interim government to welcome fleeing Rohingya, on 23 Sep the Bangladesh authorities reportedly carried out raids on and **refouled around 100 newly arrived Rohingya.** Since fighting had intensified in Maungdaw Township in early August, Bangladesh had reportedly built one additional site to hold refugees being returned to Burma. An official stated that since 5 Aug, Bangladesh had **forcibly returned 6,000 Rohingya**. Interviews with newly arrived Rohingya confirmed that Bangladesh authorities had continued to deny Rohingya entry at official crossings, forcing many to turn to smugglers. Meanwhile, the country had yet to register new arrivals with UNHCR, denying them access to food and healthcare. HRW called for Bangladeshi authorities to register refugees with UNHCR and for increased funding to support the new Rohingya arrivals.<sup>195</sup>

#### US announces additional funding for Rohingya

On 24 Sep, the US announced nearly **USD 199 million in additional aid** for Rohingya refugees and host communities. They stated the funding would be used to support disaster preparedness; strengthen education access; and to prepare for their return home, when conditions allowed.<sup>196</sup>

#### Sea crossing continue at record levels in 2024, women and children make up majority

On 26 Sep, **UNHCR** reported that at least **21,000 Rohingya had attempted land or sea journeys** between Jan 2022 and Jun 2024. 9,300 of these attempts were sea journeys. In the first half of 2024, 1,300 Rohingya attempted to flee both Arakan State and Cox's Bazar via sea, largely for Malaysia or Indonesia. 104 individuals died or went missing during the journey. While 2023 had both the highest number of attempted sea crossings and number of deaths at sea since 2015, UNHCR noted that 2024 is on pace to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>188</sup> MSF (10 Sep 2024) [Series] Living in Myanmar: Renewed fighting in Rakhine leads Rohingya to live in constant fear

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>189</sup> Maya Region Human Rights Documentation Centre via Twitter (8 Sep 2024) https://tinyurl.com/yr5brhue

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>190</sup> The Business Standard (11 Sep 2024) Over 15,000 more Rohingyas enter Bangladesh amid attacks in Rakhine

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>191</sup> Reuters (11 Sep 2024) Bangladesh ramps up border vigilance as thousands of Rohingya flee Myanmar

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>192</sup> Daily Star Bangladesh (11 Sep 2024) No justice in either country': Rohingya refugees face looting on both sides of the border
 <sup>193</sup> DW (11 Sep 2024) Yunus: Ex-PM Hasina 'destroyed' Bangladesh's institutions

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>194</sup> Chief Advser of the Government of Bangladesh via X (25 Sep 2024) https://tinyurl.com/thcnfcfz

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>195</sup> HRW (25 Sep 2024) Bangladesh: New Rohingya Refugees Lack Protection, Aid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>196</sup> US Department of State (24 Sep 2024) United States Announces New Funding for Rohingya Refugees and Host Communities

match 2023. In the first half of 2024, children made up 48% of all people attempting land and sea crossings, while women made up 21%. 2,700 Rohingya are held in detention outside of Burma.<sup>197</sup>

## Junta conscription of Rohingya IDPs ongoing

On 12 Sep, in **Sittwe Township**, it was reported that the junta had increased the number of checkpoints outside two Rohingya villages and extorted MMK 5,000 - 30,000 from passing Rohingya villagers.<sup>198</sup> On 30 Sep, in Sittwe Township, DMG reported that the junta had continued conscription of Rohingya IDPs. Locals reported that junta troops entered six different IDP camps on 20 and 25 Sep and told residents that they would return to take conscripts in October.<sup>199</sup> On 24 Sep, in **Myebon town**, it was reported that two Rohingya women died from **malnutrition in an IDP camp**.<sup>200</sup>

## Women remain defiant (more details at women tracker)

*Garment workers face severe rights violations:* On 23 Sep, Myanmar Now reported that in Yangon, garment factory workers face **severe rights violations** including being forced to work **over 16-hour days** at risk of losing their jobs. The predominantly women workers reported that they often struggled with sleep deprivation due to the long hours and very limited breaks. Some women would faint on the job due to lack of sleep. Their low wages often do not cover basic living expenses but limited employment opportunities mean that workers have little choice but to stay. In Sep 2022, the Ethical Trading Initiative reported that since the attempted coup, workers had **almost no labor protection** and companies exploited garment workers with impunity. The Myanmar Industry Craft Service-Trade Unions Federation (MICS-TUsF) stated several complaints were filed with the junta-controlled labor offices, without response.<sup>201</sup>

## COVID-19, Health, Education (more at COVID-19, healthcare, and education tracker)

On 7 Sep, in Magway Township (Magway Region), a **junta airstrike on a school** in Letyatma village **killed five IDPs**.<sup>202</sup> On 18 Sep, USAID condemned the junta's targeted attacks on schools and called for an immediate end to the violence. They stated that the attacks threatened work to support safe learning spaces for the more than 300,000 conflict-affected children in Burma.<sup>203</sup>

#### Education initiatives in ethnic states

On 9 Sep, the KNU signed the **Kawthoolei Safe School Declaration** which recognized children's fundamental right to education in Kawthoolei. The declaration focused on emergency preparedness and support for students; the protection of education facilities; maintaining safe schooling infrastructure; and monitoring and reporting incidents of violence in schools.<sup>204</sup> On 12 Sep, the **Chinland Government's Minister of Education** reported that they were working to build an education system in line with the NUG-approved **Federal Democratic Education Policy**. During August, regional and township level educational officials conducted educational management courses to develop policies for the new system and encouraged CDM educational staff to participate in the process. The organization began developing its 2025-2030 strategic plan, which included the opening of a state university.<sup>205</sup>

## Skin infections on the rise

On 5 Sep, in **Launglon Township** (Tanintharyi Region), it was reported that during June-August, around **600 residents** from six villages had **suffered from skin infections** and seasonal flu. As of 8 Sep, around 200 patients from Auk Kyauk Wut and Nyaw Pyin villages suffered from skin disease. A local reported that the infection began spreading in late July and had since **worsened into a chicken pox-like disease**.<sup>206</sup>

On 18 Sep, in **Ponnagyun Township** (Arakan State), it was reported that cases of **skin disease among IDPs** and social workers had **risen from 200 to at least 300 people**. A social worker reported that the situation had deteriorated due to the **lack of doctors**, **a shortage of medicine**, and the need for welfare

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>197</sup> UNHCR (26 Sep 2024) Rohingya refugees: Land and sea routes - Quarterly update - as of June 2024

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>198</sup> DMG (13 Sep 2024) Regime accused of extorting Muslim IDPs, villagers for militiamen's salaries; DMG (12 Sep 2024) Extortion accompanies junta's latest Sittwe Twsp checkpoints: local Muslims

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>199</sup> DMG (30 Sep 2024) Regime signals more conscription of Muslim IDPs from Sittwe displacement camps

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>200</sup> Narinjara (24 Sep 2024) 2 women died of malnutrition in Muslim IDP camp in Myebon

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>201</sup> Myanmar Now (23 Sep 2024) The women surviving labour rights violations in Myanmar's garment sector

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>202</sup> Mizzima (7 Sep 2024) Spring Revolution Daily News for 7 September 2024

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>203</sup> Mizzima (24 Sep 2024) USAID condemns attacks on schools in Myanmar

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>204</sup> Karen National Union (9 Sep 2024) Kawthoolei Safe School Declaration

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>205</sup> Mizzima (12 Sep 2024) Chin State to establish an education bureaucracy aligned with federal democratic standards; KNG (17 Sep 2024) An interview with Chinland's Education Minister Salai Cross Thang on the transformation of Chin State's education sector alongside the Chin revolution

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>206</sup> HURFOM (5 Sep 2024) Many villagers suffer from skin diseases in Long Lone and junta bans transportation of medicine

workers to share clothes. They also suggested that **unclean drinking water** had contributed to the spread of the disease. The AA stated that 20,000 IDPs in the region were in need of food and medicines.<sup>207</sup>

#### Junta's restriction on food and medicine supplies worsens shortages

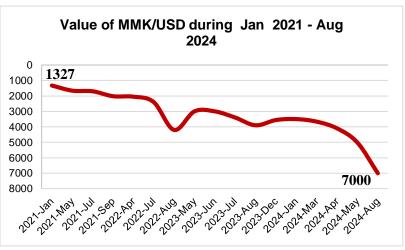
On 13 Sep, in **Tanintharyi Township** (Tanintharyi Region), it was reported that in the last week of August, fighting displaced over 700 people from four villages into "Nway Oo Myintter" IDP camp. The camp now housed over 1000 people. The camp previously provided food for 15 days per person, but was now only able to provide each person with one weeks' worth of food. Aid workers reported that the **junta's restriction on food transportation** to the township worsened food shortages in the camp.<sup>208</sup>

On 25 Sep, in **Arakan State**, residents and aid workers reported that **severe medicine shortages** in IDP camps had led to a sharp **rise in malaria** and diarrhea cases. Hundreds of people had contracted malaria and diarrhea and **at least 10 had died**. Health workers reported that the diseases stemmed from inadequate access to clean drinking water, poor sanitation, overcrowded shelters, and a lack of mosquito nets. In **Sittwe**, the junta's **blockade of goods** had prevented patients from accessing medicine which led to several deaths. Although the AA had set up clinics in several places, the lack of medicine, doctors, and nurses increased the need for medical treatment. The departure of many international NGOs, CSOs, and INGOs from Arakan had also worsened the ongoing crisis. Some medical facilities, including Myanmar Red Cross Society offices, also reported that their offices had been stolen from.<sup>209</sup>

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

#### The MMK's dramatic post-coup depreciation

The MMK experienced а depreciation significant of 427.5% over three years, falling from MMK 1327 per USD in Jan 2021 to MMK 7000 per USD in Aug 2024. The sharp decline in 2024 was largely due to the junta's failure to manage inflation and maintain foreign reserves; their loss of control over key border trade routes; and the juntacontrolled Central Bank of Myanmar's poorly implemented foreign exchange policies.<sup>210</sup>



#### Junta's new import curbs deepen Burma's medicine shortage

On 4 Sep, it was reported that **a new junta restriction** on **pharmaceutical import licenses** would **balloon medicine prices** in Burma and **worsen shortages**.<sup>211</sup> As of 1 Sep, the junta's Department of Trade would require suppliers to **show proof of export earnings** in order to import medicines.<sup>212</sup> The junta's Foreign Exchange Supervisory Committee (FESC) also **revoked 716** previously submitted import **permits**, worth **over USD 103 million**. This would force companies to re-apply under the new rule.<sup>213</sup>

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>207</sup> Mizzima (18 Sep 2024) Skin diseases are spreading among Myanmar IDPs in Ponnagyun, Rakhine State
 <sup>208</sup> MonNews (13 Sep 2024) Ongoing Conflict in Tanintharyi Township Leads to Food Shortages Amid Rising Number of Displaced Persons

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>209</sup> Mizzima (25 Sep 2024) Malaria and diarrhoea cases surge aid medicine shortages in Rakhine State displacement camps <sup>210</sup> exchange-rates.org (1 Feb 2021) https://tinyurl.com/yzs8k2b9; Mizzima (11 May 2021) Myanmar's foreign exchange hits record low; Irrawaddy (30 Jul 2021) Myanmar Junta Sells Off \$90m Since Coup; Mizzima (14 Sep 2021) Myanmar currency suffers record downtrend against US dollar; Irrawaddy (7 Apr 2022) Japan Appeals for Exemption from Myanmar Junta's Foreign Exchange Rules; RFA (19 Jul 2022) Gold and dollar prices soar in Myanmar; Irrawaddy (1 Sep 2022) Myanmar Central Bank's New Leadership, Policies Unlikely to Improve Battered Financial Sector; Irrawaddy (1 Jun 2023) Myanmar Plunges Deeper Into Dollar Crisis Under Military Rule; Irrawaddy (6 Jun 2023) Myanmar Civil Society Organizations Face a Moral Conundrum on Funding; RFA (25 Jul 2023) Myanmar junta's new banknote causes gold prices, currency value to fluctuate; RFA (21 Aug 2023) Junta threatens unauthorized foreign currency holders as Myanmar kyat tanks; Irrawaddy (7 Dec 2023) Kyat Depreciates Further After Myanmar Central Bank Abandons Dollar Forex Rate; Irrawaddy (6 Feb 2024) Myanmar's Post-Coup Economic Crisis in Numbers; Mizzima (20 Mar 2024) Drop in kyat value and transport problems increase prices of Thai imports; Irrawaddy (20 May 2024) Myanmar Shoppers Report Hyperinflation as Kyat Plunges Past 4,000/Dollar; Irrawaddy (30 May 2024) Myanmar's Currency Hits All-Time Low, Gold Surges to Fresh Peak; Irrawaddy (16 Aug 2024) Fuel Importers Say Junta's Crisis Plan Will Only Ease Shortages for a Month

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>211</sup> Irrawaddy (4 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Slaps Import Curbs on Medicines

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>212</sup> DVB (9 Sep 2024) People's Defense Forces urged to follow code of conduct; Pro-military militia rejoins Shan State Army

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>213</sup> Irrawaddy (4 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Slaps Import Curbs on Medicines

In Sep 2024, basic painkillers **tripled in price** from MMK 500 per pack of 10 in 2021, to MMK 1,500. Shortages put patients with chronic diseases at serious risk. In Jul 2024, supply shortages forced several **free kidney dialysis clinics to close**. A Yangon resident reported he could only find half of the different kidney drugs in his prescription and planned to buy some medicines from families of deceased patients.<sup>214</sup>

#### Airbus and AVIC linked to junta atrocities

On 16 Sep, Justice for Myanmar (JfM) and Info Birmanie reported that French aerospace company **Airbus continued to invest in and collaborate** with the Chinese state-owned **Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC)**, despite knowing that **AVIC supplied** military aircraft, arms, and maintenance services to the junta, enabling its ongoing atrocities against civilians. Airbus is a strategic partner of AVIC in China and holds a **5.03% stake** in AVIC's Hong Kong-listed subsidiary, **AviChina**, valued at **USD 140 million** as of Jun 2024. Airbus' shareholders include the governments of **France** (**10.8%**), **Germany (10.8%), and Spain (4.1%)**, all of whom have publicly condemned the junta for its war crimes. However, Airbus' ongoing partnership with AVIC undermined their condemnations.<sup>215</sup>

After the attempted coup, AVIC-linked China National Aero-Technology Import & Export Corporation (CATIC) continued supplying military aircraft to the junta, with the latest confirmed delivery in 2022. In Nov 2022, AVIC's Guizhou Aviation Industries Corporation (GAIC) delivered FTC-2000G light combat aircraft to the junta. The junta used the aircraft to conduct indiscriminate airstrikes across Burma, including in N. Shan and Karenni States.<sup>216</sup> Irrawaddy also reported that in Aug 2024, GAIC delivered six more FTC-2000G fighter jets to the junta, which were deployed to Nansang airbase (S. Shan State).<sup>217</sup>

In the joint report, JfM and Info Birmanie revealed that, in Dec 2023, AVIC's **Harbin Aircraft Industry Group** delivered **Y-12 planes**, which the junta has used in further attacks across Burma. Similarly, the junta used **K-8 aircraft** from AVIC's **Jiangxi Hongdu Aviation Industry Group** to fire rockets and bombs on civilians in Shan and Karenni states. In addition, the junta procured **JF-17 Thunder fighter jets**, developed in collaboration between **Pakistan** and **AVIC's Chengdu Aircraft Corporation**. Although technical issues grounded some jets, **Chinese suppliers repaired** them, and they were back in use by late 2023 for airstrikes on civilians. In 2022 and 2023, the junta also inducted AVIC subsidiary-manufactured **Shaanxi Y-8F-200** and **Jian-7 aircraft** into service.<sup>218</sup>

JfM and Info Birmanie called for Airbus to pressure AVIC to **end its support for the junta** or divest from all AVIC-related entities. They also urged **Spain, Germany, and France** to ensure Airbus's actions aligned with their human rights commitments.<sup>219</sup>

#### Junta cashes in on migrant workers through forced remittances

On 6 Sep, the junta restated its directive requiring migrant workers to **remit 25%** of their income through its approved banks, monthly or quarterly. Failure to comply could lead to **denied passport extensions**, **overseas worker identity cards**, and **future travel bans**. The junta's approved banks used **exchange rates much lower than the market rate**. i.e. **MMK 4,150 per USD** compared to the market rate of **MMK 5,400 per USD** (as of 6 Sep). This also applied to other foreign currencies like the THB. The junta instructed overseas worker agencies to collect remittance documents from workers and submit monthly reports to them. The junta **suspended 135 agencies** out of over 200 agencies called for questioning and inspection,<sup>220</sup> and on 16 Sep, they took action against a further **81 agencies**.<sup>221</sup>

#### UWSA control heightens local fears over China's damming of the Salween River

On 5 Sep, Shan State Frontline Investment Monitor (SSFIM) reported that the UWSA planned to build the controversial **1,200 MW Naung Pha dam** on the Salween River following their takeover of **Tangyan Township** (N. Shan State) in Jul 2024. In mid-Aug 2024, **12 Chinese "businessmen" visited** the Naung Pha dam site in northern **Tangyan town** under the protection of UWSA troops which heightened local concerns about the project's advancement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>214</sup> Irrawaddy (4 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Slaps Import Curbs on Medicines

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>215</sup> Irrawaddy (30 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Receives Six More Chinese Warplanes Amid Deadly Airstrikes on Civilians

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>216</sup> Justice for Myanmar (16 Sep 2024) #AIRBUSTED How Airbus' close partner AVIC is supplying arms to the Myanmar military and what Airbus should do about it

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>217</sup> Irrawaddy (30 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Receives Six More Chinese Warplanes Amid Deadly Airstrikes on Civilians

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>218</sup> Irrawaddy (30 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Receives Six More Chinese Warplanes Amid Deadly Airstrikes on Civilians

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>219</sup> Irrawaddy (30 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Receives Six More Chinese Warplanes Amid Deadly Airstrikes on Civilians <sup>220</sup> Myanmar Now (6 Sep 2024) Myanmar nationals working abroad threatened with penalties for failing to remit 25 percent of their earnings

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>221</sup> DVB (6 Sep 2024) Over 32 billion kyat raised by regime in flood donations; Military carries out 31 airstrikes instead of relief operations

In Dec 2009, China's Vice President Xi Jinping signed a MoU to build the Naung Pha and Mantong dams on the Salween River. In May 2014, the Thein Sein government signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with **China's state-owned Hydrochina Corporation** and the junta crony-owned **International Group of Entrepreneurs** (**IGE**) to construct both dams. The dams were Build Operate Transfer (BOT) projects which would allow the construction companies to operate and profit from the projects for a set period of time, with plans to **export at least 50%** of the generated power to China.

Locals and environmentalists were concerned about the Naung Pha dam construction due to natural disasters like earthquakes and flooding and its **impact on locals.**<sup>222</sup> Despite opposition, the UWSA had quietly **allowed the construction of the Mantong dam** in **Hopang Township** (N. Shan State) – it is feared they would do the same with the Naung Pha dam.<sup>223</sup>

Australian-based **Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation (SMEC)**, now owned by Singapore's **Surbana Jurong group**, conducted Environmental and Social Impact Assessments for both dams. However, it was reported in 2017 that SMEC had never submitted the assessments to Burma's Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation. SSFIM **called on China to cancel all the dam operations** and urged Singapore to end Surbana Jurong's involvement through SMEC.<sup>224</sup>

## International responses (more details at international responses tracker)

## Junta increases Chinese defense collaboration

During 8-10 Sep, the junta Home Affairs Minister, Lt. Gen. Yar Pyae, attended the **Global Public Security Cooperation Forum** in China. Since the failed coup, only deputy ministers had represented the junta at the annual forum.<sup>225</sup> Yar Pyae met with the Chinese State Councilor and Minister of Public Security Wang Xiaohong and **signed a MoU** to **establish a centre for police cooperation** between China and the junta. China would also provide the junta **CNY 5 million worth of police equipment.**<sup>226</sup>

During 12-14 Sep, the junta's Minister of Defence, Tin Aung San, and other high-ranking junta officials attended the 11th **Beijing Xiangshan forum**. They met with the Chinese Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission, General He Weidong, to discuss bilateral military training and greater defense cooperation.<sup>227</sup> Over 500 international representatives were expected to attend the forum, including 30 defense ministers, as well as international bodies such as NATO and the EU.<sup>228</sup> Junta media reported that Tin Aung San also visited prominent technology companies in Beijing to discuss potential cooperation, **observe military drones** and other air defense technologies.<sup>229</sup> It was reported that in Aug 2024, the junta took possession of **six more FTC-2000G fighter jets** from China, the same month that the Chinese Foreign Minister met with junta leader Min Aung Hlaing.<sup>230</sup> The Irrawaddy indicated that the high ranking junta official attending the defense forum, and the acquisition of the jets again showed strengthening ties between China and the junta that enable and endorse the junta's continued crimes.<sup>231</sup>

#### Japan downgrades diplomatic representative

On 24 Sep, Japan Today reported that Japan planned to replace its ambassador to Burma with a **lower** ranking Chargé d'Affaires when current ambassador Ichiro Maruyama's term ends in late September. On 15 Sep the new Chargé d'Affaire reportedly took office. Japan reportedly feared a new ambassador appointment would legitimize the illegal junta and opted for the **diplomatic downgrade.**<sup>232</sup> In May 2024, NUG and ERO representatives met with Japanese MPs for the first time during a 10-day visit to Japan.<sup>233</sup>

#### Refugees stage hunger strike in Indian detention

On 9 Sep, in Goalpara District, (Assam State, India), 103 Rohingya and 30 Chin refugees detained for immigration violations staged a **hunger strike** at the Matia Detention Camp. They demanded to be handed over to the UNHCR, transferred to a holding facility in New Delhi, and start the process for third

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>222</sup> Shan State Frontline Investment Monitor (5 Sep 2024) UWSA takeover of northern Tangyan paves the way for China's damming of the Salween

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>223</sup> Myanmar Now (6 Sep 2024) Wa armed group allows work on Chinese-backed dams in Myanmar despite public opposition <sup>224</sup> Shan State Frontline Investment Monitor (5 Sep 2024) UWSA takeover of northern Tangyan paves the way for China's damming of the Salween

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>225</sup> Irrawaddy (9 Sep 2024) Myanmar's Home Affairs Minister Flies to China for Security Forum

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>226</sup> Irrawaddy (12 Sep 2024) Chinese, Myanmar Junta's Police Forces Ramp Up Cooperation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>227</sup> The Irrawaddy (18 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Taps China for Drone Tech After Losing Territory to Ethnic Armies

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>228</sup> Myanmar Now (12 Sep 2024) Deputy head of Myanmar's junta in China to attend defence forum

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>229</sup> The Irrawaddy (18 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Taps China for Drone Tech After Losing Territory to Ethnic Armies

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>230</sup> The Irrawaddy (30 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Receives Six More Chinese Warplanes Amid Deadly Airstrikes on Civilians

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>231</sup> The Irrawaddy (30 Sep 2024) Myanmar Junta Receives Six More Chinese Warplanes Amid Deadly Airstrikes on Civilians
 <sup>232</sup> Irrawaddy (24 Sep 2024) Japan Downgrades Diplomatic Ties With Myanmar Junta; Japan Today (29 Sep 2024) Japan will not

send new envoy to military-ruled Myanmar: sources

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>233</sup> Nikkei Asia (15 May 2024) Myanmar resistance leaders present united front in Tokyo

country resettlement. It was reported that at least 40 had UNHCR-issued refugee cards, and that others had already **completed their sentences** for immigration charges.<sup>234</sup> By 16 Sep, nine others had joined the strike.<sup>235</sup> In July, the local administrator did not respond to a letter by 35 of the Rohingya to request third country resettlement or relocation to a better facility. On 9 Sep, the Indian Supreme Court reportedly ordered the Assam government to **deport the 211 refugees**.<sup>236</sup> On 11 Sep, the Assam Inspector General and home secretary reportedly discussed with the protesters their demands.<sup>237</sup> The Burmese Rohingya Organization UK called on authorities to immediately end the refugees' arbitrary detention and human rights abuses. Indian authorities currently held at least **676 Rohingya in detention centers**.<sup>238</sup> On 16 Sep, it was reported that the 110 Rohingya and 32 Chin refugees temporarily ended their hunger strike after discussions with prison authorities. India for Myanmar reported that the inmates would resume their hunger strike if their demands were not addressed.<sup>239</sup>

# India invites NUG, CNF, KIA and AA to join federalism seminar

On 23 Sep, a resistance leader and two informed sources reported that India had invited representatives from the **NUG**, **CNF**, **KIA**, **and AA to New Delhi in Nov 2024** to attend a seminar on federalism. This would be the first official dialogue between India and pro-democratic and resistance groups since the attempted coup. The Indian Government-funded Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) would run the event. India has maintained close ties with the illegal junta.<sup>240</sup> On 4 Sep, the Chief Minister of Mizoram State stated that India should "establish friendships" with the AA instead of clashing with them.<sup>241</sup>

## Thailand closes 6 Burmese migrant schools, cracks down on others

On 4 Sep, in **Surat Thani Province (Thailand)**, the Thai education ministry **closed the Myinttar Yeink Learning Centre**, then five other **Burmese language schools**. Public backlash to video of the children singing both the Burmese and Thai national anthem led to the closures and forced over 2,000 students to stop their education.<sup>242</sup> The education ministry stated it would examine the teachers work and residency documents, and ordered authorities in all other provinces crack down on similar Burmese schools. After the **Thai National Human Rights Commission expressed concern** over the closure, Thai authorities claimed they had discussed with the school to transfer its students to Thai schools. The Migrant Working Group reported that around 78 Burmese language schools provided to education to over 23,090 students in Thailand.<sup>243</sup> Despite Thailand's "Education for All" policy, public **schools often do not accept migrant or undocumented children**.<sup>244</sup>

On 30 Aug, Thailand withdrew its reservation to Article 22 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) which ensured the rights, including the right to education, of refugee and asylum-seeking children. The withdrawal would also enhance children's rights under Thailand's National Screening Process which would grant them "protected status." The UN noted that children without legal status still risked immigration detention by Thai authorities.<sup>245</sup>

On 17 Sep, it was reported that, in **Tak Province**, Thai authorities began inspecting other schools for Burmese migrant children for compliance with Thai education regulations. The Burmese Migrant Workers' Education Committee (BMWEC) reported that the authorities checked for **"politicization"** in the schools, that photos of the Thai king were present, and that student enrollment matched attendance. BMWEC said that in Tak Province 63 migrant schools had registered with them, and several unregistered schools also operated. It was reported a number of the schools temporarily closed to avoid inspections.<sup>246</sup>

#### Thailand issues new Pink Card IDs

On 24 Sep, the Thai government announced it would **issue Pink Cards**, or non-Thai ID cards, to undocumented migrant workers from Burma, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos. These would allow them and their children to **legally reside in Thailand for one year**. They also announced a two-year extension

<sup>236</sup> Assam Tribune (11 Sep 2024) Myanmar refugees on hunger strike in Goalpara transit camp; demand UNHCR intervention

<sup>237</sup> Yeni Safak (11 Sep 2024) Rohingya rights group seeks release of refugees on hunger strike in India's detention camp

<sup>242</sup> Mizzima (14 Sep 2024) Thai authorities clarify on closure of Burmese language learning centres in Thailand

<sup>243</sup> Bangkok Post (15 Sep 2024) Give learning centres a chance

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>234</sup> VOA (14 Sep 2024) Rohingya detainees protest 'abominable' conditions in Indian camp

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>235</sup> Mizzima via BNI (18 Sep 2024) Myanmar Citizens in Indian Detention Centre Suspend Hunger Strike

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>238</sup> VOA (14 Sep 2024) Rohingya detainees protest 'abominable' conditions in Indian camp

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>239</sup> Mizzima via BNI (18 Sep 2024) Myanmar Citizens in Indian Detention Centre Suspend Hunger Strike

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>240</sup> Reuters (23 Sep 2024) Exclusive: India extends unprecedented invite to Myanmar's anti-junta forces, sources say; DVB (25 Sep 2024) Airstrikes on Lashio despite Brotherhood Alliance peace pledge; Pope calls for Aung San Suu Kyi's release

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>241</sup> Narinjara (6 Sep 2024) "We must build friendship and collaborate with AA: Mizoram CM

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>244</sup> Bangkok Post (10 Sep 2024) Education office defends closure of learning centre

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>245</sup> UN (6 Sep 2024) UN Human Rights Office welcomes Thailand's withdrawal of the reservation on Article 22 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>246</sup> Karen Information Center via BNI (17 Sep 2024) Thai Authorities Inspecting Migrant Children Schools in Tak Province

to existing permits under the 2018 MoU set to expire in Feb 2025, and increased the time to find new employment from 30 to 60 days between jobs. An undocumented Burmese worker said the changes would make a huge difference to the living conditions of undocumented migrants who constantly feared being deported back to the junta.<sup>247</sup> The Foundation for Education and Development (FED) stated seasonal workers were still required to extend their permits at the Thai-Burma border every three months.<sup>248</sup>

In sharp contrast, on 24 Sep, in Ayutthaya Province, Thai officials raided a construction camp and **arrested 272 undocumented Burmese** workers. It was reported that Thai authorities would charge all the workers with immigration violations and forcibly return them to Burma.<sup>249</sup> On 26 Sep, the Maikth Thahaya Self-Administered Funeral Welfare Association reported that Thailand **forcibly returned 127 undocumented migrant workers** to junta custody. The junta **forcibly recruited** an unreported number of the forced returnees.<sup>250</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>247</sup> Karen News (1 Oct 2024) Thai Government to Issue Identification Cards to Illegal Migrant Workers

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>248</sup> The Nation (28 Sep 2024) Thailand to legalize undocumented workers, children from four countries

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>249</sup> Bangkok Post (25 Sep 2024) Hundreds of illegal workers arrested in Ayutthaya

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>250</sup> DVB (30 Sep 2024) Calls for boycott of regime census in October; At least three killed in airstrikes on northern Shan State's Lashio