



## Myanmar Situation Update (9 - 15 August 2021)

### Summary

The National Unity Government of Myanmar (NUG) said it welcomes ASEAN's appointment of a special envoy to help resolve the country's post-coup crisis. However, advocate group Justice for Myanmar released a statement warning that the appointment of Erywan Yusof as ASEAN's special envoy to Myanmar was not suitable because Brunei's fully state-owned oil company Brunei Energy Services and Trading has ties with the Myanmar junta. The United Nations Secretary-General's special envoy for Myanmar, Christine Schraner Burgener, said the junta had not responded to her request for talks as it tries to consolidate its rule.

The junta-controlled Union Election Commission (UEC) instructed all political parties on Thursday to compile a list of the party's funding, finance, and assets in preparation for the UEC's scrutiny. The date of submission will be announced soon.

More than 740 junta soldiers were killed and almost 370 wounded during 355 shootouts with ethnic armed forces and civilian resistance fighters in July, according to the National Unity Government (NUG). Based on media reports, the NUG said almost 200 civilians were killed and 47 injured by the military in fighting during the same month<sup>1</sup>. The junta has also carried out at least 252 attacks and threats against health workers since the coup, killing at least 25 medics and hampering the response to a resurgent outbreak of COVID-19.

Myanmar's junta said it had "nothing to do" with an alleged plot to attack the country's ambassador to the UN U Kyaw Moe Tun, who has defied the military and backed the pro-democracy movement. Thai arms manufacturer Chaiseri Metal and Rubber Co. Ltd has denied any connection with the assassination attempt.

About 38 political detainees are being interrogated by prison authorities in Mandalay's Obo Prison following a loud protest on Sunday night. A source close to the prison department said "the prisoners were kept in solitary cells of Obo's prison and will be held there for two weeks and the organizers were beaten by prison authorities."

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/modNUG/posts/129019826097088>

According to the International Trade Union Confederation's (ITUC) 2021 Global Rights Index, Myanmar is one of the ten worst countries for working people as the military coup led to systemic violence against working people<sup>2</sup>.

The State Department said that Danny Fenster, an American journalist who was working for Frontier Myanmar, is being held in a Myanmar prison and has not been in contact with U.S. officials for several weeks. The Directors' Guild of Japan has called on the junta to release filmmaker Maung Thein Dan who has been detained in April while junta-run newspaper released a list of the members of the Myanmar Press Council who have been elected or shortlisted for the organization's executive committee<sup>3</sup>. Shortly after the announcement, objections were made to some of the elected or shortlisted members by CSOs.

A group of 45 global and Myanmar human rights groups, media and other organizations called on Norway's Telenor Group to halt the controversial sale of its Myanmar operation to M1 Group, a Lebanese company with ties to Myanmar's junta.

Protests continue in different parts of Myanmar despite the crackdown by the junta. The clashes between the junta forces and the civil resistance fighters or Ethnic Armed Organizations also emerged across Myanmar particularly in Shan, Kayin, Kachin, Chin, Kayah, Mon, Kachin States and Sagaing, Mandalay, Yangon, Ayeyarwady and Magway Regions.

According to the information compiled by ANFREL, at least 36 bomb blasts happened across Myanmar in the past week. It was reported that at least four people died<sup>4</sup>.

The Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) reported that, as of 14 August, 971 people have been killed by the junta. 5,604 people are currently under detention and 255 are sentenced. 65 have been sentenced to death and 1,984 are evading arrest warrants<sup>5</sup>.

#### Colour Code and its Categories

Political updates	Repression by the junta	International community	CRFs and EAOs	Humanitarian situation	Media	Other

#### Timeline of events

<sup>2</sup> <https://bit.ly/3yEeyKW>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.mdn.gov.mm/newspaper/public/ebooks/read/6663#4>

<sup>4</sup> Annexure I

<sup>5</sup> <https://aappb.org/?p=17072>

## August 9

Junta's Ministry of Foreign Affairs released a press release saying that the remark by the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations on the plot to kill U Moe Tun, is an accusation on Myanmar and such behavior violates the principles of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations which need to be followed by the diplomat<sup>6</sup>.

The Mandalay Students' Union announced their concerns for the security of political prisoners due to a violent crackdown on the protest in prison with open fire by prison authorities and incoming military trucks. They also expressed their deep concerns about the medical treatment being denied to prisoners with COVID-19 infection<sup>7</sup>.

A combination of 6 Chin CSOs asked for the resignation of U Tin Hla, junta-appointed minister for Chin ethnic affairs in Rakhine State, as he was not elected by Chin ethnic people<sup>8</sup>.

Around 20 ward and village administrators from Htantapin township of Yangon, resigned from their positions after the local People's Defense Force (PDF) released a warning letter<sup>9</sup>.

More than 30 political detainees are being interrogated by the prison authorities in Mandalay's Obo Prison following a loud protest on Sunday night, according to the Prison Department's spokesman<sup>10</sup>.

Junta forces in Mandalay detained the wife and the one-year-old daughter of a man wanted for suspected ties to resistance fighters after they were unable to find him late last month, the man has said. The baby was released two days later and is being cared for by her grandmother<sup>11</sup>.

Authorities at Mandalay's Obo prison said they will punish inmates who staged a protest there on the 33rd anniversary of the 1988 democratic uprising, amid reports that the ensuing crackdown involved gunshots and protesters were beaten and put in solitary confinement<sup>12</sup>.

A man who was jailed on suspicion of hosting resistance fighters in his home in Mandalay Region, has died after a month in detention in Myingyan prison. Authorities claimed he had Covid-19 and the family members were not allowed a close look at his body<sup>13</sup>.

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.mdn.gov.mm/newspaper/public/ebooks/read/6645#2>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/MizzimaDaily/posts/4648762521825283>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/MizzimaDaily/posts/4649320248436177>

<sup>9</sup> <http://burmese.dvb.no/archives/480333?>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-prison-probes-over-30-political-detainees-for-loud-protest>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/junta-detains-wife-and-baby-daughter-of-man-who-evaded-arrest>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/gunshots-heard-from-obo-prison-after-inmates-stage-protest-on->

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/man-detained-on-suspicion-of-harboring-pdf-fighters-dies-in->

In Kyaukme of Shan North, the junta armed forces arrested a 22-year-old man on 6th August, accusing him of being a PDF member. Reportedly, both of his legs were broken in the investigation. The media reported that his right to receive medical treatment was denied<sup>14</sup>.

A group of armed men killed a villager in Magway Region's Myaing Township who attempted to flee while interrogating residents of the village of Paik Thin about a local resistance leader<sup>15</sup>.

In Myaing Township of Magway, the junta armed forces in an ordinary car opened fire and tried to arrest an allegedly protest leader in Paitthin village. As he escaped, those junta soldiers shot another villager to death for no apparent reason<sup>16</sup>.

Media reported that the Junta's troops negotiated with the family members of a victim who died under the interrogation in Myanaung township of Ayeyarwady Region. They agreed to pay 3,000,000 MMK (around 1950 US\$) as compensation for their wrong act<sup>17</sup>.

China has started calling the Myanmar junta the "government" and will transfer more than US\$6 million to the junta to fund 21 development projects within the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation framework.

477 civil society organizations based in Myanmar and Australia made a repeated call to the Foreign Minister of Australia for the actions against the Myanmar junta and to recognize the NUG as legitimate government<sup>18</sup>.

The Government of the People's Republic of Nagaland (GPRN) formed by the Naga National Socialist Council - Nagaland (NSCN-K) executed a police sergeant from Donhee area police station from Nanyun Township and two civilians from Shinbweyan Township for illegal drug smuggling<sup>19</sup>.

A local PDF leader of Monywar claimed responsibility for the killing of a man who burnt a local poet and activist Sein Win alive to death in an unprovoked attack in May<sup>20</sup>.

In Pale Township of Sagaing, there was a battle between the junta armed forces with People Revolution Army (PRA) and Pale PDF near Khin-Aye Nattaik. Reportedly, 6 junta soldiers died and a member of PRA was injured<sup>21</sup>.

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/TachileikNewsAgency/posts/4390178757670597>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/unidentified-gunmen-kill-villager-at-covid-19-checkpoint>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1267516533685690>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/MizzimaDaily/posts/4650312591670276>

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/twtfmm/posts/198178052363159>

<sup>19</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/3-drug-smugglers-sentenced-death-nscn-k>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/group-claiming-to-represent-monywa-pdf-avenges-murdered-poet>

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/ayeyarwaddytimes/posts/1960850024072989>

A battle continued between the junta army and a combined force of KNPP-KA(Karenni Army)/KNDF(Karenni Nationalities Defense Force). According to KNDF, there were deaths and injuries among junta soldiers<sup>22</sup>.

According to Southern Shan State PDF, a captain and two junta soldiers were killed in an ambush as they were on their way to Namsam from Taunggyi to serve their duty<sup>23</sup>.

Hundreds of residents of at least 10 villages in Sagaing Region were forced to flee their homes after junta forces raided Nyaunghla and Wegyi villages in Tabayin Township, Sagaing Region, over two days, according to local villagers.<sup>24</sup>

Villagers displaced by conflict in Kutkai Township of Shan State are facing food shortages as they are locked down in an internally displaced camp (IDP) due to the COVID-19 third wave.<sup>25</sup>

Villagers who have been forced to flee into the jungles and caves, or across the Salween River into Thailand are in desperate need of basic supplies such as food, water, shelter, and medicines in Karen State, according to the statement of Karen Human Rights Group (KHRG)<sup>26</sup>.

As fighting was accelerated again in Kayah/Karenni State, one third of its population fled and need emergency support, said activist helping for IDPs<sup>27</sup>.

Worry has risen as COVID-19 cases soared in the area and some IDP camps from Rakhine State are facing shortage of food as there is lack of regular support, said in charge of IDP camp<sup>28</sup>.

#### August 10

Myanmar's junta announced in state media it had "nothing to do" with an alleged plot to attack the country's ambassador to the UN, who has defied the military and backed the pro-democracy movement, and it was their affair<sup>29</sup>.

Ninety-five human rights organizations urged U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken to declare that Burmese authorities committed genocide against the stateless Rohingya minority, as the fourth anniversary of their exodus from Myanmar into Bangladesh approaches<sup>30</sup>.

<sup>22</sup> [https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story\\_fbid=130040575970533&id=100670325574225](https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=130040575970533&id=100670325574225)

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1267675937003083>

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/hundreds-of-villagers-flee-myanmar-junta-raids.html>

<sup>25</sup> <https://english.shannews.org/archives/24109>

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.khrg.org/2021/08/statement-international-day-worlds-indigenous-people>

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.myanmar-now.org/mm/news/7726>

<sup>28</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/dmgnewsagency/posts/2081063628712704>

<sup>29</sup> <https://www.bangkokpost.com/world/2163095/myanmar-junta-says-had-nothing-to-do-with-un-envoy-plot>

<sup>30</sup> <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/genocide-08102021131929.html>

Junta carried out at least 252 attacks and threats against health workers since a Feb. 1 coup, killing at least 25 medics and hampering the response to a resurgent outbreak of COVID-19, a report by rights groups said on Tuesday<sup>31</sup>.

Min Aung Hlaing urged to produce the COVID-19 vaccine in the country to meet the requirement for 50 million people and highlighted the important role of traditional medicine in this sector, according to state media<sup>32</sup>.

In the statement sent for Kachin Martyrs' Day, the Chair of Kachin Independence Army (KIA) said that they had been working hand-in-hand with Burmese people and organizations to uproot the military dictatorship<sup>33</sup>.

Arakan National Party (ANP) called the State Administrative Council (SAC) to fulfil 5 points amid COVID - 19 pandemic; to provide food supplies to those who are in trouble, to provide proper COVID -19 treatment with full supply of medicines and equipment, to freely trade certain kind of goods, to get international aid without any objection and not to do unnecessary scrutinization to the Arakan people as it worsens the insecurity<sup>34</sup>.

Five people, 4 male and one female, jumped from an apartment building in Yangon of Botahtaung district, killing at least two of them, in a bid to escape a raid by security forces<sup>35</sup>.

In Dibeyin Township of Sagaing Region, the junta armed forces entered Myintant village at about 7:30 am Tuesday and destroyed houses by setting them on fire<sup>36</sup>.

The United Nations Secretary-General's special envoy for Myanmar, Christine Schraner Burgener, said the junta has not responded to her request for talks as it tries to consolidate its rule<sup>37</sup>. She said that the junta appears determined to solidify his grip on power following the coup and ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi's political party could soon be disbanded<sup>38</sup>.

The U.S. State Department announced that it was providing more than \$50 million in humanitarian aid to Myanmar citizens who are coping with a humanitarian crisis sparked by a February 1 military coup<sup>39</sup>.

<sup>31</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/myanmar-army-attacks-medics-hampering-covid-response-rights>

<sup>32</sup> <https://www.mizzima.com/article/coup-leader-urges-domestic-vaccine-production?>

<sup>33</sup> <https://kachinnews.com/2021/08/12/kio-cooperating-with-other-organisations-to-end-dictatorship-and-bamar>

<sup>34</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/narinjara.info/posts/4573977159280992>

<sup>35</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/myanmar-youths-fleeing-security-forces-jump-building-media-2021>

<sup>36</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1268286100275400>

<sup>37</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-snubs-un-envoys-call-for-proposed-dialogue.html>

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/myanmar-junta-leader-aims-solidify-grip-power-un-2021-08-10/>

<sup>39</sup> <https://www.state.gov/united-states-announces-more-than-50-million-in-humanitarian-assistance-for-the->

Japanese drinks giant Kirin Holdings (2503.T) is not planning to exit Myanmar, despite being forced to scrap its beer partnership with a joint venture linked to Myanmar's military after a military takeover earlier this year<sup>40</sup>.

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Linda Thomas-Greenfield met in Bangkok with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Don Pramudwinai. In her meeting, the Ambassador expressed her concern about the crisis in Myanmar and its implications for regional stability<sup>41</sup>.

The Chin Defense Force in Mindat Township, Chin State, has offered a cash reward of Kyat 5 million (around 3400 US\$) for any junta soldier who defects if they bring their weapons and ammunition with them. The enticement also said they will also get a chance to take refuge abroad<sup>42</sup>.

Pathein PDF has warned two officials from the “We Love Pathein” group, who thanked the junta for the first oxygen generator which arrived at a plant in Pathein, Ayeyarwady region. The oxygen plant has been built with collective donations collected from the people in Pathein<sup>43</sup>.

Local People’s Defense Force (PDF) set up a mine on the convoy of junta’s troops on the Gangaw-Magway road of Magway region, 2 junta’s troops died and 3 were injured<sup>44</sup>.

A village administrator of Tat Se village of Nga Hto Gyi township, Mandalay region was shot dead, according to the locals<sup>45</sup>.

Two alleged informers were killed at 57 mile of Monywa-Gangaw road of Pale township, Sagaing Region<sup>46</sup>

Bangladesh began COVID-19 vaccinations on Rohingya refugees living in congested camps<sup>47</sup>.

## August 11

The National Unity Government of Myanmar (NUG) said it welcomes the Association of Southeast Asian Nations’ appointment of a special envoy to help resolve the country’s post-coup crisis even as some rights groups reject the choice and regional lawmakers raise concerns<sup>48</sup>.

<sup>40</sup> <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/japans-kirin-not-planning-to-exit-myanmar-despite-military-takeover-losses>

<sup>41</sup> <https://usun.usmission.gov/readout-of-ambassador-linda-thomas-greenfields-meetings-with-thailands-deputy->

<sup>42</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/chin-militia-offers-kyat-5m-reward-defection-junta-forces>

<sup>43</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/pathein-pdf-warn-two-people-who-thanked-military-council-transporting-oxygen>

<sup>44</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1268375350266475>

<sup>45</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/posts/896631347605206>

<sup>46</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/posts/897044947563846>

<sup>47</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/bangladesh-begins-covid-19-vaccinations-rohingya-refugees>

<sup>48</sup> <https://www.voanews.com/east-asia-pacific/special-envoy-restive-myanmar-draws-mixed-reception>

A group of Karen people in oversea undersigned a petition calling on the Karen National Union (KNU) to reform its leadership led by chairman Gen Saw Mutu Say Poe, according to the International Karen Organization<sup>49</sup>.

Junta's state-run newspaper announced that they will close and withdraw the criminal cases within hearing which charged before February 1, release the culprits from designated cases to effectively control COVID-19 and to ensure the sympathy to the culprits except the cases related to the counter-terrorism law, money laundering law, anti-human trafficking law, narcotic drug and psychotropic substances law, unlawful association act, the high treason, the sedition and so forth<sup>50</sup>.

Myanmar's junta reportedly shut down some pharmaceutical warehouses in Yangon, claiming they were illegally importing pharmaceuticals<sup>51</sup>.

A female MP of Magway Regional parliament representing National League of Democracy, was arrested by junta's troops on Wednesday in Nattalin township in Bago Region<sup>52</sup>.

5 youths were arrested by junta troops after the police officer of Dawei Myoma Police officer was shot by unknown men, although Guerilla Dawei declared it was their act<sup>53</sup>.

Junta released an order to list the names of Facebook users who changed their "Accept NUG, Reject Military" profile, according to a released letter<sup>54</sup>.

2 people who were planning to distribute rice free of charge were arrested by junta's troops in Hle Kyin ward, Wakelma township of Ayeyarwady region<sup>55</sup>

U.S. Department of State Deputy Secretary Wendy R. Sherman and Brunei Foreign Minister II Erywan discussed the latter's role as the newly appointed ASEAN Special Envoy to Myanmar, a position important to holding the regime accountable to the Five-Point Consensus and restoring Burma's path to democracy<sup>56</sup>.

Unidentified attackers shot the soldier as he stood guard outside a local administration office, from inside a vehicle on Kyan Sittar road, near the corner with 62nd street in Pyigyidagun Township, Mandalay on Wednesday. The vehicle had already managed to escape from the scene after the gunshots and the soldier was dead and another policeman was injured<sup>57</sup>.

<sup>49</sup> [https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story\\_fbid=3998048836972753&id=422055381238801](https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=3998048836972753&id=422055381238801)

<sup>50</sup> <http://www.mdn.gov.mm/newspaper/public/ebooks/read/6653#1>

<sup>51</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/theirrawaddy/posts/4683569718354515>

<sup>52</sup> <https://voiceofmyanmarnews.com/news/2021/08/13/>

<sup>53</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/posts/897639870837687>

<sup>54</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/ayeyarwaddytimes/posts/1961959000628758>

<sup>55</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/ayeyarwaddytimes/posts/1961652513992740>

<sup>56</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/eapmediahub/posts/4393118830731566>

<sup>57</sup> <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/soldier-shot-and-killed-while-guarding-local-administration-office-in>

Civilian resistance fighters in Yangon's Hlaing Tharyar Township issued a death threat against a military informant reportedly involved in a junta raid in Yangon in which six youths, including a woman, died<sup>58</sup>.

According to local residents of South Dagon Township in Yangon, 100-household administrator of Ward (54) and his wife were shot at their U Kyargyi tea-shop<sup>59</sup>.

According to Kayin sources, there was a fighting between Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) and Border Guard Force (BGF) under the junta near Taiti village in Hpapun District. Injuries were unknown<sup>60</sup>.

The Taze People Comrades – TPC, has offered a cash reward of Kyat 7.5 million (around 4700 US\$) for any junta soldier who defects if they bring their weapons and ammunition with them. The enticement also said they will take care of the security and wellbeing of their family members<sup>61</sup>.

Kachin Independence Army (KIA) interrupted the junta's ship carrying weapons from Katha to Shweku. Reportedly the base of the ship was damaged, and junta's troops randomly shot back<sup>62</sup>.

The junta-appointed local administrator said they currently have no plan to include minority Rohingya Muslims living in densely-packed camps as they begin vaccinating priority groups against COVID-19 in western Rakhine State<sup>63</sup>.

As there were recurrent fighting between Shan ethnic armed organizations, around 300 villagers, including infants and elderly from Nantlan town of Hsipaw, Shan State, fled to the safer place according to the media reports<sup>64</sup>.

Focals of IDP camps in Rakhine state said that aid from UNHCR and ICRC were no longer reachable to them for 6 months from the early months of 2021<sup>65</sup>.

Junta's troops stationed near the strategic hill of Mong Koe area of Northern Shan State, blocked the trucks carrying food, IDPs are facing difficulty in getting the food supply and worried about the shortage soon<sup>66</sup>.

<sup>58</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/theirrawaddy/posts/4680960345282119>

<sup>59</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/ayeyarwaddytimes/posts/1961769527314372>

<sup>60</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1269215733515770>

<sup>61</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/TachileikNewsAgency/posts/4399005406787932>

<sup>62</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/klnburmese/posts/2044467282394499>

<sup>63</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/myanmar-covid-vaccination-rollout-leaves-rohingya-waiting-2021>

<sup>64</sup> <https://t.me/TachileikNewsAgency/10412?>

<sup>65</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/posts/897193974215610>

<sup>66</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/klnburmese/posts/2043872275787333>

## August 12

Junta-controlled Union Election Commission (UEC) informed all the parties to make a list of party's funding, finance and assets to be ready for the scrutiny and the date of submission is to be informed soon<sup>67</sup>.

Former Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu and former State Ministers Aung Kyaw Zan, Kyaw Aye Thein, Min Aung and Kyaw Lwin have been charged under the Anti-Corruption Law, according to a statement issued by the Tatmadaw True News Information Team<sup>68</sup>.

Junta extended another week of Public Holidays including all the banks and Basic Education Schools, instructed to shut down from August 16 - 22<sup>69</sup>.

Karen National Union (KNU) leader General Saw Mutu Sae Poe said in his address to 71st Karen Martyrs' Day that dialogue will be fruitless unless Myanmar's military junta has the political will, three months after he publicly supported talks with the junta<sup>70</sup>.

Campaign group Justice for Myanmar has released a statement warning that the appointment of Erywan Yusof as ASEAN Special Envoy to Myanmar is not suitable because Brunei's fully state-owned oil company Brunei Energy Services & Trading ties with the Myanmar junta<sup>71</sup>.

The National Unity Government (NUG) sent a formal message for the 71st Karen Martyrs' Day Ceremony, to achieve self-determination, which is the goal of the Karen people and to develop a federal democratic system in Myanmar<sup>72</sup>.

Junta-backed Pyu Saw Htee militia set fire to a house in Innbin-Yedin village in Depayin Township, Sagaing Region<sup>73</sup>.

The junta has forced residents of at least three wards in Bago Region to do labour as "guards" of locations specified by the military or face fines of 5,000 kyat (US\$3), locals said<sup>74</sup>.

A shooting in the fourth ward of Myingyan, Mandalay Region killed a one-year-old girl and injured her father and another passerby. The eyewitness said he believed the gunmen were members of

<sup>67</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/uecmyanmar/posts/4032278893564445>

<sup>68</sup> <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/five-former-rakhine-cabinet-members-charged-with-corruption>

<sup>69</sup> <http://www.mdn.gov.mm/newspaper/public/ebooks/read/6658>

<sup>70</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/knu-chief-myanmar-junta-must-change-before-talks-can-start.html>

<sup>71</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/bruneis-business-links-with-myanmar-military-raise-questions-over>

<sup>72</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/nug-sends-message-karen-people-achieve-their-goal-self-determination>

<sup>73</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/MizzimaMyanmarNews/posts/4513640205365418>

<sup>74</sup> <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/junta-relying-on-forced-labour-in-bago-guard-duty-scheme-residents>

the administrator's security team who were stationed outside the house of the junta's administrator<sup>75</sup>.

Villagers feared that rival armed ethnic organisations fighting each other in northern Shan State will forcibly recruit their young men and even their youth in northern Shan State<sup>76</sup>.

Chinese authorities have sent a complaint letter to the Myanmar military after an artillery shell and gunfire from Myanmar struck the Chinese border town of Wanding in Yunnan Province on two occasions last week. The incidents occurred amid fierce fighting between regime troops and ethnic armed groups in northern Shan State<sup>77</sup>.

Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi and Erywan Yusof, ASEAN's special envoy to Myanmar, vowed to cooperate on finding a breakthrough in the political crisis stemming from the Feb. 1 military coup<sup>78</sup>.

U.S. Mission to the United Nations Ambassador Linda-Thomas Greenfield met with international organizations and NGOs working in Thailand and Burma to discuss the humanitarian needs, challenges, and opportunities facing the Burmese people and make the region safer<sup>79</sup>.

In the south of Kale Township in Sagaing Region, the PDF ambushed junta troops near Nat Chaung village. Kale's PDF said in a statement that troops raided Nat Chaung the previous day. During eight hours of shooting, three junta soldiers were killed and a PDF member was slightly injured by a military explosive<sup>80</sup>.

Five soldiers were killed and three injured in a shootout with ethnic armed groups the Karenni Army (KA) and Karenni Nationalities Defense Force (KNDF) in Kayah State when they ambushed junta's sentries near Htee Kalu Daw village in Hpruso Township<sup>81</sup>.

Two out of seven military vehicles carrying junta troops traveling from Pale to Monywa Township in Sagaing Region triggered landmines by Yinmarbin People Defense Force (PDF) near Mount Phowintaung in the east of Yinmabin Township. Around 30 military casualties were reported after two vehicles were seriously damaged<sup>82</sup>.

<sup>75</sup><https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/locals-blame-junta-officials-security-team-for-myingan-shooting->

<sup>76</sup><https://english.shannews.org/archives/24124>

<sup>77</sup><https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/china-complains-after-shell-gunfire-from-myanmar-hit-border-town>

<sup>78</sup><https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2021/08/30910f2f154a-japan-asean-envoy-to-myanmar-vow-to-cooperate>

<sup>79</sup><https://www.facebook.com/usembassy.rangoon/posts/4207529882662132>

<sup>80</sup><https://www.facebook.com/pdfkalay/posts/142652808014445>

<sup>81</sup>[https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story\\_fbid=130750029232921&id=100670325574225](https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=130750029232921&id=100670325574225)

<sup>82</sup><https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1270639943373349>

The house of Chaung Kwaë village administrator of Kawlin township, Sagianing was shot by a group of gunmen and his daughter was dead due to the attack<sup>83</sup>.

A group of 45 global and Myanmar human rights, media and other organizations called on Norway's Telenor Group to halt the controversial sale of its Myanmar operation to M1 Group, a Lebanese company with ties to Myanmar's junta<sup>84</sup>.

Danny Fenster, American journalist who was working for Frontier Myanmar, being held in a Myanmar prison hasn't been in contact with U.S. officials for several weeks, the State Department said<sup>85</sup>.

The Directors' Guild of Japan has called on the junta to release filmmaker Maung Thein Dan who has been detained in April and jailed pending a trial<sup>86</sup>.

Myanmar's Chinese Chamber of Commerce (MCCOC) launched its own independent COVID-19 vaccination program, through which people will be able to receive Chinese-made Sinopharm jabs for 50,000 kyats per person at designated hospitals<sup>87</sup>.

### August 13

The central bank of Myanmar (CBM) reportedly sold US\$ 13 million at its Forex auction rate as of Mid-August, announced in junta's run newspaper<sup>88</sup>.

Kyodo News reported that a Myanmar national soccer goalkeeper who refused to return home after protesting against the February military coup in his country has been granted refugee status in Japan, a person familiar with the matter<sup>89</sup>.

The Myanmar military sent a letter to the Chinese apologizing for the shells fired from Myanmar which landed on the Chinese city Wan Ting, on the China-Myanmar border. They said in the apology that the shells that hit the Chinese city were not fired by the Tatmadaw, but by the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA)<sup>90</sup>.

<sup>83</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/posts/898250797443261>

<sup>84</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/scores-of-rights-media-groups-urge-telenor-to-halt-sale-of-myanmar>

<sup>85</sup> <https://eu.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2021/08/12/detroit-journalist-danny-fenster>

<sup>86</sup> <https://variety.com/2021/film/asia/japan-directors-guild-myanmar-filmmaker-maung-thein-dan-1235040009/>

<sup>87</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/chinese-made-covid-19-vaccines-to-go-on-sale-in-myanmar.html>

<sup>88</sup> <http://www.mdn.gov.mm/newspaper/public/ebooks/read/6662#6>

<sup>89</sup> <https://www.mizzima.com/article/myanmar-goalkeeper-granted-refugee-status-japan?>

<sup>90</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/military-apologizes-china-shells-landing-its-territory>

Among the 227 fugitives from health and education sectors and other sectors, charges have been dropped to 150 people and the rest are being investigated to close the cases according to junta's announcement made<sup>91</sup>.

Dr. Zaw Myint Maung, the detained Chief Minister of Mandalay Region, has been infected with COVID-19. He has been treated in Mandalay General hospital as his oxygen level is in critical condition, said his lawyer<sup>92</sup>.

The Myanmar Kyat reached record highs of 1,730:1 against the US dollar. A news broke that the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) would begin printing money with the help of Russia and Belarus<sup>93</sup>.

A letter to charge the well-known 63 people including artists and influencers under anti-terrorism law, was spread on social media as they participated in the political campaign of changing their profile as "Accept NUG, Reject Military. A police officer confirmed that the letter is real<sup>94</sup>.

A 33-year-old by-passer woman was shot dead by the junta army Ka-La-Ya (58) in Winemaw Township of Kachin State<sup>95</sup>.

With the invitation from Myanmar's Ally of the Australia Upper and Lower Parliament, representatives of Myanmar to Australia - NUG joined an online discussion on Myanmar's affairs<sup>96</sup>.

Leading Thai arms manufacturer Chaiseri Metal and Rubber Co. Ltd has denied any connection with an assassination attempt against Myanmar's ambassador to the UN, U Kyaw Moe Tun<sup>97</sup>.

Four unidentified men stabbed and killed the chair of the junta-allied National Democratic Force's (NDF) Kayah (Karenni) State at his home in the capital of Loikaw<sup>98</sup>.

There was a fighting between Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) Brigade 1 and junta's troops near Melan village of Hpa-an township, Karen state, 1 junta force died and 1 was injured, according to KNU<sup>99</sup>.

<sup>91</sup> <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/among-the-227-runaways-from-all-walks-of-life-charges-dropped-for-150->

<sup>92</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/MizzimaDaily/posts/4663411240360411>

<sup>93</sup> <https://www.mizzima.com/article/myanmar-kyat-reaches-record-high-1730-dollar?>

<sup>94</sup> <https://www.mizzima.com/article/junta-charges-63-artists-entertainers-who-changed-their-fb-profile-accept->

<sup>95</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/kachinwavesnews/posts/4592192204127189>

<sup>96</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/NUGmyanmar/posts/168625772024729>

<sup>97</sup> <https://www.thaipbsworld.com/thai-arms-manufacturer-denies-involvement-in-plot-against-myanmars-un->

<sup>98</sup> <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/chair-of-pro-military-political-party-in-kayah-state-stabbed-to-death>

<sup>99</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/127105139666537>

Karenni Nationalities Defense Force-KNDF released a statement that they had an exchange of fire with the junta's troop and army of Pa-O National Organization (PNO) near Pin Pon and Lwal Hel villages. 5 junta's troops died and at least 6 people from PNO died in the shootout<sup>100</sup>.

A member of Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) and alleged informer was shot by an unknown man while he was feeding the dog in Athukha ward, Mandalay<sup>101</sup>.

Mawkanin village administrator of Ye township, Mon state was shot by 2 people with a motorcycle, locals said<sup>102</sup>.

The Karenni National Progressive Party (KNPP) called local, international charity based organizations and the International Community to help Karenni people who suffered from COVID-19 pandemic and conflict between armed groups<sup>103</sup>.

#### August 14

Junta threatened the citizens to suspend, control or close their bank accounts if they draw "Aung Lan Hlwin Chi Spring Lottery" of Myanmar ousted Government, NUG, said by the director of junta's internal revenue department<sup>104</sup>.

Five civilian houses of Pale township in Sagaing State were burned down by the terrorist junta's troops, according to locals<sup>105</sup>.

Pavel Fischer, Chair of Foreign Affairs, Defense and Security Committee of the Czech Parliament, signed a request for official recognition of the NUG at the United Nations<sup>106</sup>.

Unidentified armed men attacked with guns to the Kyan Kin Su ward administrative office while the chair of ward administrative council, 10-household officials and 100-household officials were holding the meeting. 3 of them were injured and submitted to the Mingaladon military hospital<sup>107</sup>.

A group of gunmen attacked the 6 police on the Yangon Circular train when it stopped at a station near Ahlone Township. 4 policemen died at the scene, 2 were admitted to the hospital and 4 weapons were seized by the gunmen<sup>108</sup>.

<sup>100</sup> [https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story\\_fbid=132295412411716&id=100670325574225](https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=132295412411716&id=100670325574225)

<sup>101</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1271030703334273>

<sup>102</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/posts/899035517364789>

<sup>103</sup> <https://www.myanmar-now.org/mm/news/7801>

<sup>104</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/MizzimaDaily/posts/4666032423431626>

<sup>105</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1271957609908249>

<sup>106</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1271515436619133>

<sup>107</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/posts/899094404025567>

<sup>108</sup> <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/five-police-officers-shot-dead-in-attack-on-yangon-train>

Lattku village administrator of Pulaw township, Tanintharyi region was shot and admitted to hospital, locals said. His house was also attacked with a bomb on July 5 and he submitted his resignation letter on the next day<sup>109</sup>.

Yinmabin People's Defense Force attacked the convoy of junta's troops with 3 mines near Myway Phway Mountain of Yinmabin township, Sagaing Region. At least 3 junta's troops died and 10 were injured, said Yinmabin PDF member<sup>110</sup>.

Pekhon People Defense Force said that there was a 11-hour long fighting with junta's troops and army of Pa-O National Organization between Pin Laung and Pekhon townships as they invaded the Karenni area. 2 PDF members were injured and there will be heavy casualties on junta's side<sup>111</sup>.

A fighting broke out between the Mindat People's Defense Force and junta's troops at 14 miles of Mindat-Matupi road. 2 died and 4 were severely wounded from junta' side<sup>112</sup>.

Villagers from Madain village of Kachin near Wine Maw Ka-La-Ya (58), were forced to flee as the junta's troops announced with a loudspeaker in a military truck not to stay in the village, according to Madain's locals<sup>113</sup>.

About 30 ASEAN media leaders gathered at the 5th ASEAN Media Forum held online by the ASEAN Secretariat to dialogue with the region's thought leaders on pertinent issues affecting the region, highlighting ASEAN's goals, achievements and challenges to the region's top media editors and influencers<sup>114</sup>.

Junta-run newspaper released a list of the members of Myanmar Press Council who have been elected and who have been shortlisted to take part in the election<sup>115</sup>. Shortly after the announcement, objections were made to some of the elected or shortlisted members by CSOs<sup>116</sup>.

## August 15

The National Unity Government in Myanmar (NUG) launched the "Aung Lan Hlwint Chi Spring Lottery " on Sunday and it reached the daily limit of '50000 tickets' within one and half hours after the launching. One ticket was sold with 2,000 Myanmar kyats, 70% of the income will go to the civil servants who took part in CDM and 30% will be awarded to people who draw the lottery<sup>117</sup>.

<sup>109</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/posts/899664363968571>

<sup>110</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/MizzimaDaily/posts/4668690196499182>

<sup>111</sup> [https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story\\_fbid=125094203104748&id=119817523632416](https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=125094203104748&id=119817523632416)

<sup>112</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1271771356593541>

<sup>113</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/The74Media/posts/386585136194347>

<sup>114</sup> <https://www.mizzima.com/article/5th-asean-media-forum-discusses-multilateralism-amidst-covid-19->

<sup>115</sup> <http://www.mdn.gov.mm/newspaper/public/ebooks/read/6663#4>

<sup>116</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/photos/pcb.899780163956991/899779457290395/>

<sup>117</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/MizzimaDaily/posts/4669745716393630>

General Htun Mrat Naing of Arakan Army (AA) said that they are planning for Muslim in Rakhine to be able to take the position in administration and police sectors<sup>118</sup>.

There are over 2 million people who changed their Facebook profile “Accept NUG, Reject Military” after the junta released an order to take a list of the people who took part in that political campaign. The movement is aiming for the acknowledgement of NUG as legitimate government in the UN General Assembly which has to be held on September 14<sup>119</sup>.

Some officials from the Light Infantry Battalion (58) of Myanmar’s military, which is based in Waingmaw Township, Kachin State, were under custody at the Northern Command with setting up military court due to the heavy casualties and loss of weapons after the attack of Kachin Independence Army (KIA) brigade 5 on July 29<sup>120</sup>.

Mandalay Region Buddhist monks’ association, also known as the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and the junta’s authorities, instructed 3 monks from each monastery of 5 townships to do supervision in COVID-19 checkpoint. A lead monk from Mandalay said that this is a distraction and to weaken the movement of monks to defy the junta.<sup>121</sup>

A 4-year old boy and his father from Kanpetlet township of Chin State were shot by the junta’ on, according to the Kanpetlet Civilian Resistance Force<sup>122</sup>.

An administrator of Pauk Taik village of Yinmabin township, Sagaing was shot dead at his home on Sunday, Yinmabin locals said<sup>123</sup>.

Brigade 6 of Kachin Independence Army (KIA) interrupted the junta’s convoy which carried reinforcement weapons in Kutkai of northern Shan State<sup>124</sup>.

Fighting continued between Pekhon People Defense Force and junta’s troops near Pekhon township of southern Shan State on Sunday’s morning. 1 PDF member was injured and at least 5 junta’s troops were injured in the fighting according to the Pekhon PDF<sup>125</sup>.

Fighting accelerated between Mindat People’s Defense Force and junta’s troops on Sunday between Mindat and Matupi townships of Chin State. PDF Mindat said that at least 20 died and 15 were severely injured from the junta's side<sup>126</sup>.

<sup>118</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/dmgnewsagency/posts/2085794788239588>

<sup>119</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VauWgvBaWzQ>

<sup>120</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/MizzimaDaily/posts/4669197086448493>

<sup>121</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/ayeyarwaddytimes/posts/1965114890313169>

<sup>122</sup> <https://www.myanmar-now.org/mm/news/7799>

<sup>123</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/posts/899589333976074>

<sup>124</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/kachinwavesnews/posts/4598455453500864>

<sup>125</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/theirrawaddyburmese/posts/4770218146355633>

<sup>126</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/chinworldmedia/posts/4421547507906591>

The Thai army arrested 45 illegal Myanmar migrants in the forest of Thai-Myanmar border<sup>127</sup>.

Prepared by  
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**Annexure I:**  
**Information on the Blasts Reported Across Myanmar from 9 - 15 August, 2021**

Date	Region/State	Incidents	Source
9 Aug	Mandalay	A bomb was thrown at No. (1) police station on (19) street in the east of Mandalay Palace. According to residents, a loud noise of explosion came out and there were exchanges of fire.	Khit Thit
	Sagaing	On Monday, two bombs were thrown at the checkpoint on the entrance to Kawlin. According to residents, a police officer died. Two other police and a soldier were also injured.	Mizzima
	Mandalay	4 Continuous blasts were reported at Shwe Pyi Police office, Lat Pan Hla Police office, Nwe Yone Police office and Municipal office of Singu township, Mandalay.	Khit Thit
10 Aug	Yangon	Head office of the Young Men's Buddhist Association (YMBA) was attacked using a homemade bomb on Tuesday.	Eleven
	Yangon	A blast occurred near the traffic police outpost located at the corner of Strand Road and Bo Aung Kyaw Road and the blast damaged the traffic police outpost.	Eleven
	Yangon	An explosion also occurred near Yangon General Post Office, which is located near the damaged traffic police outpost, within minutes.	Eleven
	Yangon	A bomb exploded near Pazundaung Township police station located at the corner of Bogyoke Road and 51st Street today afternoon.	Eleven
11 Aug	Sagaing	In Butalin, 2 bomb explosions happened simultaneously near the township administration office and near a police station on Wednesday.	Mizzima
	Magway		Voice of Myanmar

<sup>127</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/ayeyarwaddytimes/posts/1964953806995944>

		A restaurant in Chauk, Magway region where most of the government officials have their meal, was attacked with a handmade bomb, the injuries were unknown.	
12 Aug	Yangon  Tanintharyi	On Thursday, an audio file was played through a sound box - "Don't feel down, comrades!" near the exclusive hall of Insein Prison in lower Mingaladon Township. After that, there were two bomb explosions near the sound box.  2 blasts were reported at the house of village administrative and alleged informer of Pulaw and the houses were damaged.	Mizzima  Voice of Myanmar
13 Aug	Magway  Sagaing  Mandalay  Sagaing	Police officers' residence in Taungdwingyi of Magway Region was attacked with a bomb on Friday. Injuries are unknown.  2 blasts were reported at the house of village tract administrator of Pinlebu township of Sagaing Region.  A blast occurred at the compound of No(3) Basic Education High School in Aung Chan Thar ward of Mogoke, Mandalay where junta's troops were stationed. Reportedly 3 policemen died.  A blast was reported at the entrance of Sai Pyin Police office of Depayin township, Sagaing Region. Junta's troops shot back and injuries were unknown.	Khit Thit  Voice of Myanmar Mizzima  Myanmar Now
14 Aug	Yangon  Yangon  Yangon	A blast happened near the township administrative office of Kaymarthi, North Okkalapa township, Yangon.  One blast was reported near the 8 ward trash pile of Shwe Pyi Thar township.  According to locals, there were 2 blasts near the License office of Thingangyun township.	Voice of Myanmar Khit Thit  Khit Thit
15 Aug	Yangon  Yangon  Sagaing  Magway	5 simultaneous blast were reported in Kyimyindine township of Yangon; near Magyitan (South-West) administrative office, Zay Kalay administrative office, Thardu East ward administrative office, Thayettaw (South) ward administrative office, corner of Pann Pin Gyi street and Upper Kyimyindine street.  A blast occurred near the administrative office of Baho street, Sanchaung township.  Locals reported that an explosion occurred near the town's clock tower of Monywa where junta's troops took the security.  2 blasts occurred at the Magway Myothit Electronic Manager Office and 66 KV Power Station. Injuries were unknown.	DVB  Khit Thit  Khit Thit  Khit Thit