



## **Myanmar Situation Update 13 - 19 December 2021**

### **Summary**

Myanmar ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi appeared in court in Naypyitaw in a prison uniform for her hearing against corruption charges for allegedly obtaining rental properties for headquarters of Daw Khin Kyi Foundation below market price. Former Yangon Region chief minister Phyo Min Thein and former Yangon Region minister Nilar Kyaw also appeared at the court, as did prosecution witnesses against Aung San Suu Kyi for corruption charges.

Media also reported that Mandalay Region's ousted chief minister and vice chair of NLD party, Dr. Zaw Myint Maung, was not allowed to testify as a witness for Aung San Suu Kyi in her trial for breaching COVID-19 rules in campaigning for the 2020 General Elections. Aung San Suu Kyi was sentenced by the junta court last week to four years in jail for incitement and breaching coronavirus regulations, later reduced to a two-year term in an undisclosed location.

The junta's peace negotiation committee held talks with representatives of six ethnic armed groups of the Federal Political Negotiation and Consultative Committee (FPNCC) with the facilitation of China in Mongla of Shan State. Reportedly, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) did not join the meeting.

Thousands of refugees from Myanmar's Karen state flee to Thailand after fresh fighting broke out last week between the Karen National Union (KNU) and the junta force. The NUG urged Thailand to allow the IDPs fleeing Lay Kay Kaw town and seeking refuge to cross the border safely as soon as possible. It also urged the international community to provide humanitarian aid and assistance to the IDPs. Thailand has sent over 600 Myanmar refugees who fled fighting between the junta forces and ethnic armies back across the border. Human rights groups urged Thailand not to rush refugees back to Myanmar as junta forces deliberately target civilians with deadly force. An artillery shell fired by the Myanmar's junta during the fighting exploded on the Thai side, about six miles away from Myawaddy and the road to the Mae Kot Kin refugee camp on the Thailand side of the Thaung Yin River. Thai authorities have officially warned that they would return fire if more artillery shells by the Myanmar junta's army landed again on Thailand's side.

Responding to the critics of his trip to meet with the Myanmar coup leader in January, Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said the visit aimed to help to repair the image of the ASEAN and he would name the

country's foreign minister Prak Sokhonn as the Asean chair's new special envoy to Myanmar. Cambodia currently holds the ASEAN presidency.

In the recent statement of the United Nations OHCHR, it has warned Myanmar's human rights situation is deepening on an unprecedented scale. It further state that serious human rights violations reported daily of the rights to life, liberty and security of person, the prohibition against torture, the right to a fair trial, and freedom of expression.

The US senate passed a bipartisan Myanmar amendment in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to support democracy in Myanmar. This includes the provisions such as requiring Biden administration officials to present to Congress within sixty days a strategy to impose costs on the military government, legitimizing representative organizations such as the National Unity Government, restoring democratic governance, and fostering national reconciliation. The amendment will also require the State Department, USAID, Treasury Department and Defense Department to brief Congress on specific U.S. policy and security objectives in Myanmar.

Myanmar placed second on the list of a crackdown on journalists worldwide in the report released by the Reporters Without Borders. Myanmar is second with 53, followed by 43 in Vietnam, 32 in Belarus and 31 in Saudi Arabia. China stands first in the list with imprisoned journalists at 127. Ko Nyein Chan, a journalist from Bago Weekly Journal based in the west Bago region, was sentenced to 3 years imprisonment. The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPI) has urged to immediately release the reporter Aung San Lin from Democratic Voice of Burma and drop any charges against him. Soe Naing, a local freelance photojournalist who was arrested by junta's troops while taking photos during "silent strike" in Yangon, has become the first journalist known to have died in junta's custody since the military coup.

According to the information compiled by ANFREL, at least 23 bomb blasts happened across Myanmar in the past week. It was reported that at least 4 people were injured<sup>1</sup>.

As of 18 December, the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) recorded that 1,346 people have been killed by the junta. 8,100 people are currently under detention and 399 are sentenced. 75 have been sentenced to death and 1,964 are evading arrest warrants<sup>2</sup>.

### Colour Code and its Categories

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

<sup>1</sup> Annexure I

<sup>2</sup> <https://aappb.org/?p=19308>

## Timeline of events

### 13 December

Mandalay Region's ousted chief minister and vice chair of NLD party, Dr Zaw Myint Maung was not allowed to travel Naypyidaw to testify as a witness for ousted Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi on charges of breaching COVID-19 rules, according to a source familiar with the proceedings<sup>3</sup>.

The junta leader Min Aung Hlaing said that State Counsellor Daw Aung San Su Kyi was allowed to meet with her lawyers freely and thus, she might have known about CRPH and the NUG and she had the right to give remarks via the lawyers<sup>4</sup>.

Junta's forces and members of the Pyu-Saw-Htee group that has links to the military burned around 100 houses in Kaeba village in Ayadaw Township, Sagaing Region<sup>5</sup>. More than 2,000 villagers had fled their homes when junta's reinforcements arrived<sup>6</sup>.

Ten villagers from Kankaung village who were arrested by Myanmar's junta forces after an attack on a highway police outpost in Meiktila Township, Mandalay Region, remained unknown about their whereabouts and missing<sup>7</sup>.

Twelve people including three injured anti-junta fighters were arrested by junta's torops after several bombs exploded by accident in Yangon's Hlaing Tharyar Township, the leader of an underground guerrilla group said<sup>8</sup>.

According to the All Burma Federation of Student Unions (ABFSU), some 90 detainees in Yangon's Insein prison had brutal beatings, were denied medical treatment and held in solitary confinement for joining the nationwide silent strike last week<sup>9</sup>.

In Dibeyin Township of Sagaing, the junta armed forces were stationed in the compound of the monastery in Boat Village for two days. Reportedly, they killed an elderly man named Hlaing by burning him alive<sup>10</sup>.

<sup>3</sup><https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/zaw-myint-maung-denied-permission-to-testify-in-person-at-suu-kyis-second-covid-19-trial>

<sup>4</sup><http://burmese.dvb.no/archives/505801>

<sup>5</sup><https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/around-100-village-homes-burn-in-myanmar-junta-raid.html>

<sup>6</sup><https://www.facebook.com/watch/?ref=saved&v=893047544722759>

<sup>7</sup><https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/villagers-missing-after-myanmar-junta-arrests.html>

<sup>8</sup><https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/three-injured-guerrilla-fighters-among-12-arrested-after-accidental-explosion-in-yangon>

<sup>9</sup><https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-students-union-fears-for-tortured-prisoners.html>

<sup>10</sup><https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1374296086341067>

Salai Lian Luai, Chief Minister of Chin State appointed by parallel civilian government met Pu Zoramthanga, Chief Minister of Mizoram regarding the refugee who fled due to the violence triggered by junta's army and the Pu Zoramthanga committed to help the IDPs<sup>11</sup>.

Kani PDF said that one military vessel was damaged by underwater bombs in the attack sank on this morning near Maedin Village in Kani Township of Sagaing region. Then the junta troops were forced to ground and were attacked on land with landmines. There were around seven casualties from junta's army and three PDF members suffered minor injuries in the shootout<sup>12</sup>.

Two private cars with around 30 soldiers were ambushed by local PDF and 7 of them were killed in the attack with 9 mines en route from Pakokku to Yaw Township in Magway Region<sup>13</sup>.

A sergeant and two junta's soldiers in plain-clothes were shot by two unidentified men who arrived on a motorcycle while they were shopping at Yeni Myaung Market, Maha Aungmye Township in Mandalay. Reportedly, the sergeant died and one soldier was injured<sup>14</sup>.

In North Dagon Myothit Township, U Tin Hlaing, hundred-household administrator in Ward 31, was shot dead by some unknown people at his house<sup>15</sup>.

In Monekoe of Shan North, there was heavy fighting between the junta army and Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA)<sup>16</sup>. According to the Kokang, the junta launched airstrikes on MNDAA camps in the Monekoe Area<sup>17</sup>.

A combined force of the Thaton People's Guerillas and Karen National Liberation Army, ambushed junta's forces stationed in a village in Thaton Township, Mon State using several 40mm launchers. They claimed to have killed three junta's troops and injured five others in the attack<sup>18</sup>.

YE-U Urban Guerrilla announced that they had conducted attacks with 40 mm launchers and gunfire at the township police station and Aungchantha administration office. There might be injuries which cannot be identified<sup>19</sup>.

In Depayin township of Sagaing region, junta's troops were attacked by local PDF with 6 landmines in two different locations and there might be heavy injuries from junta's side<sup>20</sup>.

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1375142256256450>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/three-junta-motorboats-sunk-in-upper-myanmar.html>

<sup>13</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/landmines-hit-military-convoy-killing-7-soldiers-magway-region>

<sup>14</sup> <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/one-kills-and-another-one-injuries-in-an-attack-in-mandalay>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?ref=saved&v=233663895513621>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/The74Media/posts/463498741836319>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/theirrawaddyburmese/posts/5166321173411993>

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1374368303000512>

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/MizzimaDaily/posts/5073363086031889>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/MizzimaDaily/posts/5073768879324643>

	In Hpa-An township of Karen state, junta's convoy with 7 vehicles loading rations, was attacked by Karen National Liberation Army Brigade (1). One vehicle was damaged and one of their troops died in the attack <sup>21</sup> .
	More than 200 Myanmar workers who want to return home were held in Thai jails as Myanmar's authorities didn't allow them to cross the Thai-Burmese Bridge No. 2 on the Myawaddy border <sup>22</sup> . Nearly 10,000 people were forced to flee their homes as fighting erupted between two Shan ethnic armed groups in Kyaukme Township, Mongkaing and Laicha townships of southern Shan State and they are in need of help, sources said <sup>23</sup> .
	Representatives of South Korean companies including units of Samsung and LG met high-level Myanmar junta's officials at an event "Dialogue for Economic Cooperation between Team Korea and Myanmar" in Yangon organized by the Korean Embassy last month <sup>24</sup> .
<b>14 December</b>	
	An independent group of former United Nations human rights observers, the Special Advisory Council for Myanmar (SACM), said that the Myanmar's junta should be labeled and treated as a terrorist organization as it has been committing acts of extreme criminal violence against civilians <sup>25</sup> .
	<p>Some 200 junta forces raided and arrested more than 30 people, including an elected MP in Lay Kay Kaw new city in Karen State's Myawaddy, which is home to many democracy activists opposing the junta<sup>26</sup>.</p> <p>Junta threatened healthcare workers who have participated in the Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) to be fined K5 million or K10 million if they refuse to return work and will be charged under Section 505(a) of the Penal Code if they support the National Unity Government (NUG), according to an order issued by the junta-controlled Ministry of Health<sup>27</sup>.</p> <p>Junta's court in northern Rakhine State sentenced 199 people, most of whom are Rohingya Muslims from Maungdaw township, to five years imprisonment under the Immigration Act for illegally trying to migrate to Malaysia by boat. 90 minors among them were released one day after the conviction but the adults were detained in Buthidaung Prison, the lawyer said<sup>28</sup>.</p>

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/thanlwintimes9/posts/3364848393639653>

<sup>22</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/burmese-returning-thailand-barred-entry-military>

<sup>23</sup> <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/nearly-10000-refugees-displaced-in-shan-state-and-need-help>

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/executives-of-s-korean-companies-met-myanmar-junta>

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/international-envoys-label-myanmar-junta-terrorist-organization.html>

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-forces-raid-knu-controlled-town-democracy-activists>

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.bnionline.net/en/news/regime-threatens-cdm-health-workers-demanding-they-return-work>

<sup>28</sup> <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/more-than-100-rohingya-fleeing-persecution-in-rakhine-state>

Seven junta plainclothes police arrived at the home of Min Ko Oo, a social worker in southern Rakhine State's Taungup Township, and arrested him for allegedly financing the anti-junta People's Defence Force (PDF), according to his family<sup>29</sup>.

Joint force of local PDF ambushed junta's convoy carrying junta-appointed Yangon Region Economic Minister and Resource Minister, in Hmawbi township of Yangon. They still couldn't confirm the casualties<sup>30</sup>.

In Tantsi Township of Sagaing region, the junta army was attacked with mines by local people's force. Reportedly, 2 junta soldiers died and 7 others were injured<sup>31</sup>.

In Kutkhine Township of Shan North, Daw Win Win Myein, hospital administrator, was shot dead<sup>32</sup>.

In Kokang area of Shan North, the junta fighter jets conducted bomb attacks on Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) camps 10 times and they also carried out invasion on land. According to the Kokang, there were 15 battles between them in a day<sup>33</sup>.

In Pathein Township of Ayeyarwaddy Region, Mg Oo, a local guide to the junta armed forces, was shot dead by Pathein West Defense Force<sup>34</sup>.

Pinlebu PDF has confirmed that 20 Myanmar's junta soldiers were killed in a landmine-attack carried out by them between Pinlebu and Kawlin townships of Sagaing region<sup>35</sup>.

The Mingin PDF ambushed the military detachment of 70 junta troops in Mingin Township of Sagaing region; 10 junta's personnel were killed in the ambush. The junta's forces also faced a second landmine attack after setting up the fire upon the house of Taung Dwin MP and leaving the village. In the attack, another 10 junta's forces were killed and many others wounded<sup>36</sup>.

According to locals, North Dagon police station was attacked by an unknown armed group. After the shootout, junta's troops are searching for the culprits in the township<sup>37</sup>.

A notorious junta's informant from Nandawin ward of Monywa township, Sagaing Region was shot dead by an unknown armed group at his house<sup>38</sup>.

<sup>29</sup><https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/junta-arrests-rakhine-state-social-worker-over-accusations>

<sup>30</sup><https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-appointed-ministers-motorcade-attacked-in-yangon.html>

<sup>31</sup><https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1374145496356126>

<sup>32</sup><https://www.facebook.com/watch/?ref=saved&v=331541298495986>

<sup>33</sup><https://www.facebook.com/shwepheemyaynews/posts/1095626374586826>

<sup>34</sup><https://www.facebook.com/MizzimaDaily/posts/5089076144460583>

<sup>35</sup><https://www.facebook.com/deltanewsagency/posts/1545875475790145>

<sup>36</sup><https://www.facebook.com/risenewsmyanmar/posts/5257179657629822>

<sup>37</sup><https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1374570142980328>

<sup>38</sup><https://www.facebook.com/deltanewsagency/posts/1545793902464969>

	<p>At least 20 junta soldiers were reportedly killed when the People's Army to Fight Dictatorship (PAFD) ambushed three military vehicles using eight mines on Shwebo - Mandalay road, Sagaing Region<sup>39</sup>.</p>
	<p>A large crowd of refugees of Mae La camp on Thai-Myanmar border, gathered in protest against the case in which a camp official beat a Myanmar refugee for riding a motorbike without wearing a mask and was dispersed by Thai authorities by opening fire<sup>40</sup>.</p> <p>Civilians displaced by the conflict in Karenni/Kayah State which has been ongoing for almost eight months, are struggling for basic food - they haven't had (enough) rice, cooking oil, egg or nutritional powder for children for a long time<sup>41</sup>.</p> <p>Displaced people from Yinmarbin and Salingyi township of Sagaing region are in need of basic food, blankets, tarpaulin and medicines. Reportedly around 10,000 villagers from 15 villages were sheltered in the area, said the person helping the IDP<sup>42</sup>.</p> <p>Around 2,000 Kaeba villagers from Ayadaw township who fled into the nearby forest, are in desperate need of food supplies as the junta's army set the whole village on fire<sup>43</sup>.</p>
	<p>The Committee to Protect Journalists has urged the Myanmar's junta to immediately release Democratic Voice of Burma reporter Aung San Lin from Wetlet township of Sagaing and drop any charges against him<sup>44</sup>.</p> <p>Soe Naing, a local freelance photojournalist who was arrested by junta's troops while taking photos during "silent strike" in Yangon called by opponents last week, has died in military custody and he is the first journalist known to have died in custody since the February coup<sup>45</sup>.</p>
<p><b>15 December</b></p>	
	<p>In Mongla of Shan State, the Myanmar junta's peace negotiation committee met with representatives of six ethnic armed groups, all members of the Federal Political Negotiation and Consultative Committee (FPNCC) led by the United Wa State Army (UWSA), with the facilitation of China. Notably, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) did not join the talks<sup>46</sup>.</p>

<sup>39</sup> <http://burmese.dvb.no/archives/505915?>

<sup>40</sup> <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/protest-occurs-at-mae-la-refugee-camp-on-thai-myanmar-border-some-properties-destroyed>

<sup>41</sup> <https://www.bnionline.net/en/news/displaced-civilians-still-hungry-despite-aid-reaching-camps-karenni-state>

<sup>42</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/The74Media/posts/464109558441904>

<sup>43</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/The74Media/posts/464313205088206>

<sup>44</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/dvb-journalist-must-be-immediately-released-cpj>

<sup>45</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/photojournalist-soe-naing-dies-military-custody>

<sup>46</sup> <http://www.mdn.gov.mm/newspaper/public/ebooks/read/7088#4>

Myanmar's junta's forces raided the house of civilian National Unity Government (NUG) justice minister U Thein Oo, in Sein Pann ward, Maha Aung Myay Township of Mandalay and sealed it off<sup>47</sup>.

The Border Guard Forces (BGF) under the junta's army are threatening to forcibly recruit 15 men from each ward in Myawaddy town, Shwe Kokko, Karen State through ward administrators to use in frontline operation, a local source said<sup>48</sup>.

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, slammed critics of his planned meeting with the Myanmar coup leader and said that his visit was aimed at helping to repair the image of the ASEAN<sup>49</sup>. He also said that he would name the country's foreign minister Prak Sokhonn as the Asean chair's new special envoy to Myanmar<sup>50</sup>.

The Secretary of State Antony Blinken said that the United States is looking at additional actions to take against Myanmar's junta and assessing whether the crisis in the country might constitute genocide<sup>51</sup>.

Global Witness, a UK-based campaign group, said that Graff, Bulgari, Van Cleef & Arpels, and Sotheby's are among the companies that could be funding Myanmar's junta which has killed at least 1,300 of its people since the military coup<sup>52</sup>.

Resistance fighters attacked junta forces stationed near a middle school in Meiktila, Mandalay Region. At least two junta soldiers were killed and one injured in an attack<sup>53</sup>.

15 junta's troops patrolling on foot from the west bridge of Kyun Taw Kone village towards Daunt Gyi village, were attacked with two landmines in Tantsi township of Sagaing region. Three soldiers were killed and two others seriously injured in the attack<sup>54</sup>.

The Sheinmagar-PDF claimed to have killed four junta's troops including the head of a police station, while PDFs ambushed junta's forces with six landmines on the Sheinmagar highway in Wetlet Township, Sagaing Region. A junta vehicle overturned in the mine attack, the group said<sup>55</sup>.

<sup>47</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-seizes-civilian-justice-ministers-home.html>

<sup>48</sup> <https://www.mizzima.com/article/bgf-threatens-draft-15-men-ward-myanmars-shwe-kokko-border-area?>

<sup>49</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/dont-bother-me-hun-sen-tells-critics-of-plan-to-meet-myanmar-junta-leader.htm>

<sup>50</sup> <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/cambodia-to-appoint-foreign-minister-as-aseans-new-envoy-to-myanmar>

<sup>51</sup> <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/us-considering-further-action-on-myanmar-ruling-military-blinken>

<sup>52</sup> <https://www.myanmar-now.org/en/news/conflict-rubies-sold-by-top-jewellers-fund-myanmar-junta-atrocities-campaign-group-says>

<sup>53</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/mandalay-resistance-fighters-claim-to-have-killed-two-myanmar>

<sup>54</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/three-tatmadaw-killed-and-two-others-seriously-injured-taze>

<sup>55</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?ref=saved&v=1670945656570236>

Thaton People Guerillas(TPG) claimed that they attacked the junta's troops stationed at the Htee Mingalar pagoda compound in Kaw Hlaing village of Thaton township, Mon State with M79 Grenade Launchers. Three junta's troops died and four were injured in the attack<sup>56</sup>.

On Pakokku-Chaung U road of Myaung township of Sagaing region, a junta's vehicle was attacked with mine by local PDF and 7 junta's troops were killed. Another attack was conducted near Kin junction of Myaung township, killing 3 junta's forces and injuring 5<sup>57</sup>.

In Hlegi of Yangon, U Myo Oo, allegedly a pro-USDP man aged 50, was shot and likely to die. After the incident, a carpenter, who was his neighbor, was arrested by the junta army, according to the townspeople<sup>58</sup>.

Around 80,000 villagers recently displaced by the junta's army in northern Karen State are encountered and vulnerable to cold winter, in urgent need of warm clothes and medicines<sup>59</sup>.

In Mae La camp on the Thai-Myanmar border, an order was issued that IDPs were banned from going outside after 6 PM<sup>60</sup>.

In some townships of Sagaing Region, the most restive areas with a great loss of the junta armed forces, military propaganda brochures were being spread out by helicopter for the second time<sup>61</sup>.

#### 16 December

Pado Shwe Maung, chairman of the Karen National Union-KNU's Brigade 6, requested the both sides - Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) and junta troops, not to turn the Lay Kaw Kaw town of Karen State into a battlefield<sup>62</sup>.

The National Unity Government (NUG) appealed to the Thai government to allow the IDPs fleeing Lay Kay Kaw and seeking refuge to cross the border safely as soon as possible. The NUG also urged the international community to provide urgent humanitarian and emergency assistance to the IDPs affected. It also urged the international community "to strongly call for a de-escalation of violence."<sup>63</sup>

<sup>56</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?ref=saved&v=4487893527988500>

<sup>57</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1376211372816205>

<sup>58</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/Salweenpress/posts/4387492094695090>

<sup>59</sup> <https://www.bnionline.net/en/news/first-rain-and-now-cold-displaced-karen-villagers-urgent-need-warm-clothing-and-medicine>

<sup>60</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/Salweenpress/posts/4387669391344027>

<sup>61</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/The74Media/posts/464821141704079>

<sup>62</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/knu-brigade-6-chairman-requests-both-sides-not-turn-lay-kay-kaw-myothit>

<sup>63</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/NUGmyanmar/posts/249521297268509>

At least five young men on motorcycles were beaten and arrested by the junta troops following the explosion at a traffic police station near the Thake Pan Road traffic light in Mandalay's Chan Mya Thar Si Township and they cannot be contacted, according to family members<sup>64</sup>.

At least 20 civilian houses were set on fire by junta's troops in Nga Myaung village of Myaing township, Magway region and villagers had to flee<sup>65</sup>.

An artillery shell fired by the Myanmar's junta during the fighting of Lay Kay Kaw in Kayin State exploded on the Thai side, which is about six miles away from Myawaddy and the road to the Mae Kot Kin refugee camp on the other side of the Thaug Yin River<sup>66</sup>.

Joint force of the Karenni National Defense Force (KNDF) and Karenni Army (KA) ambushed the junta's patrol in Demoso township, killing four junta's troops and injuring five while two civilian resistance fighters were injured by junta artillery. In another intense firefight broke out in Loikaw Township, three soldiers were killed, four were injured and a KA soldier was killed<sup>67</sup>.

18 junta soldiers had died and eight others had been captured during the fighting in Lay Kay Kaw in Karen State's Myawaddy, where they encountered a combined force of troops from the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) and People's Defense Force (PDF)<sup>68</sup>.

Khayan PDF ambushed the Phaya Pyo police station and the gymnasium in Khayan township with a 40 mm grenade launcher. Then the shoot-out lasted about 20 minutes and at least five soldiers were killed. Eight villagers from the Phaya Pyo village have been arrested allegedly linked to the attack<sup>69</sup>.

In Kawkareik township of Karen State, junta's convoy was attacked by Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) on Asia road. At least ten of the junta's troops were killed<sup>70</sup>.

In Palein village of Win Yae township, area controlled by KNU Brigade (16), a fighting broke out between Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) and junta's army as they made an invasion in the KNU area. Three of the junta's troops died in the fight<sup>71</sup>.

Five junta's forces were killed in the attack conducted by a combined force of local PDF in Taung Dwin of Mingin township, Sagaing region<sup>72</sup>.

<sup>64</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/accused-mandalay-traffic-police-station-explosion-have-not-yet-been-contacted>

<sup>65</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/risenewsmyanmar/posts/5262458833768571>

<sup>66</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/artillery-shells-myanmar-land-thailand>

<sup>67</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/resistance-groups-claim-to-have-killed-seven-myanmar-junta-troops-in-kayah-state.html>

<sup>68</sup> <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-forces-see-heavy-casualties-in-lay-kay-kaw-clashes>

<sup>69</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/police-station-and-gym-attacked-pdf-khayan-township-yangon>

<sup>70</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?ref=saved&v=964859520788619>

<sup>71</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/info.dooplaya.district/posts/459716122184553>

<sup>72</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/myithmautkhit/posts/389093332905693>

In Htee Gyaint township of Sagaing region, junta's troops on patrol were triggered with two mines by resistance fighters and injuries were unknown<sup>73</sup>.

In Moenyin Township in Kachin State, a military convoy was attacked with mines near Light Infantry Ka.Ma.Ya (437) and they randomly fired back after the attack. A buffalo died due to their wild shot<sup>74</sup>.

In the Indawgyi Area of Moenyin Township in Kachin State, a military convoy was attacked with mines by the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) between Mainaung and Mamonekai villages while they made reinforcements to the Hpa-Kant township. Details of the injury were unknown<sup>75</sup>.

The junta's troops stationed at the east mountain of Wet Thain village of Kanbalu township in Sagaing region, were ambushed by Kanbalu PDF and its allies. Twelve of the junta's troops including the officer died and 15 were seriously injured<sup>76</sup>.

Reportedly, more than 4,000 locals have been displaced and more than 700 have fled to Thailand following two days of fighting between junta's army and Karen ethnic revolution organizations, near Lay Kay Kaw, a town that symbolizes peace in Myawaddy of Karen state<sup>77</sup>. IDPs are in desperate need of warm clothes, mosquito nets and blankets as the weather is cold<sup>78</sup>.

Thai authorities sent reinforcements to the Mae La Myanmar refugee camp where a riot erupted and refugees stood firm on their demand to remove the assistant chief of Tha Song Yang district from the refugee camp<sup>79</sup>.

Reporters Without Borders announced that there are currently 488 media professionals imprisoned around the world, the highest number since their counting and Myanmar was second with 53 after China<sup>80</sup>.

A journalist from Bago Weekly Journal based in Lettapadan of west Bago region, Ko Nyein Chan, was sentenced to 3 years imprisonment by the junta's court<sup>81</sup>.

## 17 December

Myanmar ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi appeared in court in Naypyitaw in prison uniform \_a white blouse and brown longyi, in the hearing to face corruption charges in which the junta accused her

<sup>73</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/The74Media/posts/465408044978722>

<sup>74</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/The74Media/posts/465322454987281>

<sup>75</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/The74Media/posts/465305474988979>

<sup>76</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1379580352479307>

<sup>77</sup> <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/continuous-fighting-near-lay-kay-kaw-forces-over-4000-locals-to-flee>

<sup>78</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1376594849444524>

<sup>79</sup> <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2233059/reinforcements-sent-to-myanmar-camp-where-riot>

<sup>80</sup> <https://www.bangkokpost.com/world/2232955/record-488-journalists-imprisoned-46-killed-in-2021>

<sup>81</sup> <http://burmese.dvb.no/archives/506408>

of obtaining rental properties below the market rate in Yangon for the headquarters of the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation<sup>82</sup>.

Former Yangon Region chief minister Phyo Min Thein and former Yangon Region minister Nilar Kyaw appeared at the court as prosecution witnesses for the case against hiring 1.86 acres of land for Daw Khin Kyi Foundation headquarter<sup>83</sup>.

Junta's ministry of foreign affairs released its objection on the adoption of the solution entitled "Situation of Human Rights of Rohingya Muslim and other minorities in Myanmar" at the third committee of the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly<sup>84</sup>.

Arakanese Army (AA) announced that they would take responsibility for the security of Rakhine people as special cases and cases target to evolve ethnic affairs were constantly created in some townships of Rakhine State in December<sup>85</sup>.

Dr. Than Ngwe, MP of Shan State from NLD party was arrested at his home in Taunggyi township, by junta's army in allegedly providing assistance to civilian resistance fighters<sup>86</sup>.

Seven youths who had played guitar singing the song of "A Vow of Blood" which is a song normally used in anti-junta protest were arrested by junta's army in Chinthabyaypin village of Taungdwingyi township of Magway region with the report of junta's informant on allegedly conducting protest<sup>87</sup>.

Thai officials said that legal action will be taken against IDPs who set fire to state assets during the riot at Mae La refugee camp in Tak's Tha Song Yang district<sup>88</sup>.

According to KNU, a combined force of Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) and PDF conducted an invasive attack at the junta's border guard force (BGF) camp in Kyathangseit village in Belin township of Mon State. Reportedly, they managed to take control of it. 2 died, 5 injured from BGF and 7 were arrested. One civilian resistance fighter died and 3 were injured<sup>89</sup>.

Kyaukse PDF triggered mine on the junta's vehicle which came to check the exploded Mytel telecom tower in Ywar Pale village of Kyaukse township, Mandalay. In the ambush, 4 died and 4 were injured<sup>90</sup>.

<sup>82</sup><https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/suu-kyi-in-myanmar-junta-court-in-prison-uniform-to-face-corruption>

<sup>83</sup><https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/ex-yangon-chief-minister-and-former-road-and-transport-minister-appeared-at-court-as-plaintiff>

<sup>84</sup><http://www.mdn.gov.mm/newspaper/public/ebooks/read/7088#2>

<sup>85</sup><https://www.facebook.com/narinjara.info/posts/4995838330428204>

<sup>86</sup><https://www.facebook.com/VoiceofMyanmarNews/posts/975201779748162>

<sup>87</sup><http://burmese.dvb.no/archives/506428?>

<sup>88</sup><https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2233155/legal-action-for-mae-la-riot>

<sup>89</sup><https://www.myanmar-now.org/mm/news/9709>

<sup>90</sup><https://www.facebook.com/watch/?ref=saved&v=1650127725325276>

Phoenix Defence Force-Tantsi ambushed four policemen with 2 motorcycles who came to buy groceries from Tantsi Myoma market with mines. All of them were injured and casualties were unknown<sup>91</sup>.

The Pale Guerrilla Force claimed that their combined force attacked the junta's convoy near Pauk Kyainb Bridge in Sagaing Region with mines. Three of their vehicles were destroyed and 10 junta's forces died in the ambush<sup>92</sup>.

In Myaing Township of Magway Region, the junta's convoy was attacked by a combined force of local PDFs two times. According to the local PDF, 9 junta soldiers died and many were injured<sup>93</sup>.

In Thanlyin Township of Yangon, the junta army raided a camp of local PDF near Lahar area. Exchange of fire took place, 2 PDF died in the shootout and three were arrested in the raid. Later one of the 3 arrested, was suicided himself not to be tortured by the junta's troops<sup>94</sup>.

In Kanbalu Township of Sagaing, a military car was attacked with mines by a local guerrilla force near Wabochaung Bridge. According to Kanbalu Underground Warriors, 3 junta soldiers were injured<sup>95</sup>.

Black Eagle Defense Force – MMU announced that a combined force of local PDF triggered mine on the junta's troops marching on foot between Wan Pyae and Ala Kattpa villages in Myinmu township of Sagaing. At least 8 junta's troops were killed in the ambush<sup>96</sup>.

In Mindat Township of Chin State, the junta army had been conducting military operations towards Phayar Sakan Village. Consequently, local residents of near-by villages had to run away<sup>97</sup>.

Amnesty International said that Myanmar's junta is blocking humanitarian aid flows to thousands of families fled from their homes by fighting since a Feb. 1 coup<sup>98</sup>.

Due to the intensified battle of Lay Kay Kaw Myothit, people fleeing the war in Mae Wah Khi village and those who came to seek refuge in the village, especially women and children, were urgently evacuated to a refugee camp in Phlu Gyi village in case they were hit by heavy artillery, according to a refugee<sup>99</sup>.

Junta's minister of border affairs visited western Maungdaw of Myanmar-Bangladesh border for accepting back the Rohingya people who were taking refuge in Bangladesh<sup>100</sup>.

<sup>91</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/The74Media/posts/466607841525409>

<sup>92</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/zalen.info/posts/3223621477858701>

<sup>93</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/theirrawaddyburmese/posts/5187530704624373>

<sup>94</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/deltanewsagency/posts/1547950148916011>

<sup>95</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/kbuugw/posts/297623099040214>

<sup>96</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/deltanewsagency/posts/1547868458924180>

<sup>97</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/deltanewsagency/posts/1547850895592603>

<sup>98</sup> <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2021/12/after-coup-myanmar-military-puts-chokehold-on-peoples-basic-needs/>

<sup>99</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/intense-kayin-state-border-fighting-prompts-further-evacuation-refugees>

<sup>100</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/burmese/burma-59711414?>

In Thaton Township of Mon State, Karen National Union - KNU Regiment (1) announced that the public were to travel only from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm and they were not allowed to go out during restricted hours<sup>101</sup>.

Junta's central bank of Myanmar sold USD 15 million at an FX auction<sup>102</sup>.

According to sources from the prison department, the junta instructed the wives of staff under the prison department of the Ministry of Home Affairs to take arm training<sup>103</sup>.

## 18 December

Thai Royal Army-Thai Myanmar Border Central Department has officially warned to return fire if more artillery shells by the Myanmar junta's army landed again in Thailand following the artillery shells fired by the junta exploded on the Thai side of the border on December 16 and 17<sup>104</sup>.

The US senate led by Republican Senate leader Mitch McConnell passed a bipartisan Myanmar (originally "Burma") amendment in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to support democracy in Myanmar<sup>105</sup>.

An arms production unit (MTT Production) of the local People's Defense Force (PDF) has announced that they have successfully developed 60mm long-range mortars<sup>106</sup>.

In Wuntho Township of Sagaing, a junta's informer had been killed in Kin Village. The junta police were attacked with mines on their way back after investigating the case. Reportedly, a police officer died and 5 others were injured<sup>107</sup>.

In Paletwa Township of Chin State, Chinland Defense Force (CDF-Paletwa) announced that seven people from Kanaung Village, Paletwa Township, Chin State were attacked by a group of people armed with small and heavy weapons. Six of them were killed and one with injuries managed to escape. CDF said that they would take serious action against the armed group who had killed the civilians<sup>108</sup>.

A tension tower which supplies electricity to the junta's weapon manufacturing factory was blown up by local PDF in Minbu township of Magway region<sup>109</sup>.

<sup>101</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1376903482746994>

<sup>102</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/popularnewsjournal/posts/5460613570621060>

<sup>103</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/ayeyarwaddytimes/posts/2063366513821339>

<sup>104</sup> <https://mizzima.com/article/thailand-warns-myanmar-it-will-return-fire-if-more-artillery-shells-land>

<sup>105</sup> <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/the-us-senate-passes-the-bipartisan-amendment-in-the-national-defense-authorization-act-to>

<sup>106</sup> <https://www.thehindwin.com/mtt-production-has-successfully-developed-60mm-long-range-mortar-amid-growing-armed-resistance-against-the-military-regime/>

<sup>107</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/shwepheemyaynews/posts/1097565561059574>

<sup>108</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/theirrawaddyburmese/posts/5187432084634235>

<sup>109</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/risenewsmyanmar/posts/5270672942947160>

	<p>In Kutkai township of Shan North, junta's army stationed at ward (1) was attacked by an unknown armed group. Exchange of fire took place and junta's army shelled the heavy artillery back randomly<sup>110</sup>.</p> <p>The People's Revolution Army (PRA) launched the attack on junta's troops with 6 mines near Nagama Taung village of Pale township, Sagaing region resulting in the deaths of 5 junta's troops. Another attack happened when the junta's convoy leaving the Kan Daung village and 3 junta's forces were injured<sup>111</sup>.</p>
	<p>South Korean companies, Samsung and LG have faced criticism following the meeting with Myanmar junta's officials<sup>112</sup>.</p>
<p><b>19 December</b></p>	
	<p>The Myanmar junta said it is working with China to produce a COVID-19 vaccine domestically in January 2022 and hopes to produce 5 million units per month according to the report<sup>113</sup>.</p>
	<p>Junta's army made a massacre attack on villagers of Hnin Khar in Gangaw township of Magway region with three fighter jets as well as with land operations. Villagers had collected 14 bodies so far and there were bodies which weren't able to be collected<sup>114</sup>. And the whole village was set on fire by the junta's troops and the detailed numbers could not be identified<sup>115</sup>.</p>
	<p>In the recent statement of the United Nations' rights office OHCHR, it has warned Myanmar's human rights situation is deepening on an unprecedented scale<sup>116</sup>.</p>
	<p>Local PDF raided the Yone Pin police station in Madaya township of Mandalay region and junta's police fled without taking their family members. The police station was set on fire and police's family members were left unharmed by PDF<sup>117</sup>.</p> <p>Clashes resumed and intensified between Myittar Lin Myaing and Mae Htaw Thaly villages. The Karen National Liberation Army confirmed that 4 of its members were injured with one in critical condition. One of the junta's shells exploded again on the Thailand side and the Thai returned fire three times, according to KNLA<sup>118</sup>.</p>

<sup>110</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?ref=saved&v=622442479003237>

<sup>111</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1379278709176138>

<sup>112</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1379055302531812>

<sup>113</sup> <https://www.mizzima.com/article/myanmar-junta-working-china-domestic-covid-19-vaccine?>

<sup>114</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1379285885842087>

<sup>115</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1379033342534008>

<sup>116</sup> <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=27948>

<sup>117</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/theirrawaddyburmese/posts/5192335770810533>

<sup>118</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/deltanewsagency/posts/1549204842123875>

The junta's convoy with some of 100 forces was ambushed near the Myin Thar village of Gangaw township, Magway region. Reportedly 13 junta's forces died in the ambush<sup>119</sup>.

Combined force of PDF ambushed the junta's convoy twice in villages of Yinmarbin township, Sagaing Region. Three junta's vehicles were damaged and around 40 junta's troops were killed in the attack, according to Pale PDF<sup>120</sup>.

According to locals, a junta-appointed administrator of (9) ward from Hlaing Thar Yar township was shot dead<sup>121</sup>.

Kaw Nwe bridge on the Asia road in Kawkareik town of Karen state was blown up, according to locals<sup>122</sup>.

The Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) attacked and occupied the junta's base of Kar Kin Kone in Phalu of Lay Kay Kaw town and confiscated their weapons. There might be heavy casualties from the junta's side<sup>123</sup>.

According to Kokang's announcement, the junta's army made an offensive attack on the Man Yan base of Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) in the Monekoe area \_ using jet fighters as well as land operations with excessive forces. MNDAA made a defensive attack \_ around 70 junta's troops could die and weapons were confiscated. Airstrikes are still conducted by the junta's army and the battles will be intensified in coming days<sup>124</sup>.

Thailand has sent over 600 Myanmar refugees who fled fighting between the junta forces and ethnic armies across the border following the intense battle in Lay Kay Kaw town. Human rights groups urged Thailand not to rush refugees back to Myanmar as junta forces deliberately target civilians with deadly force<sup>125</sup>.

Human Rights Watch has warned that the recent decision by the Bangladesh government to close schooling options for Rohingya refugee children could lead to loss of education and have a devastating effect, urging the Bangladesh government to urgently reverse the decision<sup>126</sup>.

Myanmar junta's troops shelled Phalu camp in Karen State using heavy and light artillery, forcing more than 500 people sheltering at the camp to cross the Thauung Yin river and flee to the Thai side.<sup>127</sup>.

<sup>119</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/The74Media/posts/467360548116805>

<sup>120</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?ref=saved&v=606528673795137>

<sup>121</sup> <https://www.myanmar-now.org/mm/news/9721>

<sup>122</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/Salweenpress/posts/4406932179417748>

<sup>123</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/KloFM/posts/138088331922827>

<sup>124</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews/posts/1379925385778137>

<sup>125</sup> <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/asia/thailand-sends-refugees-back-myanmar-clashes-continue-2389966>

<sup>126</sup> <https://www.mizzima.com/article/ngo-warns-loss-education-rohingya-kids-following-school-closures?>

<sup>127</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/myaelattathan/posts/3051757905140765>

More than 150 Karenni/Kayah refugees, who had fled their homes since the end of May, have been relocated to Demoso Township due to water shortages in their original shelter<sup>128</sup>.

Prepared by  
Asian Network for Free Elections (ANFREL)  
20 December 2021, 11:30 am (Bangkok time)

**Annexure I:  
Information on the Blasts Reported Across Myanmar from 13 -19 December 2021**

Date	Region/State	Incidents	Source
13 Dec	Magway Yangon	In Taungdwingyi of Magway Region, local PDFs conducted bomb attacks at the city development office and MPT office. In Hlaing Tharyar Township, there were at least 5 blasts at a hostel in Ward (12). According to local residents, 3 young people were injured and some of the junta's troops were also injured.	Myaelatt Athan Myanmar Now
14 Dec	Shan Mandalay Mandalay	In Nantkam, there was a bomb explosion in front of Pinlone Taittar Guest House near downtown area. UGFM(Under Ground For Ma Hlaing) threw a bomb into the Ma Hlaing electricity supply corporation office as a warning. Two bombs exploded as junta's troops tried to arrest 2 youths riding a motorcycle in Min Tatar ward of Mogoke township.	Mizzima DVB DVB
16 Dec	Mandalay Yangon Yangon Karen	An explosion occurred at a traffic police station near the Thake Pan Road traffic light in Mandalay's Chan Mya Thar Si Township, one civilian was injured. In Thaketa Township of Yangon Region, a poster 'Yangon is with Laykaykaw' was hung at a traffic police booth on the corner of Myindawtha and Ayawun streets and a bomb was detonated. ACPF announced that they had conducted two bomb attacks on the junta police housing on Myo-U Yeitmon street in South Dagon Township. A bomb was thrown into the ward (4) administrative office in Myawaddy township and no injuries were reported.	DVB Eleven Mizzima KIC

<sup>128</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/MyanmarNowEnglishVersion/posts/2819582268332999>

17 Dec	Yangon	In Thanlyin Township, there was an explosion at the township municipal staff housing.	Mizzima
	Yangon	In Kyimyindine Township, there was an explosion near a township electricity office.	Mizzima
	Yangon	N.G.F(NOK Guerilla Force) exploded two bombs near Car Gyi Gate bus stop in North Okkalapa township.	Khit Thit
18 Dec	Yangon	Junta's troops stationed at the fire station office in Kawhmue township was attacked with bomb and injuries were unknown.	Delta News Agency
	Karen	Two bombs exploded near the Daik Htan Aung Pagoda compound in Myawaddy township of Karen state.	KIC

