

# Information Sheet

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# Information Sheet

## 13<sup>th</sup> Coordination Meeting on COVID-19 Prevention, Control and Treatment Held



The 13<sup>th</sup> coordination meeting on COVID-19 prevention, control and treatment was held at the meeting hall of the Bayintnaung Villa in Nay Pyi Taw on 28 October. The excerpts from an address of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing are as follows:

- Regarding the ongoing activities of COVID-19 prevention, treatment and control, and the drop in infection rate, central committee was organized and we hold the meeting weekly. On a daily basis, the vice-chairmen led the supervision for the preventive measures and the government effectively carried out the tasks.
- According to the health surveys, the infection rate dropped to just over four percent because people assisted in the COVID-19 prevention, treatment and control activities.
- The government's target is to reduce the rate to 3 percent on 31 October.
- As the infection rate is now falling, stay-at-home orders were revoked in some townships and arrangements were made to resume the regular office work.
- Preparations are underway to reopen the schools. The students aged 12 years and above have been vaccinated to some extent against COVID-19.
- When the infection rate is falling, the resumption of education machinery, production machinery and transportation machinery which has been permitted under restrictions must be taken into account.
- Phase by phase arrangements must be made to resume airlines, rail services and bus services and to reopen schools in the regions and states where the infection rate is low.
- The country population accounting for 35 percent has been vaccinated against COVID-19. If the vaccination processes continue more, it will cover more than 50 percent of the population in December.
- It is necessary to consider the plan to al-



low visitors who have been vaccinated against COVID-19 and visitors from foreign countries.

- With regard to production of the COVID-19 vaccine, we hold meetings with Chinese as well as Russia. Now, we purchase vaccines from China and I express thanks to China for supply of the vaccines to Myanmar.
- The WHO and the FDA of the United States of America recommended that the children can receive the vaccine on 27 October. So, we will require more and more million doses of vaccines. It is necessary to produce some four to five million doses per month in minimum.

After hearing the presentations of the members of the State Administration Council, Union Ministers and relevant officials, Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister stressed the following points:

- Now, the outbreak has decreased in the country. If it decreases more significantly in the border regions, commodity flow will get easier contributing to the businesses.
- The necessities for health workers engaging in the vaccination process must be fulfilled for their physical and mental

strengths. Emphasis must be placed on preventing loss and damage to the vaccines due to weaknesses in transport and storage.

- As the outbreak has been controlled to a certain degree, and the open season has come, ceremonial events usually attended by crowds such as wedding receptions and religious ceremonies should be allowed in accord with the rules and disciplines.
- Preparations must be made for prevention and control of the fourth wave of the pandemic, deployment of health staff, oxygen and hospital equipment.
- With the declining outbreak, the art industry should be allowed to resume in accord with the disciplines.
- Supervisory measures must be taken to prevent use of easily available but non-prescribed medicines for the treatment. Only the medications prescribed by licensed drug stores and clinics should be used. Health education campaigns must be conducted for the local people to know the side effects of non-prescribed medicines.
- Since we took State responsibilities, we have been releasing correct news and information about COVID-19 outbreak,

quantity of testing, confirmed cases and deaths. Although cases have decreased in the second and third waves, monitoring must continue and even basic disciplines must be followed.

Also present at the meeting were Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, SAC members, Union Ministers, senior military officers of

the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and officials. Chief Ministers of regions and states and officials participated in the meeting through videoconferencing.

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (29-10-2021)

- **The government's target is to reduce the rate to 3 percent on 31 October.**
- **When the infection rate is falling, the resumption of education machinery, production machinery and transportation machinery which has been permitted under restrictions must be taken into account.**
- **With regard to production of the COVID-19 vaccine, we hold meetings with Chinese as well as Russia. Now, we purchase vaccines from China and I express thanks to China for supply of the vaccines to Myanmar.**
- **If we will plan to vaccinate children against COVID-19, we will require more and more million doses of vaccines. It is necessary to produce some four to five million doses per month in minimum.**
- **Emphasis must be placed on preventing loss and damage to the vaccines due to weaknesses in transport and storage.**
- **Preparations must be made for prevention and control of the fourth wave of the pandemic, deployment of health staff, oxygen and hospital equipment.**



## A Coordination Meeting of the Leading Committee on Organizing the Kathina Robe Offering Ceremony for 2021 of the State Administration Council Held



A coordination meeting of the Leading Committee on Organizing the Kathina Robe Offering Ceremony for 2021 of the State Administration Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar were held at the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture on 28 October.

Patron of the Leading Committee Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win attended the meeting. The Vice-Senior General said that the Kathina robe offering ceremony was organized by the government of the Republic of the Union of since 2012 and the tenth ceremony will be held this year. The ministry also formed 11 subcommittees for systematic carrying out of the assigned duties to successfully hold the committee. It is necessary to take health measures for alms and betel

for Sayadaw and also required to provide healthcare services in accordance with the guidelines for prevention and control of COVID-19. As the Kathina robe offering ceremony is a state level ceremony, it is vital to take systematic measures and emphasis must be placed on security. Moreover, the respective committees must be conducted in cooperation for the ceremony.

Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture, Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council, Deputy Ministers, members and officials of working committees and subcommittees.

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (29-10-2021)

- The Kathina robe offering ceremony was organized by the government of the Republic of the Union of since 2012 and the tenth ceremony will be held this year. The ministry also formed 11 subcommittees for systematic carrying out of the assigned duties to successfully hold the committee.
- It is necessary to take health measures for alms and betel for Sayadaw. As the Kathina robe offering ceremony is a state level ceremony, it is vital to take systematic measures and emphasis must be placed on security.

## Myanmar-Russia Discussed to Promote Bilateral Economic Cooperation



Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Aung Naing Oo received the delegation headed by Mr Anatoly Bulochnikov, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President of the Russia-Myanmar Association of Friendship and Cooperation (RMAFC) in Nay Pyi Taw on 28 October.

During the meeting, the discussions of Union Minister are as follows:

- The production of cement and steel-related materials which are mainly required in the areas to cooperate bilateral investments.
- The bilateral economic cooperation particularly for Russia's investment in the areas of the production of fertilizer for agricultural sector, value-added food processing as well as the research on pharmaceutical production.

The discussions of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President of RMAFC are as follows:

- The expansion of bilateral economic with mutual friendship.
- It is focused to emphasize the financial sector cooperation in order to ensure smooth bilateral trade and investment activities.
- To enhance the economic cooperation with the Eurasian Economic Union

(EAEU).

- The implementation of mutually beneficial cooperation between two countries through Russia's investment in Myanmar and the process for promoting Myanmar's investment.
- Work is underway to sign the process of bilateral strategy for the development of economic cooperation for future areas of cooperation.
- The Participation of a business delegation from Russia-Myanmar Association of Friendship and Cooperation in the upcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> Myanmar-Russia.
- Measures to protect foreign investments in accordance with Myanmar Investment Law, they discussed.

The meeting was also attended by Deputy Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Than Aung Kyaw, Permanent Secretary Dr Wah Wah Maung, Director-General for Foreign Economic Relations Department Dr Marlar Myo Nyunt and the relevant officials.

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (29-10-2021)

- The bilateral economic cooperation particularly for Russia's investment in the areas of the production of fertilizer, value-added food processing as well as the research on pharmaceutical production.
- To enhance the economic cooperation with the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU).
- The implementation of mutually beneficial cooperation between two countries through Russia's investment in Myanmar and the process for promoting Myanmar's investment.
- The Participation of a business delegation from Russia-Myanmar Association of Friendship and Cooperation in the upcoming 2nd Myanmar-Russia.
- Measures to protect foreign investments in accordance with Myanmar Investment Law.

### Coordination Meeting on Implementation of ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Held



The Coordination Meeting for the Implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) was held at Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations. During the meeting, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, AEC Council Minister, U Aung Naing Oo, highlighted the following points:

- The Union Minister highlighted the remaining measures and the matters to be implemented by relevant departments of Myanmar based on the outcomes of the 53<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting and related meetings held in September and 20<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Economic Commu-

nity Council Meeting held in 3<sup>rd</sup> week of October.

- The difficulties to complete implementation processes of Myanmar as per the set timeframe and the requirements for coordination.

The meeting was attended by the Deputy Minister, Permanent Secretaries, Directors-General, Deputy Directors-General and representatives from relevant ministries of the AEC pillar, and the Deputy Minister provided necessary guidance and coordinated among the relevant agencies.

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (29-10-2021)



- The remaining measures and the matters to be implemented by relevant departments of Myanmar according to the outcomes of the AEC meetings. The difficulties to complete implementation processes of Myanmar as per the set timeframe and the requirements for coordination.

### Meeting Held to Discuss Matters of Cotton Cultivation, Domestic Use and Export



The meeting to discuss the matters of cotton cultivation, domestic use and export was virtually held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Commerce on 28 October.

At the meeting, the Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint San stressed the following points:

- It is required to export surplus cottons of domestic use and the cotton export has been permitted since 2014 for the interests of local cotton farmers.
- Although the raw materials of local cotton are being exported to abroad, the end products from foreign countries are imported increasing the use of foreign currency. Therefore, if the end products are locally produced, it will largely benefit the cotton farmers, traders, factories and workshops.
- The relevant departments must elaborate the cotton cultivable acres, the estimated amount of local use, the surplus amount

and appropriate prices.

The meeting was held for the first time and the departmental officials at the meeting reported their activities, ongoing programs, the plans to ensure there is no harm to all cotton farmers, buyers, and exporters.

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (29-10-2021)

- The cotton export has been permitted since 2014 for the interests of local cotton farmers.
- If the end products can be produced locally, it will largely benefit the cotton farmers, traders, factories and workshops.
- The relevant departments must elaborate the cotton cultivable acres, and appropriate prices.

### Holding Coordination Meeting on Tourism Sector Development



The coordination meeting on tourism sector development was held via videoconferencing at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism on 28 October.

During the meeting, the Chairman of the Myanmar Tourism Federation, Union Minister for the Hotels and Tourism Dr Htay Aung stressed the following points:

- Myanmar possesses the natural beauties of mountains, beaches and landscapes as well as the cultural heritages. Therefore, if the warm hospitalities with good services are provided in line with health rules, local and foreign tourists will repeatedly visit the famous destinations of our country.
- Holding seasonal festivals in regions and states, it is required to be as per the COVID-19 rules. Moreover, the Union

Minister also stressed that the importance of reviving the ethnic traditional festivals and the trips of studying the culture of rural lives and food festivals which can attract the local and foreign tourists.

At the meeting, a video clip made by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism about the hotel services in line with COVID-19 preventive measures was shown. The attendees then presented their requirements at respective areas and the Union Minister coordinated with them to fulfil their needs.

The virtual meeting was also attended by the ministers undertaking the hostels and tourism businesses from respective regions and states and other relevant officials.

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (29-10-2021)

- Myanmar possesses the natural beauties of mountains, beaches and landscapes as well as the cultural heritages. Therefore, if the warm hospitalities with good services are provided in line with health rules, local and foreign tourists will repeatedly visit the famous destinations of our country.
- The Union Minister also stressed that holding seasonal festivals in regions and states is required to be as per the COVID-19 rules, highlighted the importance of reviving the ethnic traditional festivals and the trips of studying the culture of rural lives and food festivals and coordinated with the attendees to fulfil their needs.

### **A Coordination Meeting Held to Reorganize Myanmar Cement Association and Ensure Full Functioning of Cement Factories**



A coordination meeting to reorganize Myanmar Cement Association and ensure the full functioning of cement factories was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Commerce on 28 October.

During the meeting, the Union Minister U Charlie Than said the following points:

- The local cement businesses must be encouraged and the Prime Minister of the State has already instructed to take measures to enhance the quality of local cement and to decrease the import of cements from abroad.
- As Myanmar Cement Association is a State-level association, advices and recommendations are welcomed to reorganize the Association in accord with rules and regulations.
- The Union Minister also urged to make efforts to ensure the local cement factories run in full power, produce the cements which meet the qualifications and to alter the Dry Method from Wet Method in order to save the energy.
- Laboratories are being constructed to test the qualities of local and imported cements.
- Measures must be taken to ensure the entrepreneurs and people can use the qualified cements with fair prices.

The meeting was attended by the Union Minister for Industry Dr Charlie Than, Deputy Minister, cement entrepreneurs, factory owners and officials from the Ministry.

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (29-10-2021)



- The local cement businesses must be encouraged and the Prime Minister of the State has already instructed to take measures to enhance the quality of local cement and to decrease the import of cements from abroad.
- Efforts are required to ensure the local cement factories run in full power, produce the cements which meet the qualifications.
- To alter the Dry Method from Wet Method in order to save the energy.

### The 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Sports Held



The 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Sports (AMMS-6) and its related meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Plus Japan Ministerial Meeting on Sports (3<sup>rd</sup> AMMS+Japan) hosted by Singapore via the video conferencing system were held on 28 October. Sports ministers from ASEAN member countries including Union Minister for sports and Youth Affairs U Min Thein Zan also attended the meeting.

At the meeting, the AMMS-6 Chairman of Singapore reported the decision-making process of the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> SOMS meetings and approved the documents to be submitted to the 40<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit and the minutes of the AMMS-6 meeting.

During the meeting, the Union Minister of Myanmar said that Myanmar is attempting to hold sport activities across the coun-

try and also trying to organize “Youth Camp” including 250 athletes in the twelve kinds of sport after COVID-19. Moreover, he also highlighted that programmes for youth development at the national level and strategies are being drawn and formulated.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Plus Japan Ministerial Meeting on Sports (3<sup>rd</sup> AMMS + Japan) discussed the matters to release the Joint Statement of the 3<sup>rd</sup> AMMS + Japan Meeting and approved that the 4<sup>th</sup> AMMS + Japan Meeting will be held in Thailand on October 2023.

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (29-10-2021)



- The AMMS-6 Chairman of Singapore reported the decision-making process of the 10th, 11th and 12th SOMS meetings and approved the documents to be submitted to the 40th ASEAN Summit and the minutes of the AMMS-6 meeting.
- Union Minister of Myanmar stressed that efforts are exerted to organize sport activities across the country and also highlighted that programmes for youth development at the national level and strategies are being drawn and formulated.

### Myanmar Hosted the 11<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Airport Interdiction Task Force Meeting



The 11<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Airport Interdiction Task Force Meeting hosted by Myanmar was held via videoconferencing on 28 October. The meeting was attended by the representatives of ASEAN Member States and ASEAN Secretariat, and Myanmar delegation led by Police Brigadier General Win Naing, the head of anti-narcotic drugs unit and Police Brigadier General Maung Maung U, head of the aviation police force.

The meeting was chaired by the Head of Myanmar Aviation Police, Police Brigadier General Maung Maung U and Police Brigadier Win Naing made an opening remark covering the following points:

- The ASEAN Work Plan (2016-2025) and ASEAN Cooperation Plan have been adopted and implemented in order to combat the narcotic drug trafficking and trade network which are the problems for the ASEAN countries.

- There are many arrests of illicit drugs at the international airports of ASEAN countries and the anti-narcotic measures will be more effective if the information and knowledges are shared and exchanged among countries in timely manner.

The meeting participants discussed the matters on the combined checks of ASEAN Airport Interdiction Task Force at the international airports of member States, the cases of arresting illicit narcotic drugs, and confirming the host country and date for holding the 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Airport Interdiction Task Force Meeting.

Source: Myanmar Alin Newspaper (29-10-2021)

- The ASEAN Work Plan (2016-2025) and ASEAN Cooperation Plan have been adopted and implemented.
- There are many arrests of illicit drugs at the international airports of ASEAN countries and the anti-narcotic measures will be more effective if the information and knowledges are shared and exchanged among countries in timely manner.

## COVID-19 Prevention, Control, and Treatment Activities Continue in Respective Regions and States



Receiving closed contacts at Nay Pyi Taw Interrogation and Accommodation Centre

In every state and region of Myanmar, the officials are accelerating the COVID-19 prevention, control and treatment activities such as, opening quarantine centres and continuing vaccination processes.

- A total of 90 closed contacts (35 males and 55 females) are taking necessary treatments at Nay Pyi Taw Interrogation and Accommodation centre.
- The vaccination processes continue in respective regions and states. As per the priority programme, a total of 162,357 people have been vaccinated against COVID-19 as second doses and 136,691 people as first doses on 28 October.
- A total of 19,456 students aged 12 years and above from Basic Education Middle and High schools in respective regions and states have been vaccinated against COVID-19 on 28 October. A total of 947,120 students have been vaccinated against COVID-19 up to 28 October.

- A new oxygen plant that can produce about 100 oxygen cylinders (40 litres) per day started to operate in Mongset township of Shan state (East).
- The temporarily closed hotel in Yangon region has been permitted to reopen in accordance with the guidelines of COVID-19.
- In Mandalay region, the officials awarded honourable rewards to the medical staff from Tatmadaw who conducted the COVID-19 prevention, control and treatment activities.

The Ministry of Health is conducting COVID-19 tests regularly, 799 new cases of COVID-19 were found from testing a total of 18,884 samples and the infected rates are 4.23 percent on 28 October. Up to 28 October 2021, a total of 497,700 cases were found from testing a total of 4,810,731 samples and death toll reached 18,622.

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (29-10-2021)

## Photos of COVID-19 Prevention, Control and Treatment Activities in Respective Regions and States



Vaccinating local people against COVID-19 in Pinlong township



Vaccinating students aged 12 years and above against COVID-19 in Salingyi township



The operation of a new oxygen plant in Mongset township



The officials from Tatmadaw presenting honourable awards to medical staff

- A total of 162,357 people have been vaccinated against COVID-19 as second doses and 136,691 people as first doses on 28 October.
- A total of 19,456 students aged 12 years and above from Basic Education Middle and High schools in respective regions and states have been vaccinated against COVID-19 on 28 October. A total of 947,120 students have been vaccinated against COVID-19 up to 28 October.
- Up to 28 October 2021, a total of 497,700 cases were found and death toll reached 18,622.



## Public Announcement Stating that Schools will be Reopened on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021

As measures are being accelerated for prevention and control of the COVID-19 infection, schools in the 46 townships of nine regions/states will continue to be temporarily closed, following the analysis of the infection rate and laboratory diagnosis rate per 100,000 people in the past 14 days. All basic education schools under the Basic Education Department, including private schools and monastic education schools in the rest of the regions/states, will be re-

opened starting from 1-11-2021.

The townships in which schools will continued to be temporarily closed include 46 townships in total: a township from Sagaing region, Mandalay region, and Rakhine state; two townships from Kayin and Chin states; three from Kayah state; four from Magway region; six from Kachin state and twenty six townships from Shan state.

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (29-10-2021)

- Except from the schools in the 46 townships of nine regions/states, the basic education schools from all other townships will be reopened starting from 1 November 2021.

## The IDPs in Chin State Returning to their Homes with the Help of Tatmadaw



The IDPs being transported to their homes by the responsible officials

With the combined efforts of Chin state government and the Tatmadaw, mine clearance activities, house repairs were carried out in the villages of IDPs temporarily living in Platwa township of Chin state and the requirements of their livelihoods were fulfilled. Therefore, the IDPs in 7 villages from Platwa township were being transport-

ed to their respective homes by local military personnel using motor-boats and vehicles.

It is reported that the remaining IDPs from the villages will be transported to their respective natives.

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (29-10-2021)

- The IDPs in 7 villages from Platwa township were being transported to their respective homes by motor-boats and vehicles.



## Townships in Respective Regions and States Held Mass Rallies to Show Support to the State Administration Council



Local people in Mongbyin township supporting the activities of the State Administration Council

Mass rallies (a total of about 25,744 people) were gathered to show support to the activities of the State Administration Council which assumed State's responsibilities in accordance with the 2008 Constitution in 12 townships on 28 October: Kalaw and Mongshu townships of Shan state (South), Mongbyin township of Shan state (East), Dala and Thanlyin townships of Yangon region, Hinthada and Eainme townships of Ayeyarwady region, Butheedaung township of Rakhine state, Pakhokku township of

Magwe region, and Shewkyin and Kyaukkyi townships of Bago region.

In doing so, people were chanting by holding boards displaying slogans – “Support the State Administration Council; Don’t need NUG, CRPH, PDF terrorists; Immediately stop the terrorist attacks by NUG, PDF on people”.

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (29-10-2021)

- **Mass rallies (a total of 25,744 people) were held to support the State Administration Council in 12 townships of respective regions and states.**
- **In doing so, people were chanting by holding boards with the following sentences – “Support the State Administration Council; Don’t need NUG, CRPH, PDF terrorists; Immediately stop the terrorist attacks by NUG, PDF on people”.**

## Townships in Respective Regions and States Holding Mass Rallies to Show Support to the State Administration Council



Dala township



Thanlyin township



Hinthada township



Pakhokku township



Eainme township



Buuthedaung township