

Information Sheet

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Information Sheet

Important Excerpts from the 11th Press Conference Held by Information Team of State Administration Council



Holding the 11th Press Conference held by Information Team of State Administration Council

The Information Team of the State Administration Council (SAC) held the 11th press conference at the Ministry of Information on 14 January, and the leader of the Information Team of the SAC Major General Zaw Min Tun and member of the Union Election Commission U Khin Maung Oo answered the questions raised by the media.

The explanations of the team leader of Information Team Major General Zaw Min Tun regarding the working visit of Prime Minister of Cambodia, Chairman of ASEAN are as follows:

- Regarding the working visit of Prime Minister of Cambodia, Chairman of ASEAN Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN to Myanmar on 7 and 8 January 2022, we had good and significant results while others posing pressure on Myanmar are still doing so.
- Myanmar welcomed the participation of the ASEAN Special Envoy on Myanmar to join the ceasefire talks with and among Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs). Moreover, the two leaders sup-

ported the convening of a meeting among stakeholders in order to strengthen the efficiency of the delivery of humanitarian assistance to the people who are most in need of help.

- During the meeting with Prime Minister of Cambodia, the Prime Minister of Myanmar emphasized that implementation of the five-point consensus should be complementary in realization of the five-point roadmap of the State Administration Council.
- Myanmar joined hand together with ASEAN as a member of ASEAN for 13 years from 1997 to 2011. However, at present, the opposition to the Myanmar's stance is based on external pressures, background and political motives.
- Although Myanmar will respect the proposals and suggestions in ASEAN, we will stand on ours right in the implementation of actions that deviate from principles and procedures enshrined in ASEAN Charter.

Explanations Regarding the Peace Processes

- The Tatmadaw has released 20 statements for ceasefire starting from 21 December 2018 to 28 February 2022.
- The National Unity and Peace Coordination Committee held the meetings with NCA signatories and non-signatories, political parties, religious leaders and peace negotiators for 33 times from 8 March to 27 December 2021 to discuss the implementation and future plan of peace processes in the route of NCA.
- On 15 and 16 December 2021, the National Unity and Peace Coordination Committee held a meeting with representatives from six NCA non-signatories to talk about peace process, health and regional development, minimizing armed conflicts, matters relating to the future plans for peace, and peace and stability at border regions informally.
- If some EAOs give training and support arms to terrorists, the consequence will derail from the NCA route and it will be the act of opposing the perpetual peace that the entire people aspire.

Explanations Regarding Myanmar-China Border Trade Process

- The Central Bank of Myanmar released a statement that permits to use the direct payment of Yuan and Kyat at China-Myanmar border regions on 14 December 2021 in order to promote Myanmar-China bilateral trade, ensure smooth flow of commodities, ease the payment and accounts clearance between the two countries, and reduce reliance on US dollar.

Explanations Regarding COVID-19 Pandemic

- The COVID-19 outbreak had been detected worldwide in late December of 2019 and in Myanmar on 23 March 2020. Its infection rate is very high and severe.
- As the Omicron variant has been found in the neighbouring countries of Myanmar and international countries, the people are requested to pay special attention and stay in line with COVID-19 guidelines regarding the Omicron new variant.
- When the diagnostic tests were performed on a US diplomat passport holder and a staff of the U.S. Embassy who entered Myanmar by air, the COVID-19 virus was found. Those confirmed patients were informed to receive treatment at the designated hospitals in accord with the norms of the Ministry of Health but a US embassy staff and party took back the said two U.S. citizens from the hotel for providing treatment under their arrangements. Therefore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs strongly objected it.
- The U.S. Embassy is used to issue at least one statement on any issues that occurred in Myanmar. However, it remained silence on this issue. It is a clear demonstration of the actual attitude of the powerful country leading human rights and democracy in the world to the people of Myanmar and international communities.

Explanations Regarding Education

- The State Administration Council tried to reopen schools when the infection rate of COVID-19 was controlled at a certain degree. Terrorist groups NUG, CRPH

and PDF set fire to almost 500 schools and assassinated about 20 educational staff. Some educational staff staged the CDM campaign. Schools were opened amid threats.

- According to the 2019 interim census in Myanmar, it was found that almost 18.2 million people never attended the schools. Hence, the State Administration Council emphasizes the enhancement of the education sector.
- In the world, no country accepts the disruptions on education and health sectors. Myanmar had armed conflicts and engagements with EAOs since independence. Although the medical and health staff were not disturbed in EAO regions, it was found that the NUG and PDF terrorists are targeting to attack on education and medical sectors at present.

Explanations Regarding Terrorist Attacks

- The team leader of the Information Team of the SAC explained about the acts of terrorism happening in Kayah state, the real facts that seven suspicious vehicles carrying cooking oil and fuel were destroyed in the fire near Mohso village of Hpruso township, and four BGF members were killed at hands tied behind their back.
- The KNPP and so-called PDF terrorists taking positions in residential houses, governmental and religious buildings near Government Technological University (GTU) and Buddha Park in Mong Lone ward of Loikaw township and using locals as human shields, attacked the security forces.
- In Wetlek township of Sagain region, PDF terrorists launched mine attack on the vehicle that was selling betel leaves returned from Mandalay, and killed innocent civilians from a vehicle used fire-arms and took some K10 million.
- In Taze township of Sagaing region, the so-called PDF terrorists abducted and assassinated primary teacher Daw Hla Hla Nyunt from Basic Education High School (Patee) and her husband U Aung Zaw Moe.
- Teachers from Basic Education Post-primary School in Letpanzin village of Katha township and the headmistress of Basic Education Sub-High School in Dauntgyi village were threatened not to open the schools after taking mobile phones by the so-called PDF terrorists. They then kicked and beat the teachers.
- The terrorists abducted U Thet Naung Tun, a principal, in Apaw village of Sidoktaya township in Magway region and demanded a ransom of K10 million.
- The KNLA and so-called PDF terrorist groups also opened fire at the truck that carried 20 tonnes of liquid oxygen from Thailand for no reasons near Apyinkwin village in Myawady township of Kayin state.
- As the villagers of Marathein village informed to the security forces that the so-called PDF terrorists were fortifying by taking position at the Basic Education Primary School in Marathein village in Htigyaing township of Sagain region to carry out acts of terrorism, the security forces raided on the place.
- Then, a video clip of the confessions of the terrorist Phyo Zeyar Thaw who had been arrested at Yangon was revealed. In the last fact of his confessions, he admitted himself that 178 times of mine blasts

were committed in Yangon region in order to threaten the people. Up to now, 292 civil servants and 1,538 innocent people, totalling 1,830 were killed in the acts of terrorism.

- During the period of State responsibilities assumed by Tatmadaw from 1 February 2021 to 12 January 2022, 4,044 acts of violence including bomb blasts happened in major cities. The security force members arrested 1,480 terrorists along with 116 assorted guns, 1,175 rounds of ammunition, 21 grenades, 741 homemade mines and other explosive devices.
- The security force members conducted necessary investigations to prevent acts of terrorism and arrested a total of 11,549 terrorists along with 3,451 assorted firearms, 160,679 rounds of ammunition, 736 grenades, and 7,902 IEDs .
- The Tatmadaw provided and distributed COVID-19 vaccines as well as food-stuff, personnel goods to local staff of Papun region under the control of KNU/KNLA Brigade (5) area using Tatmadaw owned vehicles. But, KNU Brigade (5) planted mines and committed mine attacks.

- The Tatmadaw is precisely and respectfully following the points of Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) for restoration of perpetual peace, and conducting the implementation of the perpetual peace across the nation and always opening the peace door.
- As the KNU/KNLA Brigade (5) does not abide by the order of the KNU leading committee and violates the NCA to destroy the peace process, the Tatmadaw will perform necessary security measures.

The Press Conference in detail can be accessed at Myawady Webportal (<https://www.myawady.net.mm>) and (<https://myanmar.gov.mm>).

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (19-1-2022)

- **Regarding the working visit of Prime Minister of Cambodia, Chairman of ASEAN, we had good and significant results while others posing pressure on Myanmar are still doing so.**
- **Although Myanmar will respect the proposals and suggestions in ASEAN, we will stand on ours right in the implementation of actions that deviate from principles and procedures enshrined in ASEAN Charter.**

Photo Records of the 11th Press Conference Held by Information Team of State Administration Council



Holding meeting during the working visit of Prime Minister of Cambodia, Chairman of ASEAN to Myanmar



Receiving COVID-19 prevention, control and treatment equipment donated by Kingdom of Cambodia

- The Tatmadaw has released 20 statements for ceasefire starting from 21 December 2018 to 28 February 2022.
- If some EAOs give training and support arms to terrorists, the consequence will derail from the NCA route and it will be the act of opposing the perpetual peace that the entire people aspire.
- The terrorist groups NUG, CRPH and PDF set fire to almost 500 schools and assassinated about 20 education staff.
- As the KNU/KNLA Brigade (5) does not abide by the order of the KNU leading committee and violates the NCA to destroy the peace process, the Tatmadaw will perform necessary security measures in the said region.

**Photo Records of the 11th Press Conference Held by Information Team of
State Administration Council**



The National Unity and Peace Coordination Committee holding a meeting with representatives from six NCA non-signatories



Myanmar participating in Greater Mekong Sub-region Economic Cooperation Program (GMS)



Inspecting the political parties in line with Election Commission Law

**Photo Records of the 11th Press Conference Held by Information Team of
State Administration Council**



Terrorists burnt down district education office in Kalay township



The school in Daitayar village of Phyu township damaged in the arson attack of terrorists



Terrorists burnt down the school in Marathein village of Htigyaing township

**Photo Records of the 11th Press Conference Held by Information Team of
State Administration Council**



The vehicle carrying liquid oxygen destroyed in the attack of terrorists for no reason



Injured driver U Zeya and his conductor U Aung Gyi



**The truck carrying Argon Gas damaged in the small weapons attack of
terrorists for no reason**

**Photo Records of the 11th Press Conference Held by Information Team of
State Administration Council**



The confiscated firearms in the gun attack on security force members by the terrorists from vehicles in Hpruso township of Kayah state



Photo of the confiscated homemade bombs



Photos of the confiscated one homemade .22 gun and arrested two dead bodies of terrorists

**Photo Records of the 11th Press Conference Held by Information Team of
State Administration Council**



The sand bunkers seized in the school of Htigyaing township in Sagaing region where the terrorists hid



The machine and related materials used in creating homemade bomb confiscated at the school of Htigyaing township in Sagaing region where the terrorists hid



The items used in creating homemade mine/bomb confiscated at the school of Htigyaing township in Sagaing region where the terrorists hid

Excerpts from the Clarification of UEC Member U Khin Maung Oo at the Press Conference



Excerpts from the clarification of UEC member U Khin Maung Oo are as follows:

- There have been 92 political parties that have registered at the UEC. All registered political parties have the responsibilities to abide by the existing laws and by-laws, including the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Political Parties Registration Law and by-laws. It is needed to audit the financial records of current political parties registered in 2020 in line with the law as the work did not made in the past.
- The inspection teams led by the members of the current UEC reorganized as per the first point of the five-point road map set by the State Administration Council, including representatives from governmental departments inspected accounts of political parties starting from the fourth week of August to 14 January. So far, 51 political parties have been inspected.
- In the 2020 general election, there were 1,077 cases of voter fraud. Of them, 546 cases were taken action under the Election Law. Moreover, legal actions are being taken to prosecute against a total of 2,169 persons for double, triple voting and more with a single citizenship scrutiny card in regions and states.
- Regarding the legal actions against those who were involved in voter frauds and unlawful irregularities in the 2020 general election in accordance with the law, measures are being taken to take legal actions against 422 offenders, including ex-president U Win Myint, ex-state counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, ex-minister U Min Thu, ex-UEC chairman and members, ex-region and state chief ministers, ex-Hluttaw candidates, ex-party victorious committee members, ex-members of election sub-commissions.
- Legal actions are being taken against 2,483 persons, including chairmen and members of UEC and sub-commissions of UEC for the failure to systematically supervise the electoral tasks in the 2020

general election.

- Discussions were made on an electoral system based on Proportional Representation at relevant Hluttaws on 24 and 25 December, making six groups comprising the UEC and representatives of 62 political parties.
- According to the review over presented papers, all groups submitted that a closed-list PR system should be practised.
- In organizing the constituencies and number of candidates for respective Hluttaws, it is required to ensure the PR system is based on the formation of regions and states, self-administered zones, districts and townships and the existence of national ethnic races.
- The conditions on UEC's preparation to hold the multiparty democracy general election in accord with the fifth point of the five-points road map and UEC's co-operation with relevant departments and organizations were clarified.

- The reviews and amendments on the relevant election laws and by-laws are underway to practice PR electoral system in the general elections that were discussed and agreed in the meeting held between UEC and political parties.
- The UEC are seriously undertaking the required works for general election such as making voter lists; reviewing and amending laws and by-laws; providing necessary administrative measures; and inspecting and overseeing the works.

The Press Conference in detail can be accessed in **Myawady Webportal** (www.myawady.net.mm) and (www.myanmar.gov.mm).

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (19-1-2022)

- **There have been 92 political parties that have registered at the UEC. All registered political parties have the responsibilities to abide by the existing laws and by-laws, including the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Political Parties Registration Law and by-laws.**
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The Excerpts from the Questions and Answers Session At the 11th Press Conference of the Information Team of the State Administration Council



Regarding the question about the preparations of Union Election Commission -UEC to handle the risk of possible interferences of NDAA like organizations to the elections; to emerge good political parties and Hluttaw representatives which can ensure the national interests because there are potentials of risks to the national interests according to the situation that happened in the past.

ernment of the State.

- There are election laws of Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, and region and state. After reviewing the difficulties and problems we encountered in the past, we are now taking measures to make the laws better for the interests of the State and the people. If the laws and regulations are good and perfect, its result will also be the same.



Editor U Min Gaung from MPP News Agency

- UEC member U Khin Maung Oo said the UEC will have to hold elections in the democracy system and the elected representatives are very important because they will become the ruling government of the State.
- Since the country gained Independence, there has been many armed conflicts and civil unrests in the country. Looking back over 75 years after independence, none of those years was peaceful. Our

Since after the late February 2021, many violent incidents broke out on the streets and even led to the armed revolution. The people are now afraid of both sides. Looking back the history, they people have not lived in peaceful environment throughout over 70 years. Therefore, we'd like to know how the State Administration Council will take responsibilities to ensure the people can live peacefully. Regarding the question, Major General Zaw Min Tun answered as follows:



Reporter U Kyaw Myo Min from NP News Agency

country has not developed due to the lack of peace. The State Administration Council also assumed that the peace is the most critical aspect for the State development.

- Therefore, the Council has stated that it will emphasize on the peace process in 2022. Regarding the peace process, the EAOs of NCA signatories and non-signatories need to take positive steps and our government will make efforts to reach the steps.

It is observed that the State Administration Council pledged that it will hold elections before August 2023. We like to know what promises and guarantees can be granted to the ethnic armed groups. Regarding the question, Major General Zaw Min Tun answered as follows:

- There are 92 political parties in Myanmar. Among EAOs, 10 of them have already signed the NCA. What we can say to the political parties, ethnic political parties and EAOs are: First, the independent, free and fair elections will be held as we promise; second, we guarantee the Union system-based on democracy and federalism; and third, we guarantee the practise of PR system so that the political parties including ethnic parties can broadly represent their people and

ethnic minorities.

- The fourth point was already stated by the Prime Minister of the State on the 5th annual ceremony of NCA held in 2020. Fifth, we already promised that the regions/ states Chief Ministers are to be selected and assigned by the relevant regions/ states Hluttaws so that the people in the respective areas can enjoy the essence of democracy.
- For the sixth point, we've already paved ways for political parties to meet the UEC and the Peace Process Steering Team for the national peace. We made such plan to proceed the next step through dialogues. The six points are our practical steps and promises which can be granted to the ethnic political parties and EAOs.

In February 2022, it will be one year of the State Administration Council assuming the responsibilities of the State and



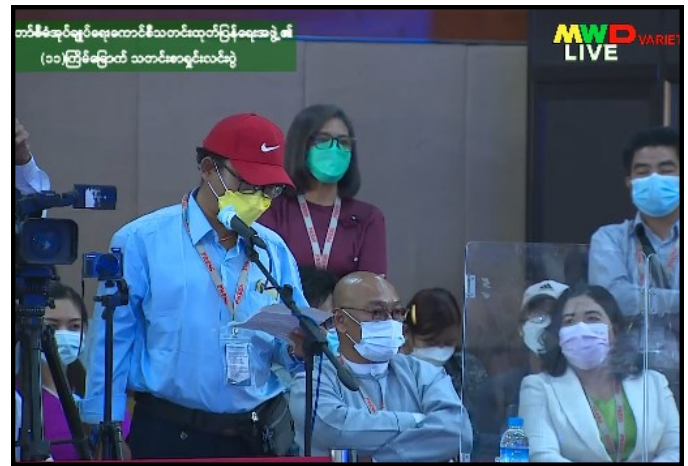
Ma Thazin Oo, a representative from The Sun Rays Media

therefore, we'd like to know whether there is any plan to extend the state of emergency under the Section 425 of the 2008 State Constitution and also is it possible to hold the general elections in 2023 since the political situation today still remain unstable. Regarding the question, Major General Zaw Min Tun answered as follows:

- On 1 February, it will be one year of the State Administration Council assuming the responsibilities of the State and we will proceed as per laws, rules and regulations to extend the state of emergency after reporting to the National Defence and Security Council.
- The acts of terrorism still remain in Kayah state, Chin state, northern Sagaing region and northern Magway region. August 2023 is the deadline to hold elections as per law. In this regard, we are making utmost efforts to keep our promise. However, the terrorist groups of so-called NUG, PDF and some other components of some EAOs are making conditions leading civil unrests.
- Regarding EAOs, we do not attack them as long as they attack against our camps, infrastructures of public transportation, the lives of people. However, if they do, we will take necessary actions as per the security procedures. I'd like to reiterate that the State Administration Council is making efforts to realise the promises.

Some domestic media outlets are being threatened and many media and press personnel (MPP) have been killed. As the people are not allowed to possess weapons by State, they are now unarmed and vulnerable. Therefore, certain journalists and MPPs have already been killed. For instance, two and more Journalists have been killed in Shwebo township. Having said that, I'd like to know whether the State would allow MPPs to hold and defend legally against those who attacked them using guns and grenades. Regarding the question, Major General Zaw Min Tun answered as follows:

- I realized that the terrorist groups of so-called NUG, CRPH and PDFs commit



CEO U Aung Kyaw Oo from Naingan Thitsar News Agency

the killings of journalists and reporters. However, international media agencies describe only the news reported stating how the State Administration Council oppresses the local media agencies by arresting and misbehaving the journalists and reporters.

- We do not apprehend the media and press personnel such as local BBC reporter, VOA reporter, RFA reporter who describe unilateral news reports of how the State Administration Council oppresses and threaten the local media agencies although they are now at Yangon.
- Despite such one-sided allegations, the international media agencies have kept silent on reports about the threats and killings of local journalists and reporters who are working for the national politics.
- In case the journalists and reporters are being threatened, we urged them to promptly inform us. As we've already received such evidence of threats, I'd like to pledge that we will provide necessary security to them.

There arise many public criticisms as the State government increased the tax of telephone sim cards to K20,000 making the total costs of a sim card to K21,500 includ-

ing its price K1,500. Moreover, many people are also disseminating negative reports regarding the move of the Government of setting the increased value of mobile sim cards. In this regard, we want the State Administration Council to clarify why the move was done. Regarding the question,



Journalist U Min Maung from Nay Pyi Taw Online News Agency

Major General Zaw Min Tun answered as follows:

- The increased tax of telephone sim cards to K20,000 is only for the new sim cards not for the existing ones. Such act is only for the security conditions. We've done so because terrorists exploded bombs using Keypad phones and sim cards.
- We increased the tax of telephone sim cards because sim cards can be easily bought and misused by terrorists leading to the unwanted conditions inflicting damages to the State's stability and security of people and moreover, sim cards are utilized to explode remote mines and IEDs. For the reasons, such move was made with the certain intents to control/reduce the crimes committed using the mobile sim cards and other related unlawful acts.
- Moreover, it does not intend to oppress the people or lead to a public crisis but

only to reduce physical damages caused by the exceeding use of Internet.

Regarding the EAOs in the country, during the government led by President Thein Sein, he managed to persuade eight EAOs to sign NCA. At present, it is reported that the State Administration Council is drawing plans with the cooperation of all EAOs to pave ways for the latter to sign the NCA. Therefore, we'd like to know when and how will the NCA process be implemented. Regarding the question, Major General Zaw Min Tun answered as follows:

- We want to materialize the plans as earliest as possible. Not only us, the successive administrations also want to achieve the nationwide peace. Among the existing EAOs, some of them have been deep-rooted since post-independence era, and some later appeared in the era of Burma Socialist Programme Party.
- The EAO-related problems cannot be resolved in a short time. It can also be assumed that the efforts to materialize the NCA has been initialized in the time of Tatmadaw government. During the time of Tatmadaw government, many efforts have been made such as signing bilateral agreements with EAOs and repeated measures of building trusts.
- At present, Peace Negotiation Committee of Tatmadaw led by Lt. Gen Yar Pyae has organized many dialogues from 1 February 2021 to 20 December. The Committee will also continue holding the dialogues. Through the dialogues, we can build trusts and understanding among us.
- After that, we can achieve the initial developments of signing bilateral agreements and gentlemen's agreements as well as ceasefire matters. I just want to

state that we will manage to take a step of progress in the 2022. ence can be accessed at Myawady Webportal (<https://www.myawady.net.mm>) and (<https://myanmar.gov.mm>)

The full scripts of the Press Confer-

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (19-1-2022)

- **There are election laws of Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, and region and state. After reviewing the difficulties and problems we encountered in the past, we are now taking measures to make the laws better for the interests of the State and the people.**
- **Regarding the peace process, the EAOs of NCA signatories and non-signatories need to take positive steps and our government will make efforts to help them take the steps.**
- **Regarding EAOs, we do not attack them as long as they attack against our camps, infrastructures of public transportation, the lives of people. However, if they do, we will take necessary actions as per the security procedures.**
- **International media agencies have kept silent on reports about the threats and killings of local journalists and reporters who are working for the national politics.**
- **The tax of telephone sim cards was increased because sim cards can be easily bought and misused by terrorists leading to the unwanted conditions inflicting damages to the State's stability and security of people**
- **Through the dialogues, we can build trusts and understanding among us and we can achieve the initial developments of signing bilateral agreements and gentlemen's agreements as well as ceasefire matters.**

Journalists who Attended the 11th Press Conference Held by Information Team of State Administration Council



Journalist U Kyaw Soe Oo from People Media



Editor U Aung Kyaw Oo from SH News Agency



Journalist U Oak Kar from Myanmar Hard Talk News Agency



Editor Moe Thauk Pann from Myanmar Public Press News Agency



Chief editor U Zaw Min Oo from Tae' Pyaw Online Media Agency



Daw Swe Zin Oo from Myanmar Nation News Agency