

Information Sheet

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Information Sheet

Excerpts from 15th Press Conference Held by State Administration Council Information Team



The excerpts from clarifications of the SAC Information Team Leader Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun are as follows:

- Myanmar has struggled with internal armed conflicts for more than 70 years after it had gained its independence. Armed conflicts took long based on different outlooks, diversity of concept and stand among ethnic nationalities, resulting in the failure to achieve peace in the country.
- The country will develop only if it achieves peace and stability. According to historical documents, it can be found out that successive governments and the Tatmadaw joining hands with ethnic nationalities have made great efforts to restore peace.
- The democratic government appeared in Myanmar on 31 March 2011. The then government laid down guidelines on democratic reform process to carry out reforms for people.
- The President invited Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs) officially to hold peace talks on 18 August 2011 offering that **“The government leaves the door open to hold talks on other issues, except for the issue of encroachment on national sovereignty and secession from the Union of Myanmar.”**
- **Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs) drew up ‘The Peace Plan for Ethnic Nationals’** in February 2012. Again, they formed UNFC- United Nationalities Federal Council in September 2012.
- ‘The Nationwide Ceasefire Coordination Team-NCCT’ was formed in the Laiza Conference held from 30 October to 25 November 2013 and the Conference agreed to draw the NCA. In November 2013, the Laiza Agreement of NCCT and the NCA draft of UPWC- Union Peace-Making Working Committee were ex-

changed.

- The first coordination meeting between NCCT and UPWC was held on 8 May 2014. Proposals raised from both sides was combined as the only NCA draft (Single Text) which includes seven chapters following the meeting held at MPC on 8 April.
- Agreements between the government and 14 EAOs were made within two years after the Government's invitation for peace.
- The President, Vice-Presidents and other representatives from the government, the Tatmadaw, the EAOs, the political parties signed a '**deed of commitment to peace and national reconciliation**' on the Union Day, 12 February 2015.
- The NCA draft was approved in the 7th meeting of NCCT-UPWC on 31 March 2015. The NCA was finalized on 7 August after the talks to finalize the draft at the Law Khee Lar Conference which was held from 2 to 9 June 2015.
- Although 14 EAOs agreed on the NCA, only eight EAOs signed the NCA because a chairperson of a popular political party cum the then Hluttaw representative who was also a member of Hluttaw Committee urged EAOs not to sign the NCA in a hurry. The words were also highlighted on international media. Therefore, the accelerating peace process fell off suddenly due to a personal mistake.
- As the NMSP and the LDU signed the NCA on 13 February 2018, there became 10 EAOs who signed the NCA.
- Although the NCA was known as cease-fire agreement, it is a widely broader and meaningful agreement than its name. It can be found that the NCA includes a wide range of security affairs, political agreements, political commitments, political negotiable affairs, socio-economic development affairs.
- There were three times of fall-off in the efforts for peace within 10 years; the first fall-off occurred in 2015 due to a personal mistake when EAOs were about to sign the NCA, the second fall-off occurred due to policy and process at the first conference held in 2016 and the third fall-off occurred in 2018 as official political dialogues had stalled. As regards peace process, such incidents are as near as lessons to be learnt for us.
- Afterwards, Government's coordinating representatives met NCA-S EAOs at Chiang Mai for 11 times in order to find a better solution for resuming formal peace process through informal dialogue.
- Now, the Chairman of State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing extended an invitation for peace talks to EAOs, and he himself meets and holds talks with the group leader and two members each by the individual group. Then, the team led by the Chairman of National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee Lt.Gen Yar Pyae holds peace talks with them.
- Peace talks were held with RCSS, NMSP and KNU/KNLA (PC) from 21 to 29 May 2022, and seven points of the Part of Union Accord reached an agreement.
- Holding peace talks with UWSA is under way to date. At the same time, talks

between the working groups of political parties and the coordination committee led by Lt.Gen Yar Pyae were being held. During the talks, nine proposals they want to amend from the Constitution 2008 were widely held discussions.

- There are number of countries practicing democratic system all over the world. Each country's practice is not the same to another and their practice on federal system is not the same as well. We must exercise the most proper democratic system for our country based on the history, customs and political, economic and geographical situations.
- As national solidarity is crucial to the State's politics, the government is making its utmost efforts to remove suspicions among ethnic brethren and to achieve peace.
- If we can make peace for the country one day early, the public will get benefits one day early. The government is making its efforts consistently. In addition to peacemaking process, the government is undertaking state-building as well as nation-building.
- The Ministry of Education let 72 ethnic languages to be taught in regions and states. We aim not to disappear literatures, languages and cultures of ethnic nationalities. It is a kind of nation-building.
- For natural disasters during the monsoon season, 'The National Disaster Management Committee' led by the Vice-Chairman of State Administration Council has already formed. Under this committee, working committees and regions and state-level disaster management committees.
- The Department of Disaster Management is making announcement of disaster management works and preparations, collecting the announcements of the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology and information from the world meteorological websites.
- As per the guidance of the Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister which was given to media, we are taking measures to broadcast the location of the storm, predicted path of the storm with maps and information to be aware for the public than announcement and subtitles.
- In line with the slogan of 'Everyone who is still alive must thrive' set by the government, the State, relevant ministries and civil society organizations are working together for rescue operations.
- The government has arranged a total of 134 warehouses of relief supplies in Nay Pyi Taw area, regions and states to provide quickest relief aid to victims of disaster. Further, relief supplies by designated households are readily stored.
- In case of natural disaster, a total of 219 disaster relief shelters have been constructed in 11 regions/states to provide secure places for the people as emergency shelters. The construction work for another 23 shelters is under way.
- In order to use motorboats and life-jackets in disaster response including rescue and evacuation when natural disaster occurs, those are already distributed in regions and states in advance based on requirements. Until May 2022, 496 motorboats were already distributed to necessary places.

- The order is already given for each of military unit to help provide assistance quickest to the disaster-affected area with its force and ability. In doing so, each of military unit needs not to seek any order and they have to report about it after they have provided assistance.
- Regarding the monkeypox which is being spread on social network, as of 21 May 2022, there were 92 laboratory confirmed cases and 28 suspected cases of monkeypox in 12 countries which are the outside of Africa region according to World Health Organization (WHO).
- The nature of Monkeypox disease is not related to the chickenpox frequently occurred in Myanmar, in addition, their symptoms are totally differences. Therefore, Maj-General would like to firstly inform to public not to be assumed and worried that is monkey pox if the blistered rash emerge on the skin. If you all notice any of these symptoms, you should go to nearest hospitals and clinics in time for necessary check-ups.
- Although monkeypox is less likely to spread into a global pandemic rather than COVID-19 disease, the Ministry of Health has already released notices in advance about the prevention methods of monkeypox as the virus can be spread when someone is in close contact with an infected person.
- The government, parents and students have high expectations for the matters relating to 2022-2023 academic year. At the beginning of the school year, the government cooperated with township-level departmental officials to ensure the good characters of schools. Moreover, the government has set the enrolment week for schools throughout the country from 26 May to 1 June.
- Up to 31 May 2022, a total of 5.2 million students (99.24 percent of enrollment rate) have already enrolled at schools. The school enrollment rate in the regions and states is also calculated based on the previous year's enrollment rate.
- The government and officials must work together to ensure that all school-aged children enroll at schools within school enrollment week.
- Making school enrollment not to lose learning opportunities and to have the chance of learning of student is the first step for a student to become an educated one.
- The government made arrangements for the students to learn under free education system, and is providing a set of textbooks, one dozen of blank books, and other stationery to each student for free of charge as well as school uniforms freely to all primary students.
- Whether the students want to attend school or not is up to themselves and their parents, rather than the government. If they do not want to attend school, not only the students themselves but also the country can be harmed. Therefore, opening the schools is not for the government.
- In doing so, the terrorist groups conducted disturbances on education sector by using various ways such as creating threats on and intimidations of teachers and students, arson attacks on school buildings, writing protest letters, making disruptions, extortions and setting fires

on school-textbooks that will be distributed to the respective schools.

- As regards the distributions of school-textbooks for 2022-2023 academic year, the terrorist groups set fire on and destroyed textbooks for 24 times causing the losses of K59.4 million.
- On 24 May, the terrorists stopped two 12-wheeler trucks loading school-textbooks for 2022-2023 academic year near Thayetchaung Township in Taninthayi Region, and then carried 48 plain sacks full of textbooks from two 12-wheeler trucks to the side of the road and burnt down them. Here, the Maj-Gen said that I would like to ask you if any of the international organizations and countries that are always accusing our country cannot see the images of such arson attacks. In fact, they see everything but pretend not to see. As a result, it is destroying the future of the country.
- On 29 May, the plain sacks and cardboard boxes filled with blank books and textbooks were shipped to Paungbyin Township Education Office from Mawlaik Township Education Office in Sagaing region by Mawlaik-Phaungbyin cargo ship. But the terrorists stopped the ship near the Yuwa Village in Mawlaik Township and forcibly took 1,000 dozen of blank books, and a total of 4,700 textbooks including 2500 Moral and Civics Studies textbooks for Grade-11, and then let the ship go.
- As the PDF terrorists stopped a ship carrying school-textbooks to be sent to Hkamti District of Mawlaik in the northern part of Sagaing Region, and attempted to burn that boat, the person in charge of the ship paid K1 million to them so that the terrorists released the ship.
- During the preparation period for reopening schools, the arson attacks took place at Basic Education Middle School in Thonpaw Village in Katha Township of Sagaing Region 11 May at 10 pm, another IEDs attack at No (3) Basic Education High School in Dawei Township on 28 May around 2 pm, and arson attacks at No (8) Basic Education High School in Kalay Township on 29 May at 1 am. As a result, you all probably already known that not all school buildings are usable.
- On 31 May at 2 pm, while school heads and teachers led by the township education officer were holding a coordination meeting on education at the meeting hall of two-storey education office in Nawngkio Township of Shan State (North), the remote controlled IED explosion occurred at there. Therefore, seven school heads, teachers and a civil servant including an assistant township education officer injured, and an education staff died.
- Here, Maj-Gen said that I would like to ask whether the funds supported and donated by international organizations are being used to kill our teachers, destroy school-textbooks and undermine the education which is the future of our students. Therefore, we have to think about whether they are shaping the citizens of our country to be uneducated ones and the servant of others.
- Now I would like to inform those countries supporting them, and you all that their financial supports are being applied in the sabotages of the future of students, teachers and civilians of the whole Myanmar at the press conference hereby. Therefore, Maj-Gen urged the reporters

who are being here, to share that information with the public.

- From 17 to 26 May 2022, there were three arson attacks on schools, and one bombing attack. Adding to previous lists, the acts of terrorism caused 40 persons
- The government will make its upmost efforts for learning of the students and officials and entire people are urged to cooperate in the activity.

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (2-6-2022)

- **The country will develop only if it achieves peace and stability. According to historical documents, it can be found out that successive governments and the Tatmadaw joining hands with ethnic nationalities have made great efforts to restore peace.**
- **The President invited Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs) officially to hold peace talks on 18 August 2011 offering that “The government leaves the door open to hold talks on other issues, except for the issue of encroachment on national sovereignty and secession from the Union of Myanmar.”**
- **Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs) drew up ‘The Peace Plan for Ethnic Nationals’ in February 2012. Again, they formed UNFC- United Nationalities Federal Council in September 2012.**
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- **Although the NCA was known as ceasefire agreement, it is a widely broader and meaningful agreement than its name. It can be found that the NCA includes a wide range of security affairs, political agreements, political commitments, political negotiable affairs, socio-economic development affairs.**
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- **The Chairman of State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing extended an invitation for peace talks to EAOs, and he himself meets and holds talks with the group leader and two members each by the individual group. Then, the team led by the Chairman of National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation**

Committee Lt.Gen Yar Pyae holds peace talks with them.

- **Peace talks were held with RCSS, NMSP and KNU/KNLA (PC) from 21 to 29 May 2022, and seven points of the Part of Union Accord reached an agreement.**
- **For natural disasters during the monsoon season, ‘The National Disaster Management Committee’ led by the Vice-Chairman of State Administration Council has already formed. Under this committee, working committees and regions and state-level disaster management committees.**
- **In line with the slogan of ‘Everyone who is still alive must thrive’ set by the government, the State, relevant ministries and civil society organizations are working together for rescue operations.**
- **The order is already given for each of military unit to help provide assistance quickest to the disaster-affected area with its force and ability. In doing so, each of military unit needs not to seek any order and they have to report about it after they have provided assistance.**
- **Although monkeypox is less likely to spread into a global pandemic rather than COVID-19 disease, the Ministry of Health has already released notices in advance about the prevention methods of monkeypox as the virus can be spread when someone is in close contact with an infected person.**
- **The government made arrangements for the students to learn under free education system, and is providing a set of textbooks, one dozen of blank books, and other stationery to each student for free of charge as well as school uniforms freely to all primary students.**
- **As regards the distributions of school-textbooks for 2022-2023 academic year, the terrorist groups set fire on and destroyed textbooks for 24 times causing the losses of K59.4 million.**
- **During the preparation period for reopening schools, the arson attacks took place at Basic Education Middle School in Thonpaw Village in Katha Township of Sagaing Region 11 May, another IEDs attack at No (3) Basic Education High School in Dawei Township on 28 May, and arson attacks at No (8) Basic Education High School in Kalay Townshp on 29 May.**
- **On 31 May, while school heads and teachers led by the township education officer were holding a coordination meeting on education at the meeting hall of two-storey education office in Nawngkio Township of Shan State (North), the remote controlled IED explosion occurred at there. Therefore, seven school heads, teachers and a civil servant including an assistant township education officer injured, and an education staff died.**
- **From 17 to 26 May 2022, there were three arson attacks on schools, and one bombing attack. Adding to previous lists, the acts of terrorism caused 40 persons died, 14 injured and 11 were missing, totalling 65 persons.**

PowerPoint Slides Explained to Media Outlets at the 15th Press Conference of Information Team of State Administration Council

၂၀၁၁ ခုနှစ်မှ ၂၀၂၀ ပြည့်နှစ်အတွင်း တိုင်းရင်းသားအဖွဲ့အစည်းများနှင့် ငြိမ်းချမ်းရေးဆောင်ရွက်ပုံ
မှတ်တမ်းဓာတ်ပုံများ



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၂၀၁၃ ခုနှစ် အောက်တိုဘာလ ၃၀ ရက်မှ နိုဝင်ဘာလ ၂၅ ရက်အထိ ကျင်းပခဲ့သော
လိုင်စာ ညှိလာခံ



၆

၂၀၁၅ ခုနှစ်တွင် တိုင်းရင်းသားလက်နက်ကိုင်အဖွဲ့အစည်း ၈ ဖွဲ့နှင့် ၂၀၁၈ ခုနှစ်တွင်
တိုင်းရင်းသားလက်နက်ကိုင်အဖွဲ့အစည်း ၂ ဖွဲ့ တစ်နိုင်ငံလုံးပစ်ခတ်တိုက်ခိုက်မှုရပ်စဲရေး
သဘောတူစာချုပ်(NCA)တွင် လက်မှတ်ရေးထိုးခြင်း



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PowerPoint Slides Explained to Media Outlets at the 15th Press Conference of Information Team of State Administration Council

 <p>ကော်မရှင်ဥက္ကဋ္ဌက ကော်မရှင်အဖွဲ့ခွဲရုံး ဆောက်လုပ်မည့် မြေနေရာများနှင့် အဆောက်အဦ တည်ဆောက်နေမှုများကို စစ်ဆေးခြင်း</p> 	 <p>တိုင်းဒေသကြီး နှင့် ပြည်နယ်များတွင် အခြေခံပစ္စည်းရောင်း ဖြန့်ချိမှုနိမိတ်ရုံးအတွက် မြေပြင်လူဦးရေစာရင်းနှင့်တိုက်ဆိုင် စစ်ဆေးခြင်းကို ကော်မရှင်ဥက္ကဋ္ဌက လိုက်လံကြည့်ရှုစစ်ဆေးခြင်း</p> 
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**၂၀၂၂-၂၀၂၃ ပညာသင်နှစ်
ကျောင်းအပ်နှံရေး လှုပ်ရှားဆောင်ရွက်မှုများ**

 	 
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**၃၁-၅-၂၀၂၂ ရက်နေ့တွင် ရှမ်းပြည်နယ်(မြောက်ပိုင်း) နောင်ချိုမြို့၊ မြို့နယ်ပညာရေးမှူးရုံး နှစ်ထပ်
ကျောင်းဆောင်အစည်းအဝေးခန်းမအား အကြမ်းဖက်သမားများမှ ရိုမိုခိုင်းဖြင့် ခိုင်းထောင်ဖောက်ခွဲမှု**

 	 
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Excerpts from the Clarifications of the UEC Member U Khin Maung Oo



The excerpts from the clarifications of UEC member U Khin Maung Oo at the press conference are as follows:

- The Union Election Commission (UEC) had conducted ground inspection on electoral processes including voter lists, ballot papers, advanced voting and voting conditions under the law in accordance with the first point of Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council.
- According to the findings of the voter lists of all townships where the election was held, **over 11.3 million voter lists** that caused voting fraud were found. Likewise, according to the ground inspections of the ballot papers, more than **1.4 million ballot papers** were missing with extra-used of **more than 430,000 ballot papers**.
- There had been 1,077 cases in the General Election of 2020 and the UEC charged 546 cases out of 1,077 with election law. According to the records of Myanmar Police Force under the Ministry of Home Affairs, 345 cases were charged now, 199 cases were withdrawn and other two cases were under counsel of legal advice.
- Similarly, 479 people including former president, former State Counsellor, ex-chairman of the UEC and former UEC's members, ex-minister U Min Thu, former mayor and chairman of the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee, ex-chief ministers from relevant States and Regions, former representatives of Hluttaw, former members of Party's winning committee and former members of sub election commission are being taken actions against involvement in the 2020 electoral processes, electoral fraud and lawless actions. In doing so, 93 persons who involved in the action were charged with 79 cases, and 47 cases out of 79 were sentenced and other 32 remain.
- The UEC is conducting the verifications of ground population census for accurate voter lists in respective townships across the nationwide in the upcoming multi-party democracy general election, and

the members of the relevant township level sub-election commission are closely supervising those processes.

- The combined inspection teams led by the members of the UEC including representatives from relevant governmental departments are inspecting accounts of existing political parties under Political Parties Registration Law and By-Laws.
- The UEC is working to enact the new provisions of the relevant election law and by-laws for the benefits of the nation and its citizens in order to prepare the weaknesses of the 2020 General Election and inspection results of political parties, adopt PR system that is suitable for Myanmar, and resign the posts from Hlut-

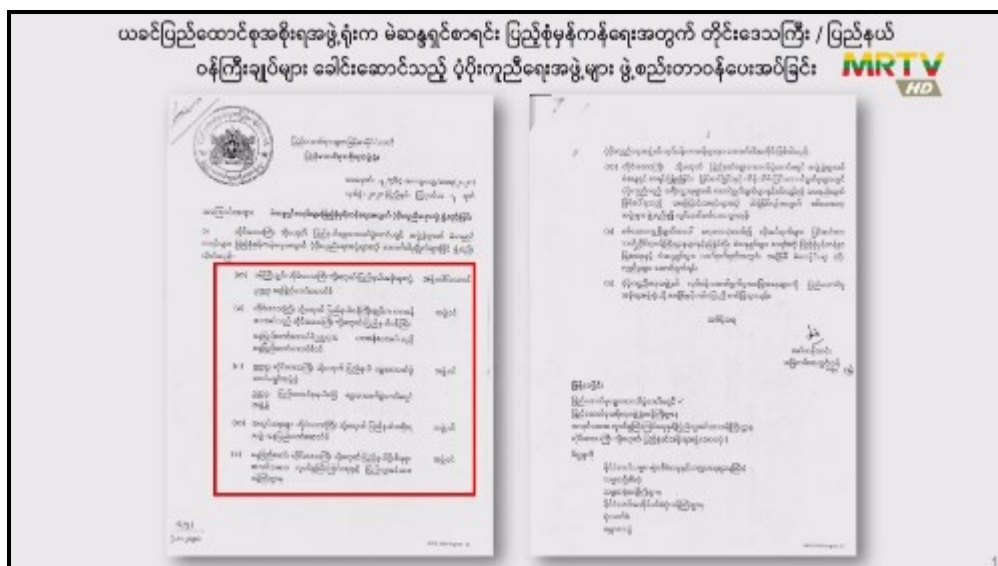
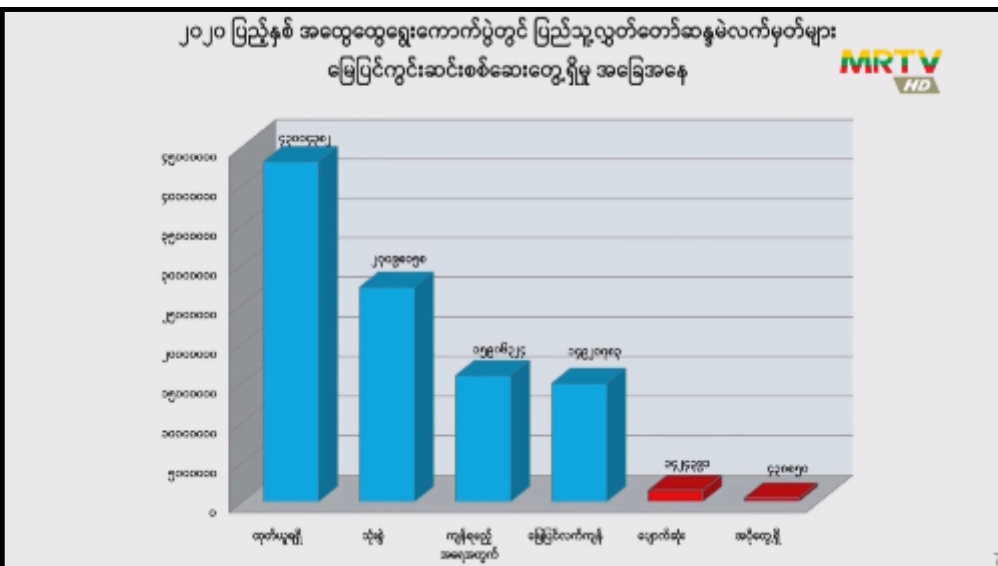
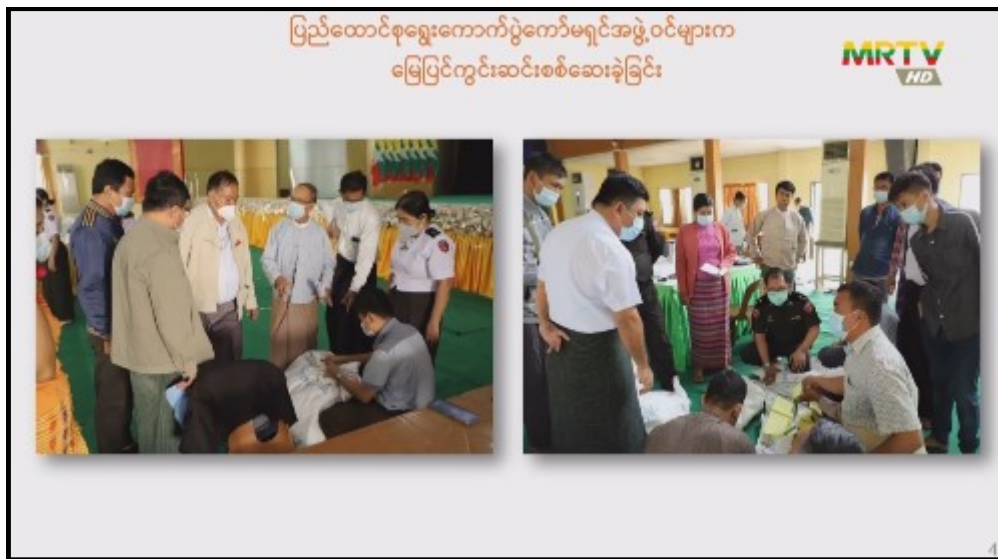
taw representatives which is the citizens' right mentioned in the constitution law.

- The UEC is implementing the matters to do mentioned in the first point of Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council under the law, and will hold free and fair multiparty democratic general election in line with fifth point of Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council after implementation of the matters in accord with the provisions of State Emergency Period mentioned in the constitution law, the UEC member U Khin Maung Oo added.

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (2-6-2022)

- **According to the findings of the voter lists of all townships where the election was held, over 11.3 million voter lists that caused voting fraud were found. Likewise, according to the ground inspections of the ballot papers, more than 1.4 million ballot papers were missing with extra-used of more than 430,000 ballot papers.**
- **The UEC is conducting the verifications of ground population census for accurate voter lists in respective townships across the nationwide in the upcoming multiparty democracy general election, and the members of the relevant township level sub-election commission are closely supervising those processes.**
- **The UEC is implementing the matters to do mentioned in the first point of Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council under the law, and will hold free and fair multiparty democratic general election in line with fifth point of Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council after implementation of the matters in accord with the provisions of State Emergency Period mentioned in the constitution law.**

PowerPoint Slides Explained to Media Outlets at the 15th Press Conference of Information Team of State Administration Council



Excerpts from the Questions and Answers Session of 15th Press Conference of State Administration Council Information Team



We'd like to know the target date of Union Election Commission - UEC to hold the coming general elections; as the elections will be held as per Proportional representation (PR) system based on the population, we'd also like to know whether the constituency will be designated on districts, townships or regions. Regarding the question –



A reporter from Khit Pone Yeik news agency U Win Naing asking questions in progress

- **Member of Union Election Commission – UEC U Khin Maung Oo** said UEC is taking measures to hold a free and free elections after completing the tasks of state of emergency as per the fifth point of the Five-Point Roadmap.
- In this regard, the preparatory measures are being taken as per relevant laws and the cycle of elections comprise consecutive periods of pre-election, election and post-election.
- Sine the present time is in the pre-election period, the pre-election tasks are now being conducted such as compilation of basic voter list, and amending the election laws and by-laws reviewing the experiences in the previous elections. In doing so, necessary measures have been taken to amend relevant election laws and by-laws to meet the requirements of the PR system.
- With regards to the PR system, books about the PR system have been published for two times. When the relevant

laws on PR system is passed, the knowledges about PR system, and pamphlets of election awareness will be released and conducted by the State-run media outlets.

It is reported that the general elections will be certainly held in 2023. In the previous General Elections, the policies and norms of the political parties are not known to public even their party members except for the party executives. Such situation is totally unacceptable for the political parties which will compete in elections. Therefore, we'd like to know what measures the UEC will take to ensure the parties which will shoulder the responsibilities for the State's interests need to publicize their policies. Regarding this question –



Editor from Myanmar Public Press media agency Ko Khant asking questions in progress

- **Member of Union Election Commission – UEC U Khin Maung Oo** said that following the founding of a political party and it is registered, the party is entitled to conduct organizational activities within their party, and the campaigning talks in public or on media platforms during the election campaign.
- During the activities of election cam-

paign, the political parties are entitled to publicize, talk and declare their party policies, altitudes and future processes and they are also doing so.

- When a political party is to be registered in accordance with the Section 5 of the Myanmar Political Party Registration Law, the party has to submit its name, flag and emblem of the party as well as the Political ideology and program and regulations of the party and organizational set-up of the party.
- After inspecting the above-mentioned data, UEC will formalize the party registration. The registration process of the political party is completed, the information related to the party such as its flag, emblem, leader, regulations and organizational structure can be accessed at the Political Parties tab of the UEC website. There are also certain requirements for the party members to be nominated as candidates in the election.
- There are specifications on the quality and capabilities to become a party member and also limitations for people not to be recruited as party members. Similarly, there are also particular specifications for those who can be nominated as candidates and those who cannot.
- Myanmar Political Party Registration Law and by-laws define the specifications and requirements. Providing that a party member meets the specifications, he/she is entitled to become a Hluttaw representative.

Although it is undoubtedly that the processes of reopening schools is to meet the requirements of people, we'd like to know whether it is safe to forcibly open the schools in Sagaing region and Chin state

where there is the risk of terrorism. Moreover, what measures will be taken to ensure the safety of the students and teachers amid the threat of terrorism. Regarding the question –



Chief editor from Myanmar National Post news agency
Naung Taw Lay asking questions in progress

- **Major General Zaw Min Tun** said – We are taking all possible measures to reopen the schools across the country. However, some schools remain unopen according to the unfavoured security conditions. Teachers want to open schools as students also want to go to schools. But we've witnessed the harassments and attacks targeting the schools. We encountered such situation in the last year.
- During our attempts to reopen the schools last year, we were given helping hands and cooperation from teachers, security personnel of Myanmar Police Force, Myanmar Tatmadaw and societies of community elders. Moreover, veterans also participated in the efforts as volunteers. For this year, we will introduce the security systems with the participation of people in some required area together with Myanmar Police Force and Tatmadaw.

- What I want to request is to consider such situation as though it concerns all national people. We've talked about what happened to our education system and how our education is at its downward trend using facts and evidence.
- Doing such violent disturbances to students, teachers and schools do not merely mean the harassments for the government but actually the disruptive behaviours for the future of the Nation. I sincerely want all of people as well as the media agencies participate in the combined efforts for security cooperation.
- I call for such cooperation not for the interests of our government. We are doing this for the interests of our country and people. Therefore, I here call for again the entire participation of people.

We'd like to know what challenges the State Administration Council has encountered during the efforts for peace and how it will overcome them. Regarding the education sector, we are very happy to see providing support to the students and also like to know whether such supports are only for the beginning of the school days or there are any other plan to do so again in the mid of the school year. Moreover, we'd also like to know whether such supporting programmes are to be carried out with other civil societies. Regarding the diplomatic affairs, we'd also like to know what kind of difficulties and challenges the State Administration Council is facing now. Regarding the question –

- **Major General Zaw Min Tun** said generally, that there are two types of challenges regarding the ongoing peace process of the country called external factors and internal factors.



Reporter from Myanmar Hard Talk news agency Okkar asking questions in progress

- I've already talked about the first challenge of internal factors in the previous press conference. What I said was 'I believe we'll secure successes in the peace process.'
- There are certain reasons why I said so. We have experiences in peace process. We also have abilities and capabilities in the available time. The time favours for us. What we need more is the participation of the people. Later, we also see the significant increase in the participation of people in showing supports of the peace talks.
- However, the primary difficulty we've encountered in the country is the volatility of the peace process and some EAOs' demands in some areas.
- The inception of the NCA was in Laiza of KIA. Its further updates and approval were made in Lawkhela KNU.
- However, the KIA and KNU are not participating the present peace talks. Although what we are discussing now are as per the agreement they drawn up, no participation means that they pretend as if they know nothing about the peace talks.
- Regarding their ignorance to the peace talks, some EAOs openly reject the peace talks invitation while some other EAOs do not respond whether they will attend it or not. That's why I said so they pretend as if they know nothing about the peace talks. That the difficulty we encounter.
- What our people media agencies have to do is to open the hearts of the ones who are pretending as if they know nothing about the peace talks. That is not only the responsibility of the government but also of the entire population.
- Regarding the aids for education, I'd like to state our general policy. At present, all students are to use the new curriculums set by the Ministry of Education of the Government. In order to distribute text books with new curriculums, repeated publications of the text books have to be done yearly and the text books have been distributed yearly. There are certain incidents in which terrorists destroy or burn down the textbooks.
- For the school uniforms for pre-elementary school children, measures have been emphasized so that the Tatmadaw garment factories produce quality school uniforms for them.
- Supporting students has been a firm policy for the Tatmadaw. It has done twice per year in the early days and in the mid-term of the school years. In providing supports and aids to students in the mid-term, the items usually include learning materials such as blank books as well as school uniforms in some available places. At least, the items include blank exercise books, pencils, and other necessary items.

We've observed that so far, four EAOs have participated in the peace talks after taking considerations into the invitation to peace talks by the Prime Minister of the State Senior General Min Aung Hlaing. Among them, we noticed that beside three EAOs of NCA signatories, the United Wa State Party - UWSP 'Wa' is a non-NCA signatory. During the ongoing peace talks, UWSP released a statement saying that they will not do any act that will lead to the disintegration of the Union and also will never leave the mainland. However, we noticed that UWSP has demanded to designate their area as a 'Wa' self-administered state. Therefore, we are curious to know the recent developments on any agreements between the UWSP and the State Administration Council, whether the State Administration Council has plans to relent the UWSP's demands. Moreover, what kinds of agreements have reached between the SAC and other EAOs. Regarding the question –



Reporter from The Sun Ryas news agency Daw Thazin Oo asking questions in progress

- **Major General Zaw Min Tun** said the media might have known about the statement we released on the discussions with UWSP. The case of proposing 'Wa' self-administered state arose at the meeting

between the prime minister of the State and the UWSP deputy chairman. Regarding this case, our country is consisted of 14 regions and states as well as self-administered areas and zones according to the State Constitution.

- There are certain requirements to form a self-administered areas and divisions such as its minimum number of districts and population.
- We are now on the course of the Union System based on democracy and federalism. In this regard, the Tatmadaw has agreed in principle to make necessary amendments in the Constitution.
- From the side of ethnic people, they demand the self-determination. Our country has existed as a Union country not a country of holding together or coming together. Therefore, we asked for the guarantee from the ethnic national people not to secede from the Union. Therefore, they have nothing more to ask for after being entitled to enjoy the rights of self-administration and self-determination with the promise of non-secession.
- We generally have the policy to grant the current or higher status of the 'Wa' self-administered divisions. We've already agreed in principle to grant such rights not only for the 'Wa' area but also for other areas of ethnic people.
- Now, the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services is serving as the duties of the Prime Minister as well as the Chairman of the SAC so the Tatmadaw will agree with the ethnic affairs in the upcoming Hluttaw sessions only when an agreement has been reached with the Tatmadaw at present.

- To sum up for the peace process, we have already guaranteed the multi-party democracy system as well as the Union system based on democracy and federalism. We will do whatever we can after finding solutions through consultations in the two frameworks mentioned above.

At present, the price of gas and petroleum are rising. The electricity is not available regularly. Moreover, the prices of basic commodity are also at the rising trend. At present, the price of a duck egg is around K300. The gap between incomes and outcomes is getting bigger. We'd like to know how the State government will manage to come over such situations. Regarding the question –



Reporter from Bloomberg news agency U Myint Zaw asking questions in progress

- **Major General Zaw Min Tun** said we can compare the local prices of the petroleum and diesel with of other neighbouring and regional countries. The fuel price surge occurs in the whole world not only in our country. It is obvious if we compare the fuel prices of the ASEAN countries.
- Among the ASEAN member States, only Malaysia and Brunei have lower fuel

prices than Myanmar. The rest of other countries have higher fuel price then our country. We can see this fact after studying the fuel prices of our neighbouring countries China and India.

- Regarding the fuel, we've made the lowest level of tax. As the market economic systems have to play as per the global prices, our government continues taking all possible measures including levying the tax at its lowest rate to maintain the fuel and gas prices at its finest.

We've heard that there are controversies within the KNU on attending the peace talks. Regarding the peace talks, the KNU chairman has controversies with other members. As it is reported that some KNU members attend the peace talks, we'd like to know the attitude of the Government. Moreover, we'd also like to know what kinds of actions will be taken against the CDM teachers when the schools reopen and they return to their workplaces and whether their salaries will be cut off. Furthermore, are there specific qualifications for the substitute teachers and what are the plans for the security and safety of the students? Regarding the question –



Reporter from Voice of Myanmar news agency U Maung Maung Tun asking questions in progress

- **Major General Zaw Min Tun** said we've heard about their situation before our invitations to the peace talks. They also issued a statement on this. It is reported that only the chairman of the KNU central committee agreed to attend the peace talks while other hardliners are against it. Therefore, they will not reportedly attend the peace talks.
- He also heard further controversies among the KNU members. Even not the KNU, if any other EAOs will attend the peace talks, we're always welcome.
- Regarding the CDM teachers, we again extended the duration for return. According to the statistics, over 5000 teachers has registered to return to their respective workplaces.
- With regards to the security of the schools, staff, students and teachers, we took all possible security measures when the schools were reopened in the last year. Beside the relevant security forces, our security measures were contributed by the students' parents, community elders and veterans. For now, we will increase security measures than the previous year.
- An official from the Minister of Education said there are over 50 CDM teachers who have been examined and appointed again. They are now doing their teaching works peacefully. There is no salary cut or detention. Necessary teachers are being invited to return to their workplaces using advertisements in daily newspapers. They are required to take tests and take refresher course before going to schools.

One reporter said that there are various difficulties in the school enrolment process-

es, students who want to go to the classroom are being harassed in various ways to prevent them from attending schools, those arrested perpetrators committing acts of terrorism were sentenced to death if their guilty was found, and interrupting students' access to education is a worry of the future. In this regard, he is wondering to know how the government and Tatmadaw will handle these issues if the public will help. Moreover, the reporter urged the government that we want those perpetrators/offenders sentenced to death penalty must be really executed without being exception, appeal or petition, and if not so, the perpetrators will continue to violently destroy the State and the people without fear of the death penalty with the idea that their sentences will be reduced in time under the grant of amnesty. In this regard, he would like to know whether the government will actually allow the death penalty for those offences without being exception. In reply to the above questions:



Reporter from Myanmar Nation Voice news agency
Ye' Lin Tun asking questions in progress

- **Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun** answered that we welcome wholeheartedly to those who will participate in the security matters of schools, and the security force members and school elders will also be

cooperating with them.

- Later, it can be seen that the perpetrators intentionally and systematically committed the crimes such as brutal assassinations. However, the law is to judge all equally.
- If the public will participate in the security issues of students and school environments, we always welcome to them anytime and urge them to cooperate with us. In some places, I said that it is called public based security and defense system. In some areas, it is being practically implemented.

One reporter said that the Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs) participated in the peace talks and signed the agreements during the SAC's term, and the experts in various fields commented that the SAC succeeds its peace talks to some degrees. In this regard, he is wondering to know whether the SAC has a plan to invite again the remaining EAOs to the peace talks at nationwide; whether the SAC has a plan to make second or third invitation to them with the assistances of neighbouring countries; and whether the government allows the ASEAN Special Envoy to meet with Daw Aung San Su Kyi. In reply to the questions:



CEO from Golden Triangle journal U Tun Win asking questions in progress

- **Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun** replied that the Tatmadaw ceased fire till the end of 2022, and has set one year cease fire as regards the EAOs. The announcement on ceasefire in which the discussions to be carried out on restoring the perpetual peace across the nation once the announcement has issued.
- It is not a special invitation to them starting from now. It is an annual invitation on peace. We warmly welcome to them if they accept the invitation on peace.
- Currently, the government holds discussions with 10 EAOs that accepted the invitation for peace talks. In fact, these 10 EAOs participated in the peace talks for the benefits of the State, their ethnicities, and Union.
- The government always emphasizes the relations with neighbouring countries and has friendly relations with them. The government of Myanmar has always ready to cooperate in the genuine activities of any countries that want the benefits of peace and stability and development of Myanmar.
- With regard to the ASEAN Special Envoy, the government of Myanmar is in the same attitudes as before. Maj-Gen said that I have never seen any country allow them to meet with persons who are still facing trial. Lastly, I would like to say please tell and show me with the evidence of which a country allowed them to meet with those persons still facing trial.

The details of the press conference can be accessed at Information Sheet Webportal (<https://infosheet.org/>).

Source: Myawady Daily Newspaper (6-6-2022)

- **UEC is taking measures to hold a free and free elections after completing the tasks of state of emergency as per the fifth point of the Five-Point Roadmap.**
 - **Doing such violent disturbances to students, teachers and schools do not merely mean the harassments for the government but actually the disruptive behaviours for the future of the Nation.**
 - **There are two types of challenges regarding the ongoing peace process of the country called external factors and internal factors.**
 - **To sum up for the peace process, we have already guaranteed the multi-party democracy system as well as the Union system based on democracy and federalism. We will do whatever we can after finding solutions through consultations in the two frameworks mentioned above.**
 - **As the market economic systems have to play as per the global prices, our government continues taking all possible measures including levying the tax at its lowest rate to maintain the fuel and gas prices at its finest.**
 - **There is no salary cut or detention. Necessary teachers are being invited to return to their workplaces using advertisements in daily newspapers. They are required to take tests and take refresher course before going to schools.**
 - **The government of Myanmar has always ready to cooperate in the genuine activities of any countries that want the benefits of peace and stability and development of Myanmar.**
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