



Students for Free Burma

OFFICIAL MEMO

SITUATION UPDATE: March 13, 2023

Political Development

- The NUG [condemned](#) the junta's massacre of 17 people in the Sagaing Region and stated it is investigating the atrocity.
- The junta [announced](#) that they will be conducting a census from October 1-15, 2024 ahead of its now-delayed election. Junta-led elections are now expected to be held in 2025 with the possibility of the state of emergency being extended until then.
- Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA), an ethnic armed group based in northern Shan State, has increasingly been [supporting](#) the resistance movement.

Situation on the Ground

- As of March 10, 2023, the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) [reported](#) that 3,120 individuals have been killed. AAPP also said that 20,297 individuals have been arrested and 16,432 individuals are still detained by the Burmese military since the coup.
- The junta had [killed over 480 women](#) since the coup began in 2021. Many continue to encounter arbitrary arrest, torture, and sexual abuse by the junta and its allies.
- Clashes between the junta forces and the Karreni resistance groups have [forced over 3,000 people](#) to flee their homes in Kayah State.
- A junta task force deployed to conduct clearance operations in Sagaing Region has been accused of [beheading, torturing, and raping civilians](#) in their operations.

International Response

- On March 09, 2023, the EU Special Envoy for Burma met virtually with NUG Acting President Duwa Lashi La to [discuss](#) the expansion of humanitarian aid.
- On March 08, 2023, the US State Department [announced](#) around \$26 million in additional humanitarian assistance for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh and people in Burma affected by ongoing violence. The US has now provided nearly \$2.1 billion for the Rohingya crisis since August 2017.
- On March 07, 2023, Chinese ambassador Chen Hai [visited](#) the junta's election commission chairman Thein Soe to inquire about election preparations.
- On March 07, 2023, the Japanese Ambassador to Cambodia [urged](#) the Burmese junta to provide access to humanitarian aid, following the [announcement](#) of an additional \$60 million in humanitarian assistance by the Japanese government.

Business and Economy

- ADB forecasted that Burma's [economy will grow by 2.6% in 2023](#) (lowest among ASEAN countries) and inflation will come down to 8.5% from 2022's 16%.
- China and the junta signed an MOU [to set up three wind power projects](#) in Rakhine.