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National Health Committee

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Statement (4/2021)

28 November 2021

**Announcement on the safety of healthcare activities,
healthcare personnel and charity workers**

1. The terrorist military council has, from the time of the illegal coup d'état on 1st February 2021 up till now, raided and pillaged healthcare facilities, impeded and interfered with healthcare and charitable work, threatened, harassed and murdered healthcare workers and charity workers, issued arrest charges on trumped up charges on healthcare personnel and relentlessly been inflicting these atrocious inhumane acts.
2. On 26th October 2021, a press release (<https://tinyurl.com/attackstohealthcare>) on an analytical report compiled by Insecurity Insight, Physicians for Human Rights and the Johns Hopkins University Centre for Public Health and Human Rights (CPHR) stated that at least 297 attacks and threats against health workers, facilities, and transports in Myanmar were perpetrated by the military from February 1 to September 30, 2021. Within the 297 total incidents, there was hard evidence that 267 incidents are attributed to Myanmar's armed forces (SAC or the Tatmadaw).

3. Within all the total incidents that took place during the first eight months of the military's coup and crackdown between 1st February to 30th September 2021, there were:

- 210 health workers arrested
- 40 health workers injured
- 29 health workers killed
- Hospitals raided at least 87 times
- Hospitals occupied at least 56 times
- 25 incidents impacting COVID-19 response measures.

In addition, more than 700 healthcare workers are in hiding from warrants issued by the terrorist military council on concocted charges.

4. The assault on healthcare activities has not ceased and continued beyond September 2021. The following events have since taken place;

- A shooting took place at Pinlon Private Hospital on 24th October 2021.
- Murder and arrests of female healthcare workers in Kalay Township and raiding and pillaging of Hpa-lun Taung station hospital, Hpa-an Township on 16th November 2021.
- Raiding, arresting and harassing doctors, nurses, basic healthcare staff and patients at "Karuna" clinic in Christ the King Cathedral in Nyaung Yar, Loikaw City, Kayah State on the morning of 22nd November 2021.

In addition, the terrorist military council is continuously resorting to arbitrarily detaining CDM healthcare workers, Specialists and charity workers.

5. Committing all these criminal acts targeting the healthcare workers, the charity workers and their clinical facilities is in contravention of the Geneva Conventions and United Nations Security Council's Resolution 2286 and not in line with national laws or international humanitarian and human rights laws.

6. The National Health Committee (NHC) hereby gives notice to the terrorist military council to cease these barbaric acts upon the healthcare and charity workers and to keep them free from harm. The Committee also urges the international community for a timely intervention to prevent these atrocities from happening again.

National Health Committee (NHC)

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