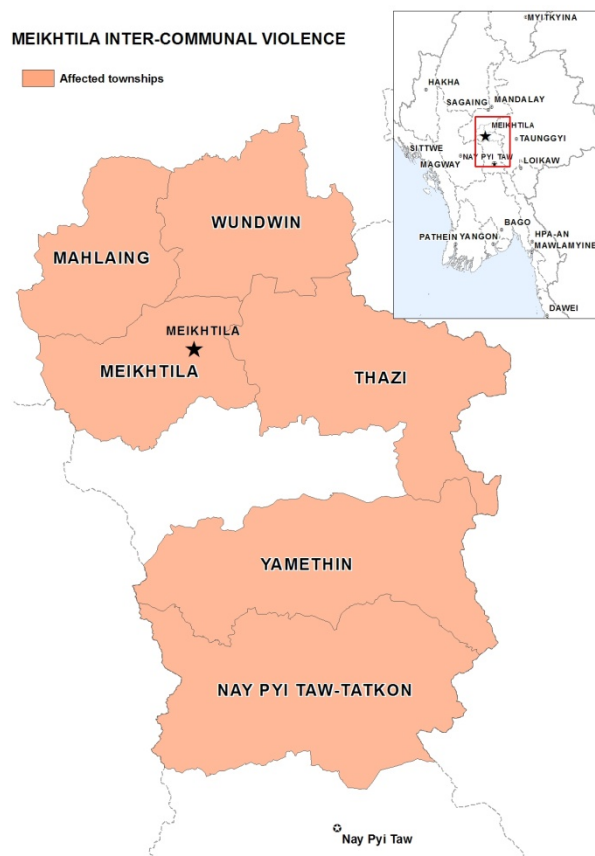




This report is produced by OCHA Myanmar in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 24 to 27 March 2013. The next report will be issued on or around 29 March.

Highlights

- A state of emergency remains in place for four townships in Meikhtila (Mahliang, Meikhtila, Thazi, and Wundwin) and, although the atmosphere remains cautious, security has been restored with some markets and shops reopening
- Preliminary findings from the Inter-agency rapid assessment team indicate 12,846 people are displaced in Meikhtila.
- Coordination Meetings have begun in Meikhtila between humanitarian organizations and the authorities. The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement (MSWRR) is in charge of coordinating the emergency response for affected population
- Sporadic acts of arson spread from Meikhtila to Okpho and Gyobingauk in Bago Region. Minor disturbances in Yangon.



Source: Myanmar Information Management unit (MIMU)
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

| Assessment Locations | Displaced Population |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 3 Schools | 6,138 |
| 1 Education College | 1,085 |
| 1 Stadium | 2,340 |
| 17 Monasteries | 3,283 |
| Total | 12,846 |

Situation Overview

Clashes on 20 March over a local dispute in Meikhtila, Mandalay Region resulted in 40 fatalities and 61 injured, according to the Government. A state of emergency remains in place for four townships in Meikhtila (Mahliang, Meikhtila, Thazi, and Wundwin) and, although the atmosphere remains cautious, security has been restored with some markets and shops reopening. The provisional number of houses destroyed by arson is 2,245.

Tensions are on the rise in other parts of the country. Isolated acts of arson have been reported in Yamethin (65km south of Meikhtila) on 24 March, while on 25 March sporadic arson attempts occurred in Okpho and Gyobingauk (Bago Region). Some minor scuffles were also reported in Yangon (Yuzana Plaza and Ma U Gone area) on the same day. The Government reinforced security in all these areas as well as in the central market of Mingalar and Pabedon townships in Yangon. The Government announced curfew on 26 March in three townships of Bago Region (Gyobingauk, Okpo and Minhla

+ For more information, see “background on the crisis” at the end of the report

townships) and application of 'Law 188' (closure of public places at 21:00hrs) in Tamwe, Mingalar Taung Nyunt, Tharkata townships of Yangon on 25 March.

On 26 March the inter-agency rapid assessment team's preliminary findings indicate 12,846 people are displaced in Meikhtila with 9,563 people being assisted in five temporary locations (3 schools, 1 education college and the regional stadium) and a further 3,283 sheltering in 13 local monasteries. The assessment team (composed of Action Aid, AMDA, CESVI, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Save the Children International, UNICEF, UNOCHA, and WFP) report covers all displaced sites, according to Government figures, including four monasteries that housed 145 people after the unrest of 20 March but who have since returned to their homes. Preliminary findings can be found in the section below. Data are being shared with sector/cluster leads for in depth analysis. Response will prioritize those persons that have lost their homes as a result of the unrest.

Humanitarian Response



Food Security

Needs:

- Regular distribution of main commodities such as rice, pulses, oil, and salt, to guarantee standards of assistance. Blended food for lactating and pregnant women is also prioritized.

Response:

- Up to now food has been distributed mainly by private donors, community based organizations and Government, such as rice and instant food (noodle or snacks). Beginning 28 March WFP will provide food support (distributing two week ration of rice, pulses, oil, sugar and salt) in all locations. WFP team will remain in place and will start coordinating the distribution.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Need for regular food distribution in all sites and return packages for those households coming back to their homes



Health

Needs:

- There are some diarrhea cases among the population sheltered in two schools, which are being followed up by Department of Health, in collaboration with UNICEF.

Response:

- MRCS and the Ministry of Health are providing emergency health care services, first aid services and referrals to the Meikhtila General Hospital with the assistance of Red Cross ambulances. Some community based organizations are also providing health assistance to displaced in monasteries.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Follow on diarrhea cases and improve sanitation and water provision in some camps to avoid any disease outbreaks.



Shelter and Non-food Items

Needs:

- Temporary shelter is prioritized for those in the Stadium (over 2,300 people) and those, in other locations, living in open shelter and who lost their homes.

Response:

- UNICEF is providing 500 NFI kits, 200 tarpaulins, 400 ropes. MRCS has provided 20 family tents, 400 jerry cans, 200 tarpaulins, 1,000 blankets, 1,000 mosquito nets. Save the Children has provided 103 NFI kits with a further 400 being dispatched by 28 March. UNHCR is dispatching family tents for those sheltering in the

Stadium and have committed to provide NFIs to meet the gap in the coming days. ICRC has deployed to the area to support MRCS efforts and has provided shelter materials.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Communal cooking pots and utensils for those sheltering in larger sites.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- Water for domestic use and consumption. Hygiene kits and hygiene promotion, particularly in the larger sites. Latrine construction for the Stadium and two monasteries.

Response:

- Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) has provided 2,000 hygiene kits and 1,500 dignity kits. Save the Children has provided 103 hygiene kits. The Government has begun construction of some latrines for the Stadium
- Government has been providing bottled water in major camps. UNICEF has begun construction of 15 latrines in the Stadium. UNICEF will liaise with Department of Development Affairs for coordination of WASH assistance.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Supplies of bottled drinking water are not sustainable in the medium term. Water storage containers need to be installed in major camps and water trucking organized.

General Coordination

The Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement (MSWRR) is in charge of coordinating the emergency response for affected population and requested OCHA to be the focal point for international support coordination.

Assessments were coordinated and General Coordination Meetings started to take place in the Meikhtila between humanitarian organizations and the authorities. The next meeting will take place on Friday 29 March.

IDP locations/main assessment findings – Meikhtila 26 March 2013

| NAME | IDPs | HH | ASSESSMENT FINDINGS |
|------------------------|-------|-----|--|
| High School No 5 | 895 | 290 | Water for domestic use, some diarrhea cases reported clothes, hygiene items, mosquito nets, blankets. Food distribution on regular basis |
| High School No 1 | 3,800 | 770 | Water for domestic use, clothes, hygiene items, mosquito nets, blankets. Food distribution on regular basis |
| Stadium | 2,340 | | Latrine construction asap and hygiene kits. People living in open space (1,500 people). Food distribution on regular basis |
| Middle School No 3 | 1,443 | 280 | All houses burnt. Some diarrhea cases. Hygiene kits needed. Food distribution on regular basis |
| Education College | 1,085 | | All houses burnt. Food distribution on regular basis |
| Oatara Zae Yone | 264 | 56 | Clothes, hygiene kits, mosquito nets. NFI for 27 HH which houses were burnt. Food distribution on regular basis |
| Tha Mone Kone | 517 | 127 | 127 houses burnt. Need of shelter for 50 HH living in open air. Latrines construction needed. NFI for HH which houses were burnt. Food distribution on regular basis |
| Thar Tha Na Wai Pan La | 5 | 1 | |
| Pa Hta Ma Kyaw | 1,070 | 217 | 5 burnt houses. Clothes and hygiene kits. Food distribution on regular basis |
| Ma Kyi Kone Kyaung | 430 | 109 | 109 houses burnt. Need of NFI and hygiene kits. Food distribution on regular basis |
| Ma Ni Zaw Ti Kar Yone | 404 | 119 | 8 burnt houses. Clothes and hygiene kits. Food distribution on regular basis |
| Pyit Si Mar Yone | 6 | 1 | They will return in coming days. |
| Par Li Tet Ka Tho | 0 | 0 | Population returned |
| Myot Oo | 100 | 25 | Temporary shelter for about 75 people who cannot accommodate in monastery. Hygiene kits. Regular food distribution. They are at their homes during daytime |
| Ko Na Win | 117 | 28 | 28 houses burnt. Need of NFI, hygiene kits, clothes. Food on regular |

| | | | basis. |
|-------------------------|---------------|----|---|
| Zeyar Aung Myay | 0 | 0 | Population returned |
| Wan Taw Pyae | 35 | 4 | 4 houses burnt. Need of NFI, hygiene kits, clothes. Food on regular basis |
| Kyauk Tan Khar Taw Ya | 20 | 6 | Hygiene kits. Food distribution on regular basis |
| Aung Thar Kyaung | 115 | 28 | Hygiene kits. Food distribution on regular basis |
| Tha Da Ma Win Thar Yone | 0 | 0 | Population returned |
| Kyi Taw Kone (North) | 0 | 0 | Population returned |
| Swe Gu | 200 | 30 | Need for jerry cans and latrines. Need for regular food distribution |
| Total | 12,846 | | |

Background on the crisis

The inter-communal violence began on 20 March with an argument in a gold shop in the Eastern Market of Meikhtila, Mandalay Region, which escalated quickly with crowds setting fire to business properties, religious buildings and houses. In Meikhtila estimates that over 12,000 people have been displaced by the violence, including some 9,710 in six temporary locations (schools, football stadium) and another 2,800 in local monasteries. Since 22 March incidents have been reported in neighboring townships of Mahlaing, Tatkon, Thazi, Thedaw, Yamethin and Wundwin. High-level Government and UN delegations visited the area and appealed for calm. The Inter-faith Friendship Organization issued a statement calling for restoration of peace and stability on 23 March. On the same day, the Government has requested international partners to mobilize humanitarian assistance.

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