

Counter-Terrorism Measures in Myanmar

Preventing and Combating Terrorism

1. Myanmar is a party to (13) out of (19) Universal Counter-Terrorism legal instruments. Myanmar became a party to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crimes on 30th March 2004. In regional context, Myanmar is also a signatory to the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Convention on Counter-Terrorism.
2. In accordance with international obligations under the legal instruments including relevant United Nations resolutions, Myanmar enacted Counter-



5. The Mobile/Fixed Interpol Network Database is being used at international airports and border check points in Myanmar. Likewise, Advanced Passenger Processing System (APPS) is installed in Yangon International Airport to monitor the travels of terrorists including FTFs. Myanmar Border Police joined the UNODC Border Liaison Office Network in 2013 and is working closely with its counterparts in sharing information and is participating in joint activities to combat cross border terrorism, transnational organized crimes and illegal smugglings.

6. The Government of Myanmar has signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Security Dialogue and Cooperation as well as the Memorandum of Understanding on Establishment of Border Liaison Office with Bangladesh on 24 October 2017. The two MoUs aim to strengthen bilateral cooperation, especially in sharing information in dealing with the security threats evolved from transnational terrorism including the flow of FTFs through land



groups. In addition, the German news agency DW has revealed on 24 September 2019 that over three thousand five hundred ARSA terrorist individuals are sheltering in the refugee camps in Bangladesh. They threatened aid workers and even killed people who expressed their desire to return to Rakhine State.

11. Rakhine issue has been exploited by extremists for their own political and religious agenda. Al-Qaida, Daesh and other regional and international terrorist groups had called for jihad against Myanmar before and after the ARSA terrorist attacks of October 2016 and August 2017. There had also been efforts by Daesh sympathizers to spread the extremist ideology among the refugees in IDP camps.

Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE)

12. The Government of Myanmar has given special attention not only to the fight against terrorism but also to the prevention of mainstreaming of violent extremism through the promotion of tolerance interfaith and intercultural dialogue. In order to promote interfaith harmony, a total of 130 interfaith groups have already been established nationwide.

13. Religions for Peace-RfP (Myanmar) was established in September 2012 to build peace and harmony within the societies across the country. Since 2018, training programmes have been conducted by RfP (Myanmar) to promote interfaith harmony and the role of women and youths. The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture in cooperation with RfP (Myanmar), successfully held Third Religious for Peace Advisory Forum on National Reconciliation and Peace in Myanmar on 14-15- November 2019. A Myanmar delegation composed of RfP members had participated at the 10th World Assembly of Religious for Peace held in Linda, Germany on 23rd August 2019.

14. The 5th Forum for Religious for Peace and Asia Interfaith Youth Network was also held in Yangon from 18 to 20 December 2018. Furthermore, the Government of Myanmar is organizing training and workshops to promote responsible media and digital literacy to address the issue of hate speech. It has also discussed with Facebook to advocate proper use of social media. The government has also been raising awareness of norms and ethics of social media through newspapers, television and radios since June 2018.

Ensuring Human Rights

15. The Competent authorities have been developing a domestic work plan to guarantee human rights in criminal cases related to terrorism. In the meantime, law enforcement agencies



