

# **Myanmar National Human Rights Commission**

## **Statement No. (1/ 2024)**

1. In commemoration of the 76<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Independence which falls on 4 January 2024 and on humanitarian and compassionate grounds, the Chairman of the State Administration Council has pardoned 9,652 male and female prisoners serving prison terms at their respective prisons, jails, and detention camps under the Code of Criminal Procedure Article 401 (1), through the State Administration Council Order No 1/ 2024.
2. In addition, on bilateral relations and humanitarian grounds, the State Administrative Council Chairman has remitted the sentences of 114 foreign prisoners from the respective prisons, and detention camps under the Code of Criminal Procedure Article 401 (1), through the State Administration Council Order No 2/ 2024.
3. It is a positive action in terms of human rights to release the prisoners who are serving sentences in various prisons and detention camps. The Commission believes that those who are pardoned will have the opportunity to be reunited with their family members and will be able to participate in building a Union based on democracy and federalism while respecting the goodwill of the state.
4. The reduction of sentences and the release of foreign prisoners is perceived as means to foster friendship and enhance relations between countries.
5. The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission is pleased and rejoices together with the family members of those who have been granted pardons and hopes that similar positive actions will be continued in future.

**Myanmar National Human Rights Commission**

Date: 5 January 2024