

MYANMAR: A YEAR OF SOLIDARITY

415 attacks on healthcare.

286 health workers arrested.

30 health workers killed.

1st February 2022 marked one year since the military coup in Myanmar. The country has become one of the deadliest places on earth to be a health worker, contributing to the rapid and complex deterioration of the country's health system. Facing intimidation, attack and arrest, health workers are risking and losing their lives as they attempt to provide vital care.

IF NOT NOW, WHEN?

APPG EVENT. We were joined by Dr Sa Sa, Spokesperson for the National Unity Government and Dr Ruth Wiseman, Head of Oceania and Myanmar at the FCDO who spoke to the importance of UK aid and solidarity for Myanmar, and the need for this to continue into the future, with an emphasis of **actions over words**. Sharing personal accounts, we heard from a Burmese medic now based in the UK, and a nurse live from the frontline in Myanmar. They provided moving testimonies on the implications of the coup both on the freedoms and health of civilians within the country, and on the mental and physical wellbeing of health workers.



ILLUMINATION OF ROYAL COLLEGES. A display of solidarity to honour the lives of those we have lost and to maintain UK Government and media attention on the catastrophic impact of the coup on health in Myanmar at this time of pandemic, institutions across the UK illuminated their buildings in red. This included: Royal College of General Practitioners, Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, Royal College of Physicians, Royal College of Nursing, Royal College of Radiologists, Royal College of Surgeons Edinburgh, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons Glasgow and Royal College of Pathologists.

DEMONSTRATION IN PARLIAMENT SQUARE. In Parliament Square our community joined a demonstration led by the Myanmar diaspora. Ben Simms, CEO of THET, and Lord Nigel Crisp, Co-Chair of the APPG for Global Health, provided stirring speeches to the crowd about which we were pleased to [receive media coverage](#).

#MYANMARSHHEALTHMATTERS

Enabling us to project our collective voice and reach a wider audience, our social media campaign was launched on the morning of 1st February. Through this, we shared first hand [testimonies](#) from Burmese [health workers](#), [interviews](#) with experts across the sector and vital [resources](#) from our partners. Over the campaign period, the hashtag was mentioned more than **190** times, liked more than **600** times and shared more than **940** times, with the total number of interactions across social media standing at more than **1,700**. These interactions have enabled the hashtag to reach more than **1.1 million people**.



"We would like the world to know that the terror is still happening in Myanmar, endangering each and every citizen's life, destroying our future."

- Ray, Medical Support Worker, NHS