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# Not Spared from Junta Airstrikes: POWs in Resistance-Controlled Areas



# **Not Spared from Junta Airstrikes: POWs in Resistance-Controlled Areas**

## **Introduction**

Since the military coup on 1 February 2021, People’s Defense Forces/Local Defense Forces (PDFs/LDFs), along with Ethnic Revolutionary Organizations (EROs), have been engaging in armed resistance against the military council using various methods. In response, the junta has employed various brutal and cruel tactics in attacking these resistance forces.

After losing more territory following the first and second waves of Operation 1027, the junta increasingly resorted to airstrikes. These airstrikes have not only targeted civilian areas such as villages and towns, but also detention facilities where junta soldiers or prisoners of war (POWs) are being held.

This week’s Burma News International (BNI)-Myanmar Peace Monitor’s Bi-Weekly News Review focuses on incidents of junta airstrikes specifically targeting POWs.

## Junta Airstrikes Targeting POWs

The military council began targeting POWs with aerial bombings towards the end of 2024, with two such incidents recorded in January 2025 alone.

The junta started bombings in Arakan State's Pauktaw Township on 8 September, and on Four Mile Camp (Border Guard Police Battalion-2) in Maungdaw Township on 9 September, resulting in the deaths of several POWs and civilians. In another attack on a camp in Shin Ywar village on Ah Lel Hpa Yon Kar Island south of Pauktaw, 17 people were killed, including 7 POWs. According to a statement by Arakha Army (AA), among the victims were people detained on suspicion of being junta informants, those accused of sending information to the junta, those serving sentences, as well as detention center staff and health workers.<sup>1</sup>

The AA stated that, over 50 people were killed in Maundaw on 9 September, including prisoners of war and civilian detainees captured

during its offensives to capture towns in Arakan State.<sup>2</sup> Furthermore, on 28 October 2024, the junta bombed a POW detention facility of the Mandalay People's Defense Force (MDY-PDF) in Nawngkhio Township on the Mandalay-northern Shan border, killing 12 people, including 8 POWs and injuring 60 others or so.<sup>3</sup>



*The MDY-PDF's POW detention facility destroyed in the junta airstrike.  
(Photo- MDY PDF)*

<sup>1</sup> Junta bombs Pauktaw, prisoners among 17 dead, Myanmar Now, 10 Sep. 2024

<sup>2</sup> Over 50 POWs and detainees killed in junta airstrike, Mizzima, 10 Sep. 2024

<sup>3</sup> Junta bombs MDY-PDF's temporary POW detention facility, Western News, 19 Oct. 2024

Again, on 30 October, another bombing by the junta on the same detention facility killed four people, including a major who was a POW, and injured another.<sup>4</sup> On 18 January 2025, a junta airstrike using a fighter jet targeted an area near Yan Chaung village in Mrauk-U Township, where families of enemy POWs were held, leading to the death of 28 people, including children and women. These family members were of military personnel captured during conflicts in the Arakan region, with plans already in place by the AA to release them soon.<sup>5</sup>

On 4 January 2025, the junta also bombed a school and hospital in Khum Long village in Falam Township, Chin State, killing a police lieutenant, three police sub-lieutenants, a police sergeant, a police corporal, and the wife of a police officer. Four other police officers were also injured.<sup>6</sup>

## Hundreds of POWs Killed in Junta Airstrikes



According to data collected by BNI-Myanmar Peace Monitor, over a 5-month period from September 2024 to January 2025, there were six incidents where the junta bombed locations holding POWs, resulting in over 104 deaths among prisoners and their family members. Of these six incidents, three occurred in Arakan State, two in the border area between northern Shan State and Mandalay Region, and one in Chin State.

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<sup>4</sup> Another junta bombing targets MDY-PDF's temporary POW detention facility, four killed including a major, Shan News, 31 Oct. 2024

<sup>5</sup> Junta bombing targets temporary detention facility housing POWs and their families, 28 killed and 25 injured, Narinjara, 19 Jan. 2025

<sup>6</sup> Seven POWs including police officers killed junta bombing in Falam, Mizzima, 6 Jan. 2025

As the military council continues to lose territory across the country, it has increasingly targeted civilian areas including schools, hospitals, markets, religious buildings, IDP camps, and other populated areas.

BNI-Myanmar Peace Monitor data shows that more than 1,850 civilians have been killed in airstrikes as of 11 February 2025, since the military coup on 1 February 2021. The death toll has increased year after year: 185 civilian deaths from airstrikes in 2022, 646 in 2023, and 1,001 in 2024.<sup>7</sup>

As attacks targeting civilians have increased, so too have the deaths among POWs and their family members who are being held by ethnic armed organizations and People's Defense Forces.

## Review

The military council has carried out the highest number of airstrikes on prisoners of war in Arakan State. This can be attributed to the increased number of offensives to capture towns in the region during 2024, leading to more airstrikes and higher casualties among both civilians and POWs.

According to BNI-Myanmar Peace Monitor data, there have been 379 airstrike events in Arakan State since the 2021 military coup, with over 88 percent of these (336 events) occurring in 2024.

Regarding the targeting of POWs in Arakan State, AA spokesperson U Khaing Thukha has suggested that the junta might be targeting prisoner officers who could testify to war crimes it has committed, in an attempt to cover up these crimes.<sup>8</sup> The fact that there have been three incidents of airstrikes on POW detention facilities in Arakan State within just five months clearly indicates an effort to conceal war crimes.

<sup>7</sup> Military Junta's Airstrikes in Myanmar

<sup>8</sup> Junta bombs AA's detention facility, BBC, 21 Sep. 2024

Furthermore, the repeated airstrikes on the MDY-PDF's POW detention facility on both 28 and 30 October indicate the junta's deliberate targeting of POWs.

Regarding the airstrikes on its detention facility, the MDY-PDF has stated that despite treating captured prisoners according to the law, the junta has targeted its former personnel in these airstrikes.<sup>9</sup>

In conclusion, as the military council continues to lose ground, its use of indiscriminate aerial attacks against both civilians and POWs has escalated. Resistance groups should take special precautions against aerial threats in areas they control, study the patterns of these attacks, and systematically improve air defense strategies. Additionally, it is crucial for resistance forces to promptly gather evidence from POWs who can testify to the military junta's war crimes, as these individuals are significant witnesses.

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<sup>9</sup> Junta bombs MDY-PDF's POW detention facility, Western News, 29 Oct. 2024

## Highlight Quote



What I hope for is to see people as human beings and to value human life. I don't want to see the majority looking down on or dominating the minority. I want to see a developed Union that guarantees equal rights for all people, ensuring everyone enjoys the rights they deserve without discrimination between the majority and the minority. One thing we often overlook is the need to see women in Myanmar being given decision-making roles in different areas such as politics and the judiciary. This is the type of Union I personally want to see.

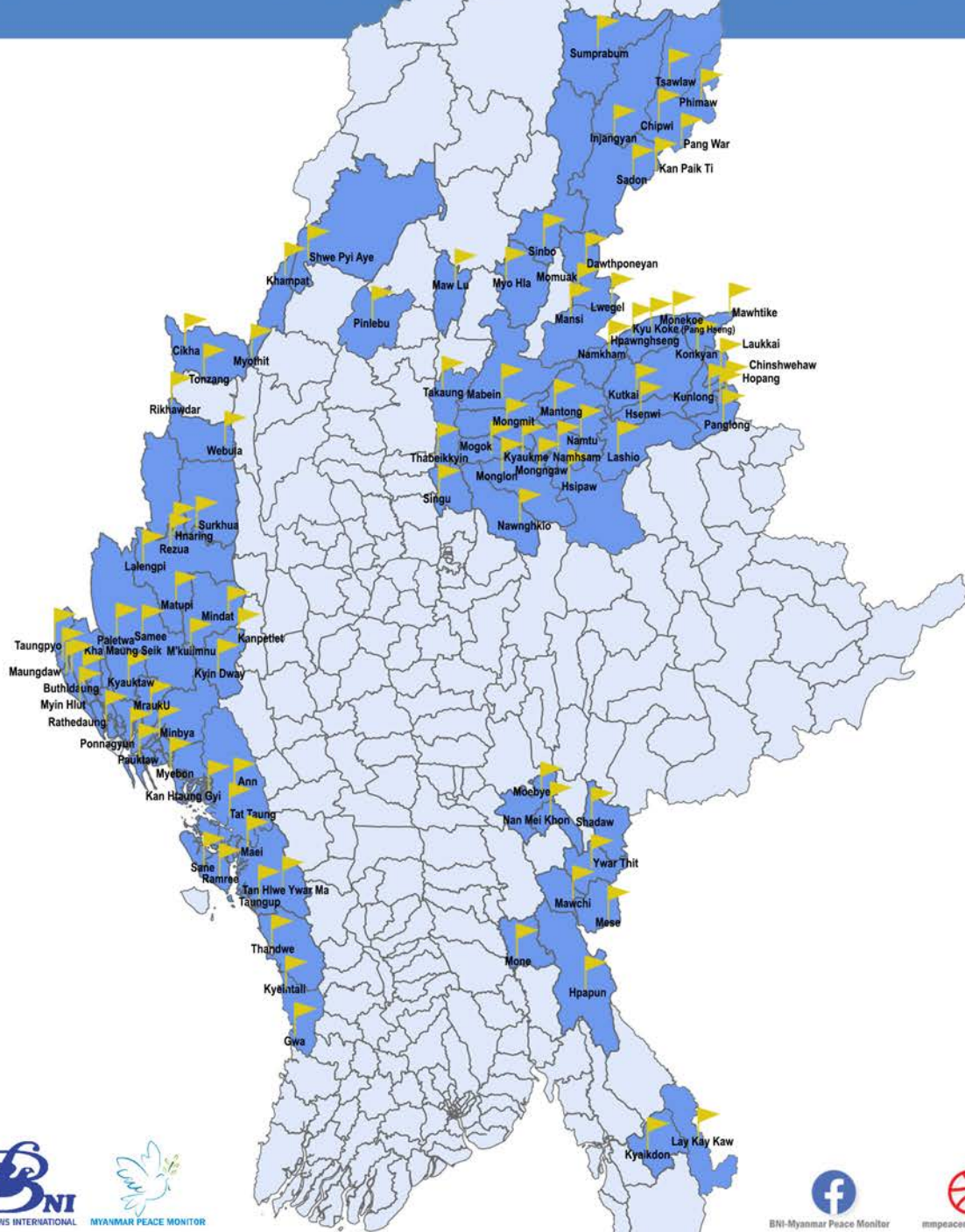


**Ah Pan**

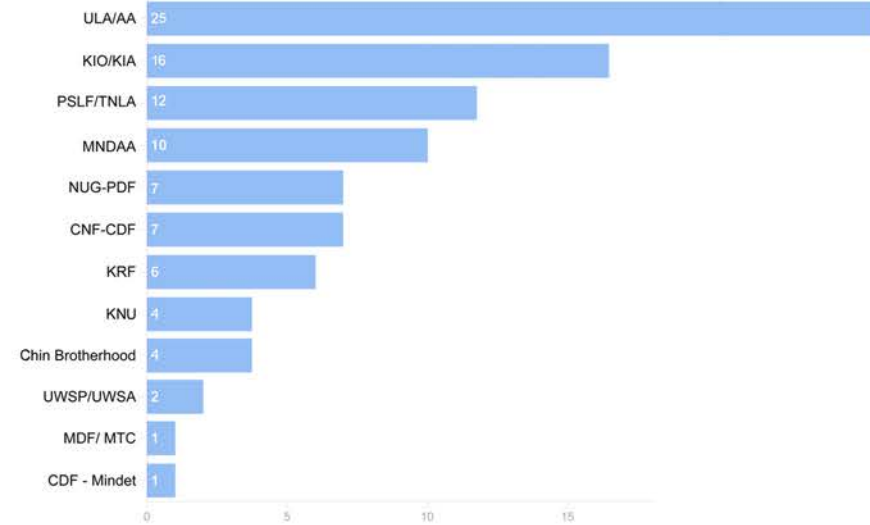
a young Kachin woman working in Malaysia

*Excerpt from the collection of the views of some Kachin people about "78th Union Day and the Union," published on the BNI-Myanmar Peace Monitor website.*

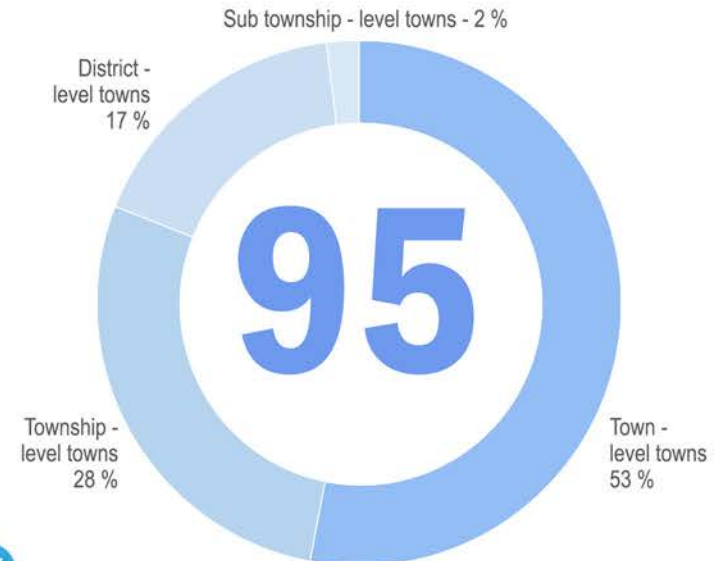
# 95 Towns Captured and Controlled By Resistance Forces



Number of towns captured and controlled by resistance forces



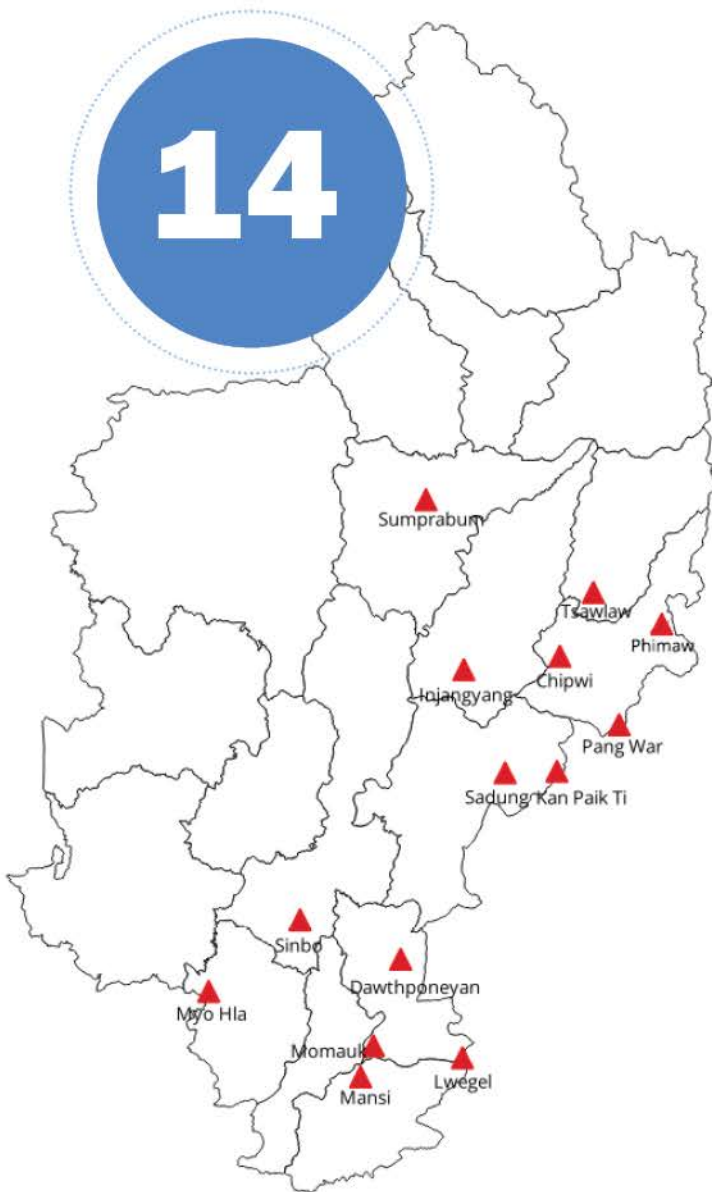
Administrative levels of the towns captured and controlled by resistance forces.





# Captures of Towns in Kachin State

14



## **Sinbo** (10 - Feb - 2024)

On 10 February, the KIA seized control of Sinbo town in Myitkyina Township.

## **Myo Hla** (22 - Feb - 2024)

On 22 February 2024, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and allied forces captured the town after junta soldiers withdrew from the strategic hill camp in Myo Hla town in Shwegu Township.

## **Dawthponeyan** (8 - Mar - 2023)

On 8 March 2024, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and allied forces captured Dawth-poneyan town in Waingmaw Township after the surrender of junta soldiers from Infantry Battalion-142 in the town.

## **Lwegel** (29 - Mar - 2024)

On 29 March 2024, Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and allied resistance forces seized control of Lwegel town in Kachin State.

## **Sumprabum** (5 - May - 2024)

On 5 May 2024, Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and allied forces successfully took control of Sumprabum town.

## **Sadon** (11 - June - 2024)

On 11 June 2024, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and allied forces attacked and captured the military council's camps in Sadon.

## **Momauk** (19 - Aug - 2024)

On 19 August 2024, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and allied forces seized control of Momauk.

## **Chipwi** (29 - Sep - 2024)

On 29 September 2024, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and allied forces took control of Chipwi town in Kachin State.

## **Tsawlaw** (2 - Oct - 2024)

On 2 October 2024, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) seized control of Tsawlaw town in Kachin State.

## **Pang War** (18 - Oct - 2024)

On 18 October 2024, the Kachin Independence Organization/Kachin Independence Army (KIO/KIA) took control of Pang War town in Kachin State.

## **Phimaw** (2 - Nov - 2024)

On 2 November 2024, Kachin Independence Organization/Kachin Independence Army (KIO/ KIA) seized control of Phimaw town in Kachin State.

## **Kan Paik Ti** (20 - Nov - 2024)

On 20 November 2024, the Kachin Independence Organization/ Kachin Independence Army (KIO/KIA) seized control of Kan Paik Ti town in Kachin State.

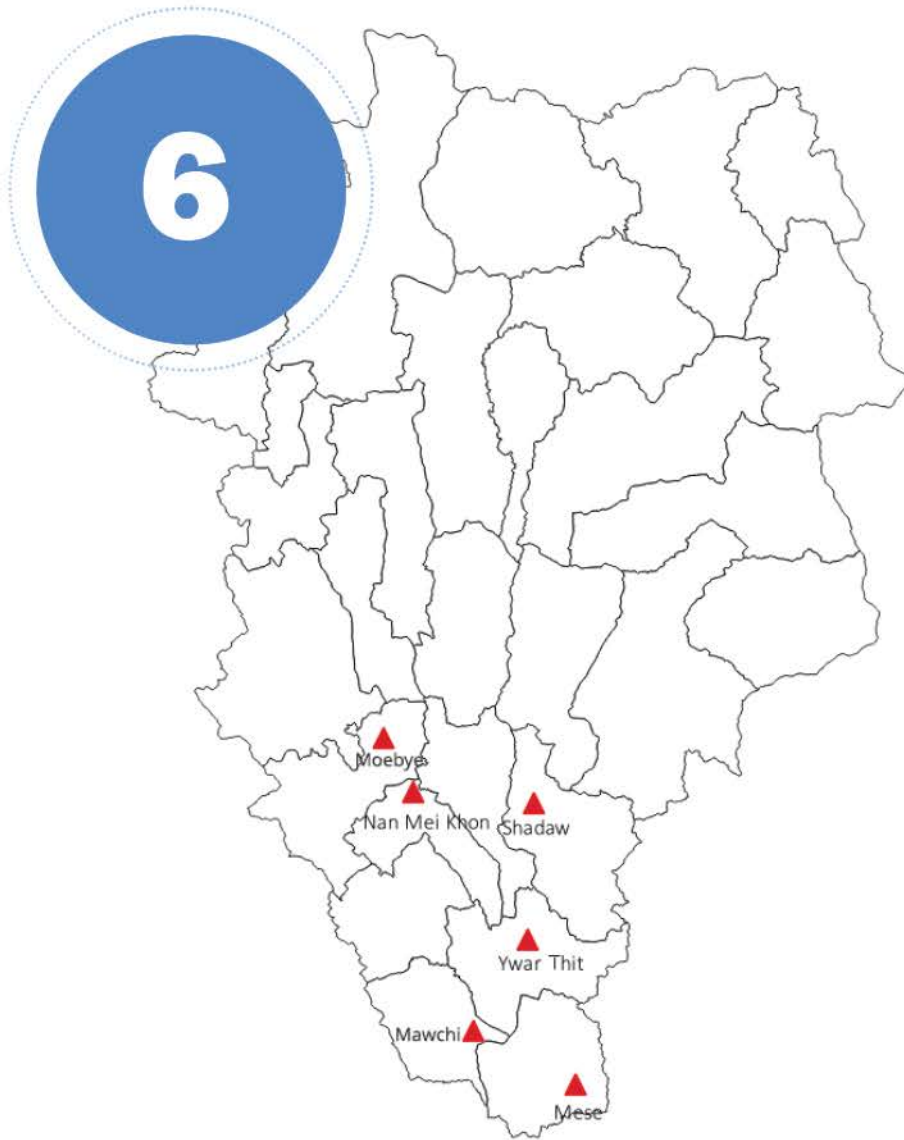
## **Injanyan** (20 - Nov - 2023)

On 20 November, junta soldiers and police members from two military junta camps and a police station in Injanyan Township withdrew from the town.

## **Mansi** (8 - Jan - 2025)

On 8 January 2025, the Kachin Independence Organization/Kachin Independence Army (KIO/KIA) took control of Mansi town in Kachin State.

# Captures of Towns in Karenni and Shan (South)



## **Mese** (24 - June - 2023)

The joint force consisting of the KRF, KNU/ KNLA and PDFs launched attacks on all military junta camps in Mese Township on 13 June and seized control of the town on 24 June.

## **Moebye** (13 - Nov - 2023)

The Karenni Resistance Forces (KRF) launched attacks on Moebye in Pekon Township, southern Shan State, on 11 November and seized control of the town on 13 November.

## **Nan Mei Khon** (13 - Nov - 2023)

The Karenni Resistance Forces (KRF) launched attacks on Nan Mei Khon in Demoso Township on 11 November and seized control of the town on 13 November.

## **Ywar Thit** (28 - Jan - 2024)

The Karenni Resistance Forces (KRF) announced on 28 January that it had seized control of Ywar Thit town in Bawlake Township.

## **Mawchi** (28 - Jan - 2024)

On 28 January, the KRF announced that it had seized control of Mawchi town without having to fight after the military junta abandoned its camps in the town on 26 January 2024.

## **Shadaw** (12 - Feb - 2024)

The Karenni Resistance Forces (KRF) seized control of Shadaw town in Karenni (Kayah) State on 12 February 2024.

# Captures of Towns in Karen and Bago (East)



## **Mone (4 - Dec - 2023)**

The KNLA and allied resistance forces launched attacks on military junta camps in Mone town in Kyaukkyi Township on 2 December and seized control of the town on 4 December.

## **Kyaikdon (14 - Mar - 2024)**

Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) and joint resistance forces launched attacks on military junta camps in Kyaikdon town, Kawka-reik Township on 13-14 March 2024 and seized control of the town on 14 March.

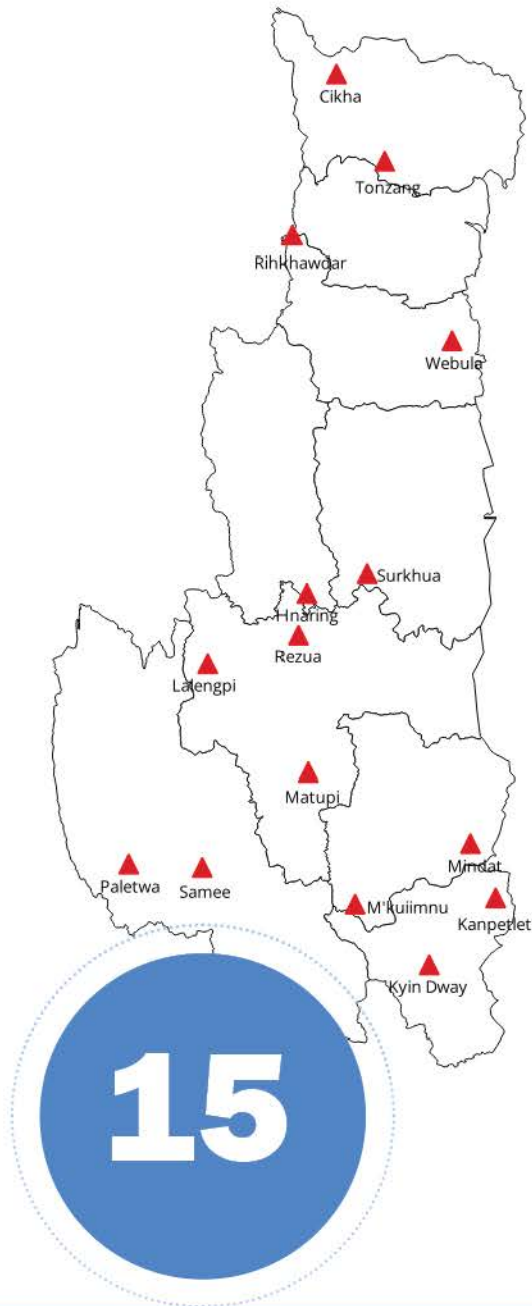
## **Hpapun (28 - Mar - 2024)**

On 28 March 2024, Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) and allied resistance forces seized control of Hpapun town in Karen State.

## **Lay Kay Kaw (17 - Oct - 2024)**

On 17 October 2024, Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) took control of Lay Kay Kaw in Karen State.

# Captures of Towns in Chin State



## M'kuiimnu (24 - July - 2021)

The CDF-Mindat successfully seized control of M'Kuiimnu in Mindat Township on 24 July 2021.

## Rikhawdar (13 - Nov - 2023)

On 13 November, the joint force of CNF/CNA, CDF-Zanniatram, PDA – Tedim, CDF – Thantlang and CDF – Hualngoram attacked and captured two military outposts based in Rikhawdar on Trade Route 2 on the India-Myanmar border and seized complete control of the town.

## Rezua (29 - Nov - 2023)

The CNF/CNA, CDF- Zotung, CDF- Zotung, CDF-Zophei, CDF-Lautu, CDF-Mara, CDF- Senthang and CDF- Matupi launched “Operation ZZLMS” on Rezua town in the Zotung area of Chin State on 26 November and seized control of the town on 29 November.

## Webula (30 - Nov - 2023)

The CNF/CNA and CNDF seized control of Webula town in Falam Township on 30 November 2023 after the military junta troops withdrew from the area.

## Surkhua (30 - Nov - 2023)

The CNF/CNA and the locally-based CDF-Hakha seized control of the town of Surkhua in Hakha Township on 30 November 2023 after the military council troops withdrew from the area.

## Hnaring (30 - Nov - 2023)

The CNF/CNA and the locally based CDF-Thantlang seized control of the town of Hnaring town in Thantlang Township on 30 November 2023 after the military council troops withdrew from the area.

## Paletwa (14 - Jan - 2024)

The ULA/AA launched attacks on Paletwa town on 13 November and seized control of the town on 14 January.

## Samee (16 - Jan - 2024)

On 16 January, the ULA / AA seized control of Samee town in Paletwa Township.

## Kyin Dway (29 - Apr - 2024)

The Chin Brotherhood Alliance and the ULA / AA jointly seized control of Kyin Dway town in Kanpetlet Township on 29 April 2024.

## Cikha (19 - May - 2024)

The CNF/CNA and allied Chin defense forces seized control of Cikha town in Tonzang Township on 19 May 2024.

## Tonzang (21 - May - 2024)

The CNF/CNA, CDF- Tonzang, CDF- Thantlang, PDA-Tedim, CDF CDM-Siyin, CDF- Hualngoram, YDF (Yaw), CDF-Asho, CDF-KKG, CDF- Hakha, CDF- Zanniatram, CDF-Matupi and CDF-Paletwa seized control of Tonzang town in Tonzang Township on 21 May 2024.

## Matupi (29 - June - 2024)

On 29 June 2024, a combined force of Chin Brotherhood, United League of Arakan / Arakha Army (ULA/AA), Yaw Army (YA) and Yaw Defense Force (YDF) successfully took control of Matupi.

## Lalengpi (11 - July - 2024)

The CNF/CNA, CDF-Mara, CDF-Matupi, CDF-Lautu and CDF-Zophei launched a joint attack on military junta camps in Lalengpi town in Matupi Township on 20 November and seized control of the town on 24 November.

On 11 July 2024, Maraland Defense Force/Maraland Territorial Council (MDF/ MTC) retook Lailenpi with the help of the ULA/AA.

## Mindat (21 - Dec - 2024)

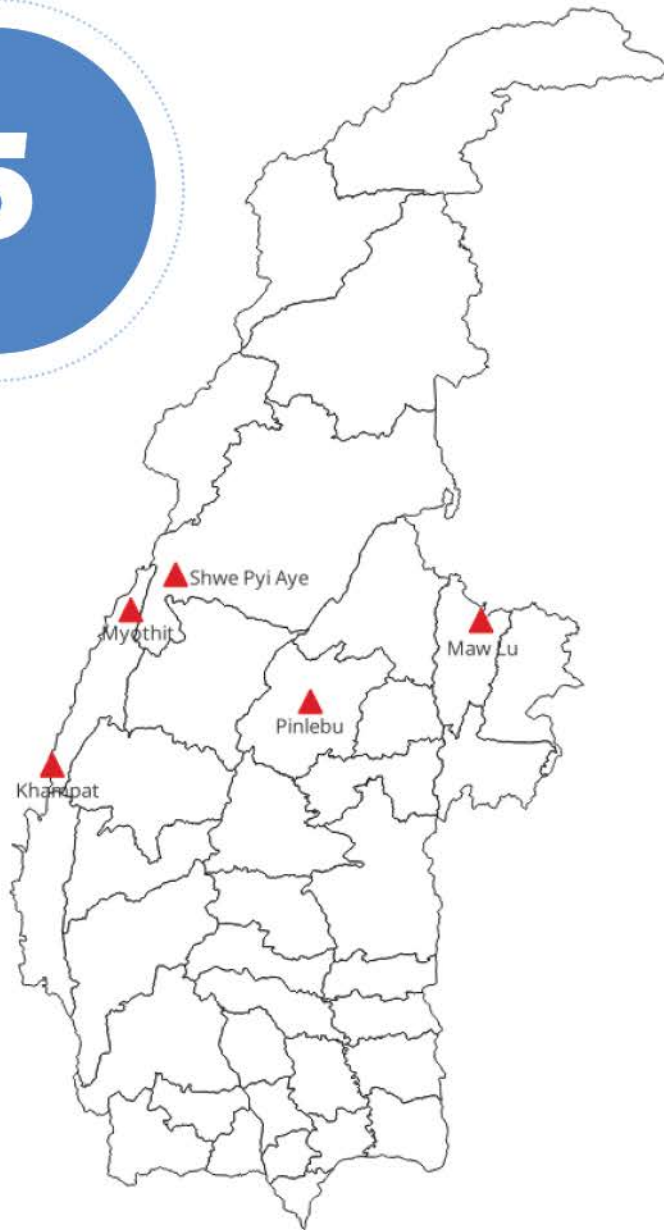
On 21 December 2024, the Chin Brotherhood (CB) seized control of Mindat town in Chin State.

## Kanpetlet (22- Dec - 2024)

On 22 December 2024, the Chin Brotherhood (CB) seized control of Kanpetlet town in Chin State.

# Captures of Towns in Sagaing Region

5



## **Khampat (7 - Nov - 2023)**

PDFs launched attacks on junta troops and Myoma police station in Khampat in Tamu Township on 4 November and seized complete control of the town on 7 November.

## **Shwe Pyi Aye (22 - Nov - 2023)**

Joint PDF forces launched attacks on Shwe Pyi Aye town in Homalin Township on 21 November. The joint forces seized control of the town and captured eight junta soldiers on 22 November.

## **Maw Lu (13 - Dec - 2023)**

Joint forces of KIA, ABSDF, and PDF-Indaw seized control of Maw Lu town on 13 December.

## **Myothit (11 - May - 2024)**

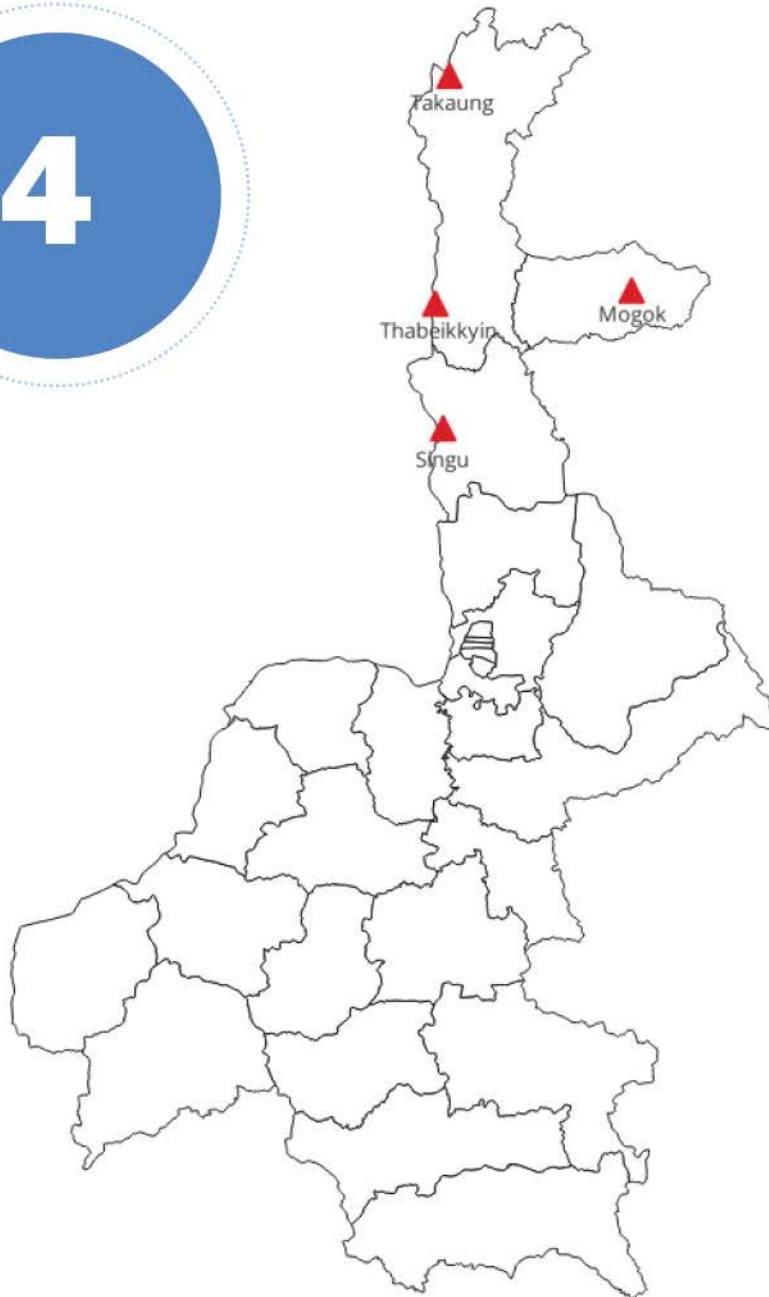
On 7 May 2024, the joint People's Defense Forces (PDFs) launched an offensive against the military council's camps in Myothit town in Tamu Township. The joint PDFs took control of the town on 11 May.

## **Pinlebu (8 - Oct - 2024)**

On 8 October 2024, the allied People's Defense Forces (PDFs) recaptured Pinlebu town in Sagaing Region for the second time. They had initially taken control of the town in November 2023 but had to withdraw due to air offensives by the junta.

# Captures of Towns in Mandalay Region

4



## **Singu** (17 - July - 2024)

On 17 July 2024, People's Defense Force (PDF) captured Singu in Mandalay Region.

## **Mogok** (24 - July - 2024)

On 24 July 2024, Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) and allied forces took control of Mogok in Mandalay Region.

## **Takaung** (12 - Aug - 2024)

On 12 August 2024, the joint People's Defense Forces (PDFs) successfully seized control of Takaung town in Thabeikkyin Township.

## **Thabeikkyin** (25 - Aug - 2024)

On 25 August 2024, the joined People's Defense Forces successfully captured Thabeikkyin.

# Captures of Towns in Arakan State

23



## **Pauktaw (24 - Jan - 2024)**

The ULA / AA launched attacks on Pauktaw town on 19 January 2024 and seized control of the town on 24 January.

## **Taungpyo (6 - Feb - 2024)**

The ULA / AA launched attacks on both Taungpyo (Let Wae) and Taungpyo (Let Yar) camps of the military junta on 4 February 2024, and seized control of the town on 6 February.

## **Minbya (6 - Feb - 2024)**

On 6 February, the ULA/AA announced that it had seized control of Minbya town.

## **Kyauktaw (7 - Feb - 2024)**

On 7 February 2024, the ULA / AA seized control of Kyauktaw town.

## **Mrauk-U (8 - Feb - 2024)**

On 8 February, the ULA / AA seized control of Mrauk-U town in Arakan State.

## **Kan Htaung Gyi (15 - Feb - 2024)**

On 15 February 2024, the ULA / AA captured Kan Htaung Gyi in Arakan State.

## **Myebon (15 - Feb - 2024)**

On 15 February 2024, the ULA / AA seized control of Myebon town in Arakan State.

## **Maei (16 - Feb - 2024)**

On 16 February 2024, the United League of Arakan/ Arakha Army (ULA/AA) captured Maei in Arakan State after the withdrawal of junta troops from the town.

## **Ponnagyun (4 - Mar - 2024)**

On 4 March 2024, the ULA / AA seized control of Ponnagyun town in Arakan State.

## **Ramree (11 - Mar - 2024)**

On 11 March 2024, the ULA / AA seized control of Ramree town in Arakan State.

## **Rathedaung (17 - Mar - 2024)**

On 17 March 2024, the ULA / AA seized control of Rathedaung town in Arakan State.

## **Sane (9 - May - 2024)**

Before 9 May 2024, the ULA/AA captured Sane in Arakan State.

## **Buthidaung (18 - May - 2024)**

The ULA / AA seized complete control of Buthidaung town in Arakan State on 18 May 2024.

## **Thandwe (16 - July - 2024)**

On 16 July 2024, the United League of Arakan/ Arakha Army (ULA/AA) captured Thandwe in Arakan State.

## **Kyeintali (14 - Aug - 2024)**

On 14 August 2024, the United League of Arakan / Arakha Army (ULA/AA) took control of Kyeintali in Gwa Township.

## **Taungup (24 - Nov - 2024)**

On 24 November 2024, United League of Arakan/ Arakha Army (ULA/AA) took control of Taungup town in Arakan State.

## **Tan Hlwe Ywar Ma (24 - Nov - 2024)**

On 24 November 2024, the ULA/AA took control of Tan Hlwe Ywar Ma town in Arakan State.

## **Maungdaw (8 - Dec - 2024)**

On 8 December 2024, the United League of Arakan/ Arakha Army (ULA/AA) took complete control of Maungdaw town in Arakan State.

## **Kha Maung Seik (8 - Dec - 2024)**

On 8 December 2024, the ULA/AA took control of Kha Maung Seik town in Arakan State.

## **Myin Hlut (8 - Dec - 2024)**

On 8 December 2024, the ULA/AA took control of Myin Hlut town in Arakan State.

## **Ann (20 - Dec - 2024)**

On 20 December 2024, the United League of Arakan/Arakha Army (ULA/AA) seized control of Ann town in Arakan State.

## **Tat Taung (20 - Dec - 2024)**

On 20 December 2024, the ULA/AA took control of Tat Taung town in Arakan State.

## **Gwa (29 - Dec - 2024)**

On 29 December 2024, the ULA/AA took control of Gwa town in Arakan State.

## Chinshwehaw, Hpawnghseng, Kyu Koke (Pang Hseng), Hsenwi (2 - Nov - 2023)

The Three Brotherhood Alliance—MNDAA, TNLA and ULA / AA — launched Operation 1027 on 27 October, and seized complete control of Chinshwehaw, Hpawnghseng, Kyu Koke (Pang Hseng) and Hsenwi towns on 2 November.

## Monekoe (7 - Nov - 2023)

The MNDAA and ULA / AA attacked the Monekoe strategic hilltop outpost on 5 November and seized complete control of the town in Muse Township on 7 November.

## Kunlong (12 - Nov - 2023)

The MNDAA launched the military operation to capture Kunlong in northern Shan State on 1 November, attacking military junta camps and its administrative offices. The ethnic army seized control of the town on 12 November.

## Mawhtike (15 - Nov - 2023)

On 15 November 2023, the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) captured Mawhtike in Kone Kyan Township in northern Shan State.

## Konkyan (28 - Nov - 2023)

On 28 November, the MNDAA seized control of Konkyan town on Myanmar-China border in northern Shan State after the entire Infantry Battalion 125 based in the town surrendered by raising a white flag.

## Monglon (5 - Dec - 2023)

On 5 December, joint TNLA forces seized control of Monglon town in Kyaukme Township.



## Namhsan (15 - Dec - 2023)

On 15 December, joint TNLA forces seized control of Namhsan town.

## Namkham (18 - Dec - 2023)

The TNLA and allied forces launched attacks on Namkham town on 27 October and seized control of the town on 18 December.

## Mantong (22 - Dec - 2023)

On 22 December, the TNLA and allied forces seized control of Mantong town.

## Namtu (28 - Dec - 2023)

The TNLA launched attacks on Namtu town on 25 December and seized control of the town on 28 December.

## Mongngaw (31 - Dec - 2023)

The TNLA launched attacks on Mongngaw town in Kyaukme Township on 29 December and seized control of the town on 31 December.

## Laukkai (4 - Jan - 2024)

On 4 January, the MNDAA seized control of Laukkai town.

## Kutkai (7 - Jan - 2024)

On 7 January, the Three Brotherhood Alliance (MNDAA, TNLA and ULA /AA) seized control of Kutkai town.

## Hopang, Panglong (10 - Jan - 2024)

The Three Brotherhood Alliance (MNDAA, TNLA and ULA/AA) handed over Hopang and Panglong, the towns they seized on 5 January, to the UWSA on 10 January.

## Mabein (21 - Jan - 2024)

The KIA and allied PDFs launched attacks on Mabein town on 20 January 2024 and seized control of the town on 21 January.

## Nawngkhio (26 - June - 2024)

On 26 June 2024, the Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) successfully took control of Nawngkhio.

## Mongmit (16 - July - 2024)

On 16 July 2024, the Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) and allied force captured Mongmit in northern Shan State.

## Lashio (25 - July - 2024)

On 25 July 2024, Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) took control of Lashio in northern Shan State.

## Kyaukme (6 - Aug - 2024)

The Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) and allied forces seized control of Kyaukme town on 6 August 2024.

## Hsipaw (12 - Aug - 2024)

On 12 August 2024, the Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) seized control of Hsipaw town in northern Shan State.



## Kawlin

On 3 February 2022, the military junta re-entered Kawlin town with a large number of troops in several columns, which had been taken by the People's Defense Force (PDF) and other resistance forces on 6 November 2023.

## Myawaddy

The military junta, with the help of the Karen Border Guard Force (BGF), recaptured the garrison of Infantry Battalion 275, which had been captured by the Karen National Union (KNU) and People's Defense Forces (PDFs) on 11 April 2024, and raised the Myanmar national flag again on 24 April 2024.



## Hsihseng

On 30 March 2024, the military junta announced through its media that it had regained control of Hsihseng town in southern Shan State and started reconstruction work, which had been captured by the joint forces of the Pa-O National Liberation Organization (PNLO), the Karenni Nationalities Defence Force (KNDF), and the People's Defense Forces (PDFs).

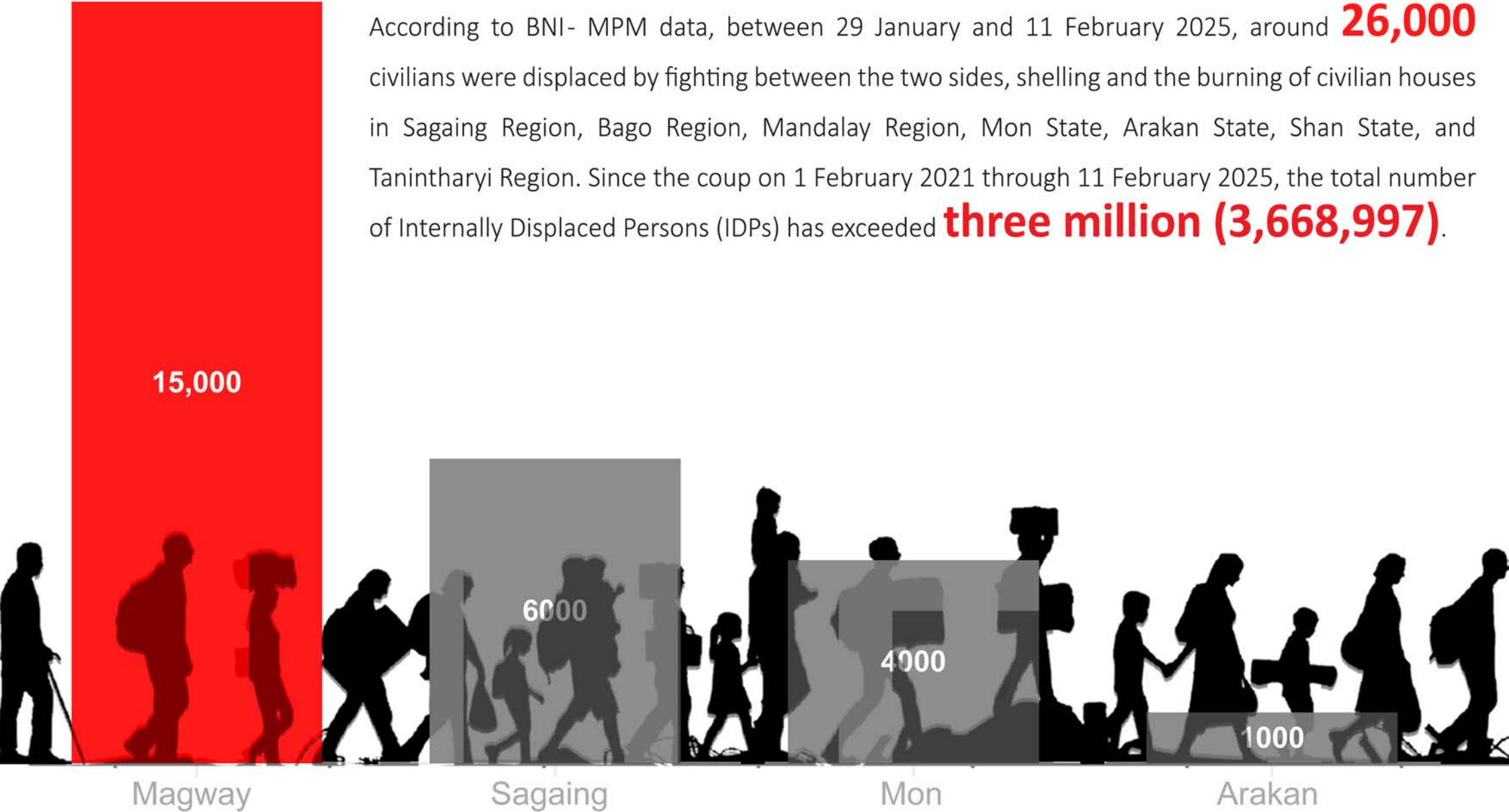
## Kani

In the first week of March 2024, the revolutionary forces controlled most areas of Kani town. However, they were forced to retreat on 12 March due to reinforcements and an airstrike offensive by the junta.

# Number of People Displaced In Two Weeks (29 Jan - 11 Feb 2025)

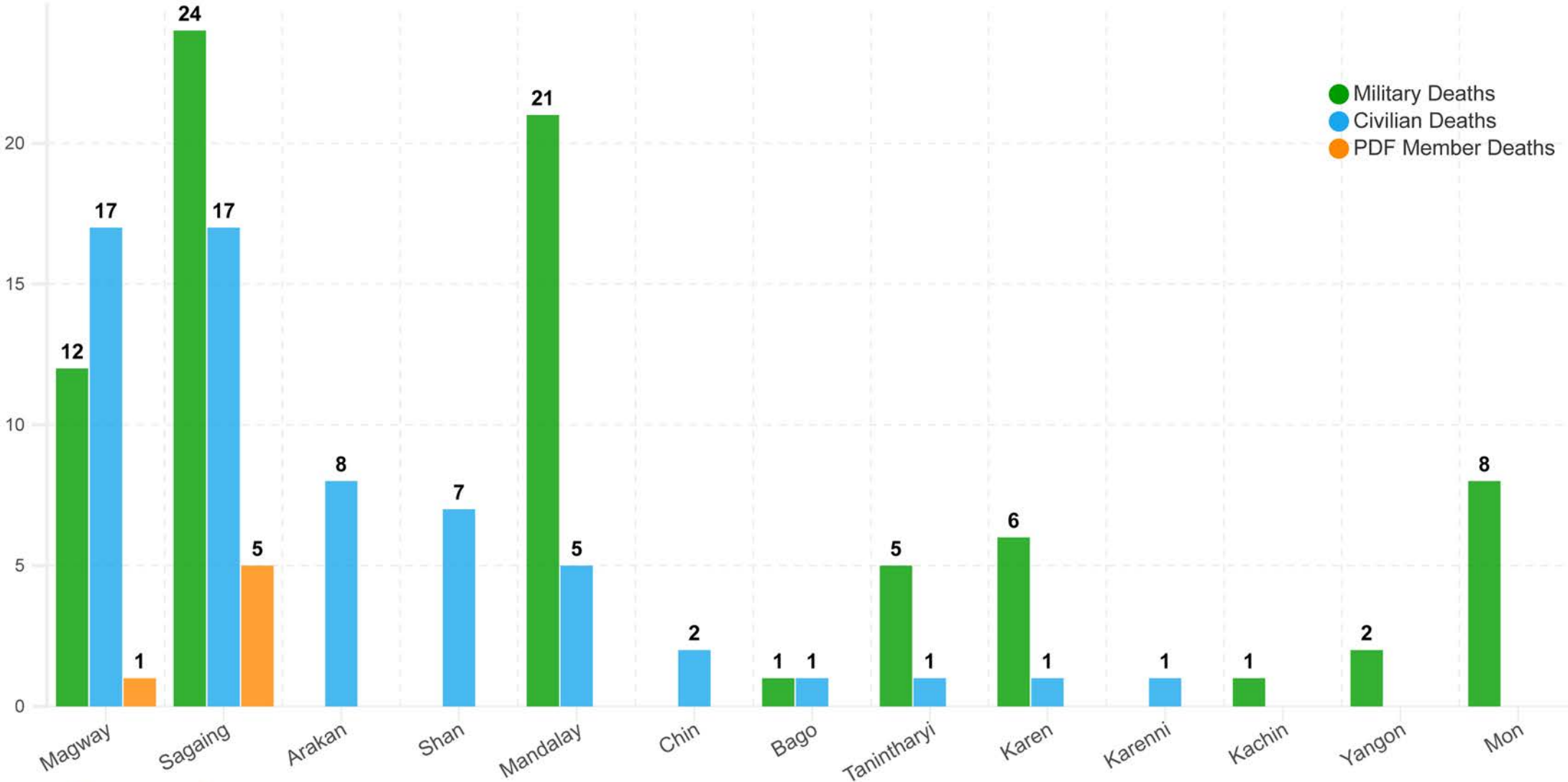
# 26,000

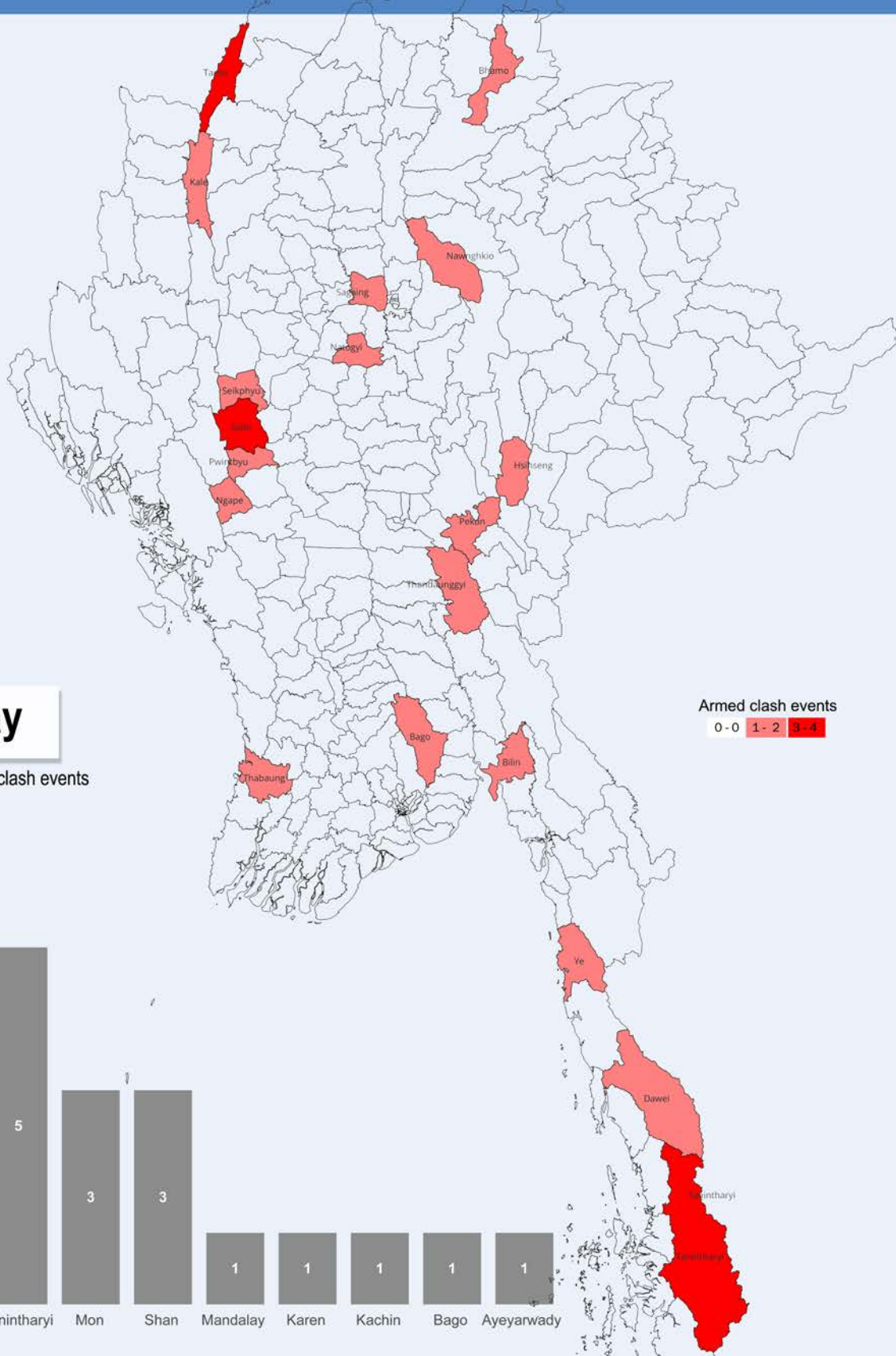
According to BNI- MPM data, between 29 January and 11 February 2025, around **26,000** civilians were displaced by fighting between the two sides, shelling and the burning of civilian houses in Sagaing Region, Bago Region, Mandalay Region, Mon State, Arakan State, Shan State, and Tanintharyi Region. Since the coup on 1 February 2021 through 11 February 2025, the total number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) has exceeded **three million (3,668,997)**.



# No. of junta soldiers, PDF members and civilians killed in two weeks (29 Jan - 11 Feb 2025)

According to BNI – MPM data, between 29 January and 11 February 2025, a total of **80** junta soldiers and **six** PDF members were killed. In addition, a total of **60** civilians lost their lives in Magway Region, Sagaing Region, Arakan State, Shan State, Mandalay Region, Chin State, Bago Region, Tanintharyi Region, Karen State and Karenni State.





According to Burma News International (BNI) – Myanmar Peace Monitor (MPM) data, between 29 January and 11 February 2025, there were **29** armed clash events involving military council troops, People's Defense Forces/Local Defense Forces (PDFs/LDFs), and Ethnic Revolutionary Organizations (EROs). Magway Region recorded the highest number of clashes among the regions and states, with **seven** incidents. Since the coup on 1 February 2021, through 11 February 2025, there have been a total of **5,920** clashes across Myanmar. As BNI-MPM records these armed clashes as one event per day per township, the actual number of clashes may be higher.



*Donald Trump, President of the United States signed and released an executive order, on 4 February 2025. Photo-Reuters*

President of the United States Donald Trump maintained Myanmar's designation as a country posing an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. As a result, on 10 February 2021, President Trump signed Executive Order 14014, declaring a state of emergency under the National Security Act concerning the situation in Myanmar. He also announced on 6 February that the order would be extended for another year. <sup>1</sup>

The extension makes it possible to prolong the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Myanmar nationals currently in the United States and continue providing humanitarian aid for the survival of refugees along the Thailand-Myanmar border. Furthermore, other programs related to Myanmar can continue without reductions in funding, as pointed out by Dr. Zachary Abuza, a Professor at the National War College in Washington, DC, who specializes in Southeast

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<sup>1</sup> President Trump continues to designate Myanmar as a country that still threatens US's national security, RFA Burmese, 6 February 2025.

Asian politics and security issues. In addition, President Trump's response to Myanmar is surprising and is also noted as an important symbol.<sup>2</sup>

On the other hand, the health care sector has been affected by the temporary suspension of aid by US, and the Myanmar refugee camps in Thailand are trying to continue with the help of Thai authorities. On 3 February, officials from refugee camps in Tak Province in Thailand, Thai authorities and officials from the hospital held a meeting. As a result of the discussion, refugee camps supported by the International Rescue Committee (IRC) will maintain access to hospital facilities and equipment. In case of emergencies, patients from the refugee camps will also be allowed to be sent to Thai hospitals with the approval of Thai authorities.<sup>3</sup>

On 29 January, Fair Party MP Kannavee Suebsang presented a proposal to the government in the House of Representatives to allow refugees to work legally. The MP proposed the government allow refugees to work temporarily in Thailand, which would enable them to sustain themselves and contribute to the economy through taxes. He suggested they be allowed to work in Thailand until a long-term solution is found. The suggestion comes after President Donald Trump halted the provision of medical services in refugee camps in Thailand.<sup>4</sup>

In a statement released on 30 January, Mr. Anneliese Dodds, the UK Government's Minister for Development, announced that healthcare services would be provided to nearly one million people across Myanmar in the first half of 2025. This healthcare initiative will include maternal care, nutrition support, and disease treatment.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Pro-democracy groups welcome continued designation of Myanmar as a threat to U.S. security, RFA Burmese, 6 February 2025.

<sup>3</sup> Thai authorities will help to provide medical treatment in refugee camps, RFA Burmese, 7 February 2025.

<sup>4</sup> Thai MP proposes to allow refugees to work, KIC, 31 January 2025.

<sup>5</sup> Healthcare will be delivered to nearly one million people across Myanmar, UK announces, KIC, 3 February 2025.

### **Note:**

The facts and figures and references in Bi-Weekly News Reviews are taken from the Burma News International (BNI)-Myanmar Peace Monitor's (MPM) dataset. Peace and conflict-related news covered daily by 15 member media organizations of the BNI and other local and foreign media organizations are recorded in the BNI-MPM's Dataset daily.

