



CHINLAND MONITORING BRIEFING

August 2025



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SUMMARY

Military tensions persist between Chin armed resistance groups and the Military Commission within Chinland and in surrounding areas under Chin coalition control. The Military Commission has launched counteroffensives, leading to ongoing clashes. Internal friction among Chin armed groups also continues. However, the Chinland Defense Force- Zotung, Zophei, Luatu, Mara, and the Sengthang Revolution Force (ZZLMS) alliance successfully conducted its first joint military training.

Although the Hualngoram Peoples Organization detained the Assistant Executive Secretary-1 of the Chin National Organization / Chin National Defense Force (CNO/CNDF), he was later released in a gesture toward peace. A political agreement was signed between the Chin National Front/Army and the Hualngoram Peoples Organization, focusing on Chinland building, security, and liberation.

The Chinland Council and Chinland Government announced plans to strengthen human resources in education by introducing university-level programs and launching an MBBS medical course in 2026. In contrast, the United League of Arakan / Arakan Army (ULA/AA) declared Paletwa Township as a district under Rakhine State administration, drawing strong condemnation from the Chinland Council, Chin revolutionary forces, and Chin civil society.

The Chinland Council held its fifth session of the first term to discuss military, political, and nation-building matters. The Military Commission's planned elections were strongly rejected by the Chin National Army and various Chin revolutionary organizations.

In international relations, UNHCR has begun interviewing Myanmar refugees for Refugee Status Determination (RSD) in New Delhi, India. In Mizoram State, biometric data collection for approximately 2,000 Myanmar refugees has been completed. Indian authorities confirmed that most individuals arrested for drug-related offenses are Myanmar nationals.

A report by the Chin Centre for Peace and Reconciliation (CCPR) revealed that between 2022 and July 2025, approximately 2.7 tons of narcotics and drugs were seized in Mizoram and Falam Township, indicating the rapid expansion of trafficking networks. Mizoram's government has launched anti-drug operations, while the central Indian government continues implementing border fencing initiatives.

The Military Commission continues targeting civilian areas, resulting in arrests, airstrikes, killings, injuries, and destruction of homes, schools, hospitals, and religious buildings. Some Chin revolutionary groups have forcibly conscripted civilians, including students and CDM participants. From 2021 to 2025, airstrikes in Chinland have caused 145 civilian deaths and 313 injuries. The Chin Human Rights Organization (CHRO) also reported ongoing human rights violations by ULA/AA against indigenous residents in Paletwa Township.

MILITARY OPERATIONS AND CONFLICTS

August 2

1. The clash intensifies between the military, which has approximately 200 troops, and the Chinland Defense Force-Kalay-Gabaw-Gangaw (CDF-KKG) in the southern part of Kalay Township, Sagaing Region. According to a spokesperson from CDF-KKG, the village was captured during a major operation.

August 7

1. On August 7 at around 11:30 AM, the Chinland Defense Force-Hakha attacked a vehicle operated by a Territorial security unit from the military commission's police force at Thita Junction in Hakha town, Chinland. The attack resulted in one police officer being seriously injured and one member being killed.

August 22 & 24

1. During the battle to capture Mindat town, retreating members of the Military Commission abandoned weapons, including three MA rifles, one RPG, and related equipment. These were discovered and handed over by civilians, according to a statement from the Chin Defense Force Mindat Military Headquarters on August 22. Similarly, on August 24, civilians found and handed over another three MA-type rifles.

August 22

1. The ZZLMS coalition forces, based in Hakha, Thantlang, and Matupi townships, conducted their first joint military training exercise. The coalition includes five groups: Chinland Defense Force- Zotung, Zophei, Luatu, Mara, and the Sengthang Revolution Force (ZZLMS).

August 24

1. Lalrohlu (Henry Hlute), Assistant Executive Secretary-1 of the Chin National Organization / Chin National Defense Force, who was detained at a military checkpoint by the Hualngoram Peoples Organization / CDF-Hualngoram (HBO/CDF-Hualngoram) on August 5, was released on August 24 in a gesture toward peace.

August 25

1. In the Mara region of Chinland, the Chinland Defense Force Mara issued a public warning after approximately 200 troops from the Maraland Defense Force and the allied Arakan Army launched an offensive to seize their headquarters. Citizens were advised to avoid travel, refrain from gathering in groups larger than five, and temporarily close schools.

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT AND GOVERNANCE

August 3

1. The Chin National Front/Army (CNF/A) and the Hualngoram Peoples Organization (HBO) signed a five-point agreement to collaborate on Chinland's liberation and building, including CNF/A taking responsibility for checking Trade Route No. 2, the India-Myanmar border.
2. The Zotung Federal Council issued new transportation regulations, stating that roads in the Zotung region are currently under repair. Drivers must comply with rules prohibiting the transport of commodities exceeding designated weight limits.

August 5

1. The Chinland Council, Chinland Government, and the Ministry of Health and Sports offer 30 students the Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (M.B.B.S) program for the first time, a partnership with the University of Medicine (1) and the Interim University Council. The program is set to begin in January 2026.

August 8

1. The Chin Brotherhood (CB) spokespersons stated that CB representatives traveled to Laiza, Kachin State, in late July, at the invitation of the Kachin Independence Organization/Army (KIO/KIA). They held discussions with KIO/KIA Deputy Chairman General Gun Maw and senior leaders of the National Unity Government (NUG).

August 9

1. The Tedim Township Council, a member of the Chinland Council, reported that rice distribution was provided for the second time to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in villages across Tedim Township; however, no detailed information was released.

August 11

1. During the 10th online press briefing of the Arakan People's Revolutionary Government, ULA/AA spokesperson Khaing Thukha announced that Paletwa Township in Chinland, which had been seized from the military council, was being promoted to a district-level administrative unit under AA governance.

August 12

1. The Chin Civic Movement, a coalition of Chin civil society organizations, declared that the unilateral incorporation of Paletwa Township into Rakhine State by the ULA/AA without the consent of local Chin residents is completely unacceptable.

2. The Global Khumi Organization and Global Khumi Youth Association jointly stated that the political objective and administrative implementation of the ULA/AA and the Arakan People's Revolutionary Government regarding Paletwa Township are not accepted by the Chin people of Paletwa.

August 13

1. Salai Htet Ni, spokesperson for the Chin National Army, stated that the ULA/AA is carrying out an administration mechanism in Paletwa Township by designating it as a district of Rakhine State without the consent of local Chin residents could escalate the conflict.

August 16

1. The Public Administration of Tedim Township, a member of the Chinland Council, announced that a merchant in a village in Tedim Township was arrested with fake Myanmar 10,000 kyat bills worth over 100 million kyats.

August 18

1. Salai Htet Ni, spokesperson for the Chin National Army, stated that citizens supporting the military commission's planned election (Part 1) scheduled for December 28 should reconsider their involvement and take responsibility and accountability for the consequences. He emphasized that the Chin National Army would not accept any actions taken by the military commission regarding the election and would prevent it to fail.
2. In response to an August 9 article by India Tribune alleging that the Chin National Army supports drug traffickers behind a ₹150,000 drug trade from conflict zones into India, the Chin National Front/Army denied the claims, calling them baseless. They emphasized that such accusations undermine efforts to cooperate with Indian authorities and called for a thorough review of the article's sources.

August 19

1. The Interim Chin National Consultative Council released a statement rejecting the upcoming Military Commission's election, arguing that the commission only represents itself and its own community—not the true will of the people. They urged international governments and organizations to oppose the elections, warning that they could deepen ongoing conflicts.

August 22-23

2. The Chinland Council held its 5/2025 meeting in Chinlung town, discussing key issues such as meeting financial needs for the 2025 fiscal year, forming a committee to appoint leaders for three objectives, and restructuring the Chinland government and its ministries for greater efficiency.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND CROSS-BORDER ISSUES

August 7

1. The Chin Refugee Committee- New Delhi announced that the UNHCR would begin conducting Refugee Status Determination (RSD) interviews for Myanmar refugees residing in New Delhi starting August 8.

August 11

1. In Mizoram State, India, biometric data collection for Myanmar refugees began from late July to August 11, and approximately 2,000 individuals had been registered.

August 25

1. Since the military coup in Myanmar in 2021 through May 2025, a total of 185 Myanmar nationals have been arrested and prosecuted in Mizoram State, India, for involvement in drug trafficking, according to a statement from the Mizoram Police reported by India Today Media.
2. To implement the “Special Drive on Drugs” initiative, Inspector-General of Police H. Ramthlengliana IPS led a team including leaders from the Central Young Mizo Association (CYMA) to conduct field operations in villages along the Indo-Burma border starting August 25, according to Bengvarna News Agency.

August 27

1. The plan to construct fencing along the India-Myanmar border is under the jurisdiction of the central government and is being carried out according to its directives, stated Mizoram’s Minister of Home Affairs, Pu K. Sapdanga, during a state legislative meeting held on August 27.

August 28

1. The Chin Centre for Peace and Reconciliation (CCPR) released a research paper titled “A New Front: Drug Trafficking Along the India–Myanmar Border.” The paper highlights Champhai District in Mizoram and Falam Township in Chin State as the main trafficking routes. Between 2022 and July 2025, approximately 2.7 tons of narcotics and drugs were seized. The report notes the expansion of trafficking networks and recommends that Indian agencies prioritize direct collaboration with local organizations in Chinland for border security and anti-drug operations.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND PUBLIC SAFETY CONCERNS

August 3

1. At 8:50 AM, the military council launched an airstrike on Mindat town, Chin State, damaging two government buildings and eight civilian homes, according to the Public Administration, Mindat Township

August 3 & 10

1. On August 3, approximately 40 youths in Hakha, some returning from Sunday worship service at church and others sitting at a tea shop on the Hakha-Gangaw road, were arrested by the military, but eight people were later released. Similarly, on August 10, ten youths returning from church were arrested near the Myoma market in Pyitawtha Ward.

August 5

1. U Lone Mar, a 35-year-old resident of Bu Chaung Wa village in the Dai region (2), Khaikha Subdivision, was arrested by the Arakan Army at the Than Htaung village checkpoint on July 20 while returning from delivering goods by motorboat to Rakhine State.

August 9

1. The Chin Human Rights Organization (CHRO) expressed concern over serious human rights violations by the ULA/AA in Paletwa Township, including making learning the Rakhine language a must, removing indigenous curriculum from local schools, committing sexual violence against local women, forcing civilians into military service, and restricting freedom of movement.

August 17

1. On the morning of August 17, the military commission launched an airstrike on Kanpetlet town, dropping two bombs that damaged five civilian homes.

August 18

1. In Chyan Pyan village, Matupi Township, Chinland, a 60mm abandoned war weapon exploded while children were playing near a house, injuring four children.

August 20

1. Near the clock tower in Hakha town, an unprovoked shooting by the Military Commission around 11:30 AM injured one man and two female students. The man later died at Hakha Public Hospital while receiving medical treatment.

August 23

1. At approximately 12 PM, the Military Commission launched an airstrike on Singzung Khua village in northern Kalay Township, Sagaing Region, near the border with Tedim Township in Chinland. One child was injured, and a Christian church was damaged.

August 22 & 25

1. The Matupi Revolution Organization/Chin Defense Force- Matupi (MRO/CDF-Matupi) strongly condemned the forced conscription of youths, students, and married men under 40 in both their controlled areas and regions administered by the Chinland Council, Chinland Government, and Matupi Township Public Administration. The CDF-Matupi warned that such actions could escalate the armed conflict.
2. Between May 2021 and August 2025, the Military Commission conducted over 176 airstrikes in Mindat Township, resulting in 40 civilian deaths and 120 injuries. Additionally, 172 homes, 40 government buildings, including schools and hospitals, and 18 religious structures were damaged, according to a statement from the Mindat Township Public Administration released on August 25.
3. On August 25 at around 1:30 PM, the Military Commission dropped seven bombs on Mualbem and Zangzawl villages in Tedim Township, Chinland. One child from Zangzawl village was injured.

ANALYSIS

Recent developments in Chinland suggest a complex interplay of military strategy, resistance coordination, and governance efforts. The Military Commission's operations in civilian areas appear aimed at undermining public support for Chin resistance groups, potentially laying groundwork for the December 2025 Election in contested regions.

Meanwhile, joint exercises among the Chin armed factions indicate a growing level of coordination and preparedness, likely in anticipation of renewed offensives. This unity may signal a shift toward more consolidated resistance efforts.

The Chinland Council and associated governmental bodies have launched initiatives in education and healthcare, which seem designed to enhance their legitimacy and foster recognition as de facto governing authorities.

In southern Chin State, the United League of Arakan/Arakan Army's (ULA/AA) expansion into Paletwa Township has escalated territorial tensions. This move complicates efforts to align broader political objectives among the Chin revolutionary and nation-building entities.

A recent political agreement between the Chin National Army and the Hualngoram Peoples Organization could represent a foundational step toward stabilizing the India-Myanmar border and addressing transnational issues such as drug trafficking.

However, biometric watches, border fencing, and increased narcotics and drug flow continue to pose serious challenges to cross-border governance and social cohesion. Across the region, airstrikes, forced conscription, and human rights abuses, whether perpetrated by state or non-state actors, remain critical threats to welfare and long-term stability.

ABOUT US



The Chin Center for Peace and Reconciliation (CCPR), established in 2016, is a registered local NGO that envisions a peaceful Myanmar with reconciled people by empowering stakeholders for democratization and sustainable peace. Despite the temporary closure of its main offices due to the military coup, CCPR continues operations from cross-boundary areas between Burma and India, engaging in peace-building, policy advocacy, technical assistance, secretariat support, and humanitarian crisis response.



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