



# CHINLAND

## MONITORING BRIEFING

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MAY 2026

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## 01 SUMMARY

May 2026 witnessed escalating military intensity across Chinland as the military junta launched large-scale offensives employing extensive ground and air power. At least 100 armed clashes erupted across Falam, Tedim, Tonzang, Hakha, Mindat, and Kanpelet townships. Resistance forces inflicted significant casualties on junta troops, including through ambushes and anti-armor attacks, capturing weapons and ammunition. **Despite initial defensive successes, the junta's superior firepower forced resistance troops to withdraw from Tonzang town and the Kennedy Peak, Tedim Township outpost by mid-May. The Military deployed overwhelming air assets and ground forces to Mindat and Kanpetlet, aiming to reclaim territory currently held by Chin resistance forces.**

The military campaign relied increasingly on air power. Throughout May, jet fighters and drone strikes targeted populated areas, destroying civilian homes, government buildings, and religious structures. The junta blockaded trade routes leading into Chinland, triggering acute shortages of essential goods and severe inflation. Simultaneously, the Chinland Government maintained its administrative functions and institutional development, conducting field meetings, opening schools, improving healthcare delivery, and the justice sector.

The conflict spilled across international borders, intensifying regional security concerns. Drug trafficking networks expanded their operations, with Indian law enforcement arresting major traffickers coordinating flows from Myanmar. Military weapons and explosives appeared in the Indian border regions. The humanitarian crisis worsened, for example, with over 820 people from Falam Township fleeing to Mizoram State. More than 20 civilians died from military operations, with significant destruction of homes and public infrastructure across five townships.

## 02 MILITARY OPERATIONS AND CONFLICT

*At least 100 armed clashes occurred throughout May, resulting in fewer than 70 confirmed junta casualties, several wounded personnel, including a battalion commanding officer, one defection, one captured soldier, and the seizure of three small arms. Resistance forces also sustained casualties and injuries, and were forced to withdraw from the Kennedy Peak outpost and Tonzang town following the junta's deployment of superior ground and air forces.*

- May 3** The Chinland Defense Force-Kalay-Kabaw-Gangaw (CDF-KKG), a member of Chinland Council, confirmed the defection of a soldier from Light Infantry Battalion 50 based in Gangaw, Magway Region, who brought a complete set of weapons and ammunition to the resistance.
- May 2–4** Heavy fighting erupted near Leithingkung in Tedim Township between Chin Brotherhood forces and a junta military column that had marched from Kalay in Sagaing Region to reinforce Tedim town. The intense clashes resulted in casualties on both sides.
- May 5** CDF-CDM Siyin, a member of Chinland Council, carried out a landmine ambush against a junta supply convoy arriving from Kalay via the Kalay-Taingen Road near Heinzin village. The attack resulted in 13 junta casualties, several wounded personnel, and the seizure of three small arms.

- May 5–6** Utilizing superior ground and air forces, the military junta retook the Kennedy Peak outpost near Tedim town, forcing Chin Brotherhood forces to withdraw from the position.
- May 7** An armed clash occurred between the Chin National Army and a junta military column of approximately 300 personnel advancing from Falam town along the Falam-Hakha Highway. The engagement resulted in 15 fatalities among the junta forces.
- May 8** Local sources reported that a junta military column consisting of approximately 600 personnel, advancing from Kalay via the Kalay-Taingen-Tedim Road, entered Light Infantry Battalion 269 in Tedim town as a reinforcement unit.
- May 13**
- CDF-Hakha Central Council announced the apprehension and detention of a member of the junta-backed Pyusawthee militia in Hakha town following verification that the individual was extorting money and threatening local citizens.
  - An intense battle broke out near Tonzang town between combined resistance forces and a joint column of over 800 personnel composed of junta military and the transnational armed groups - Zomi Revolutionary Army-Eastern Command (ZRA-EC), which was conducting an offensive to retake Tonzang town.
- May 14** A combined force led by the Chin National Army ambushed a military column carrying the commanding officer of Light Infantry Battalion 266 near the 6-way junction in Hakha town. The ambush resulted in four junta casualties and left numerous personnel wounded, including the commanding officer.
- May 15** The military junta forces and the ZRA launched a three-pronged offensive through the Tedim-Tonzang Road, the Cikha-Tonzang Road, and inter-village roads, attempting to encircle and overwhelm resistance positions.
- May 18** Fierce fighting occurred between joint Chinland Council forces and the combined column of junta military and ZRA between Tonzang town and Tungtuang village, as junta forces pushed to consolidate territorial control.
- May 19** Following a massive offensive by the military and ZRA forces employing sustained air and artillery bombardment, they secured ground and air superiority, forcing Chinland Council troops to withdraw from Tonzang town.
- May 21–25** Intense clashes broke out at the 6-mile marker near Kanpetlet town between the Chin resistance forces and a junta military column advancing from Saw Township in Magway Region. The engagement lasted for five days with sustained fighting.

## 03 POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT AND GOVERNANCE

- May 13** The Maraland Administrative Council announced a ban on the use of chemical pesticides, herbicides, and related toxic substances within Maraland territory, citing severe risks to public health, soil degradation, water contamination, livestock deaths, and ecological destruction.
- May 18–22** Ministers of the Chinland Government conducted field visits to four distinct regions, Lautu, Mara, Thantlang, and Zophei, convening with local administrative officials and residents. The meetings focused on enhancing the efficiency and delivery of healthcare, education, and humanitarian assistance services.

- May 27–30** In response to rising theft during junta military offensives, the Mindat and Kanpelet township administrations imposed movement restrictions, announced bans on public gatherings, and instituted night-time curfews to maintain public order.
- May 15** The Chin National Defense Force (CNDF) and CDF-Thantlang, a member of Chinland Council, concurrently held graduation ceremonies for military graduates and reserve forces, demonstrating continued institutional development and training of personnel.
- May 19** As the military junta forces prepared major offensives into southern Chin State, the Chin People’s Union (CPU) issued an appeal urging Chin diaspora communities worldwide to provide defense funding to support military operations.
- May 21** Citing security operations in Falam Township, the CDF-Hualngoram, a member of Chinland Council, restricted travel hours on the Laitui-Rihkhawdar highway to prevent civilian movement through combat zones.
- May 23** Fearing junta infiltration operations, the Senthang Central Council, a member of Chinland Council, based in Hakha township, made a public announcement that residents obtain travel recommendation letters for movement and urged residents to prepare bomb shelters and stockpile essential supplies.
- May 23** Civic Disobedient Movement (CDM) education staff formed the Chin State Level Education CDM Organization to operate community schools and advocate for revolutionary unity in education.
- May 25** The Chin People’s Union urgently requested tens of billions of kyats in funding to support counter-offensive operations against military advances in southern Chinland and the Yaw region.
- May 27** The CDF-Hakha Central Council, a member of Chinland Council, announced the arrest and detention of the incumbent General Secretary for the May 15 homicide of the former Vice Secretary. A special investigative committee, including representatives from the Chinland Government's Ministry of Defense, was formed to uncover the facts and ensure justice.

## 04 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND BORDER ISSUES

### Illicit Trade and Border Security

*Mizoram state law enforcement apprehended five residents from Chinland, including a mastermind orchestrating transnational drug trafficking operations from Myanmar into several Indian states. The operation resulted in the seizure of approximately 12.07 kilograms of heroin and an additional 20.318 kilograms of other narcotic substances.*

- May 9** Assam Rifles personnel discovered and seized a 60mm mortar tube, mortar shells, hand grenades, walkie-talkies, and improvised explosive devices (IEDs) hidden in a forested area near the India-Myanmar border in Champhai District.
- May 11** Champhai District police arrested a 36-year-old male named Zardawngkima from Chinland, confiscating over 10.8 kilograms of stimulant tablets and 75 grams of heroin.
- May 16** The Narcotics Control Bureau arrested Thancintuang in New Delhi, identifying him as a major kingpin coordinating transnational narcotics trafficking from Myanmar into the Indian states of Mizoram, Manipur, Assam, and Tripura.

- May 18** The Central Anti-Drug Squad (CADS) and Central Young Mizo Association (CYMA) apprehended a 36-year-old Myanmar national named Zamaniang in Aizawl, Mizoram State, carrying 20 packets of heroin.
- May 21** Police authorities in Zokhawthar village, Champhai District, arrested Khamluaithanga from Tedim Township with three soap cases containing heroin.
- May 22** The Deputy Commissioner's Office of Lawngtlai District in Mizoram State issued formal directives imposing strict controls to suppress illegal fuel sales and smuggling operations into Myanmar territory.
- May 25** Police authorities in Zokhawthar village arrested Lalbiakdiki, a resident of Khawmawi village in Falam Township, after discovering 1.66 kilograms of heroin in her possession.
- May 27** Champhai District police intercepted a vehicle, arresting two residents and a Myanmar national, Thawnglamkim, while seizing 9.5 kilograms of stimulant tablets.

### Humanitarian Issues and Displacement

- May 12** Following the military junta's recapture of Falam Township and widespread rumors of an imminent offensive toward Rihkhawdar, more than 820 displaced persons from Falam Township crossed into Zokhawthar village on the Mizoram side of the border to escape escalating violence.
- May 4–17** During the first and second weeks of May, the Network for Chin Community Development (NCCD) provided essential food supplies to displaced Chin populations across 10 separate displacement sites located in Chin State, Sagaing Region, and Mizoram State.

## 05 HUMAN RIGHTS AND PUBLIC SAFETY

*The military junta conducted systematic bombardment of civilian areas throughout May using jet fighters, helicopters, drone strikes, and heavy artillery. Attacks targeted residential neighborhoods, villages, religious structures, and government buildings. The strikes resulted in more than 20 confirmed civilian deaths, including multiple children, severe injuries to numerous civilians, and extensive destruction of homes and public property.*

### Airstrikes and Drone Attacks

- May 1** At approximately 3:20 PM, the military forces dropped two 500-pound bombs on Khawpichip village in the Hualngoram area of Falam Township, **killing seven civilians**, including **three children**, and wounding nine others. The attack damaged more than 10 residential homes. On the same day, a drone bomb attack by junta forces targeted civilians hiding in farm huts near Thlanrawn village, Falam Township, killing a 17-year-old female, Mai Ngun Hnen T̄ial, from Arva village.
- May 2** A 13-year-old youth, Tg. Lian Muan Kim lost his life when an artillery shell fired by the junta's Light Infantry Battalion 269 in Tedim town exploded at a fuel station at the entrance of the town.
- May 6** At approximately 4:00 PM, the military forces dropped three drone bombs on Phunom village in Tedim Township. The assault killed three civilians, injured one individual, and completely destroyed an Assemblies of God church building.

- May 8** At approximately 7:00 AM, the military junta utilized a jet fighter to drop four bombs on Mindat town. The airstrike damaged two government buildings: the Department of Immigration and National Registration and the Fire Station.
- May 11–12** The military forces launched nine airstrikes across three separate locations within Mindat town, killing four individuals, including prisoners of war, and wounding several others. The attacks destroyed 15 civilian homes, 10 government buildings, and 4 vehicles.
- May 15** At approximately 5:30 PM, the military junta forces conducted two aerial bombings targeting Lungzan village in Tonzang Township. Detailed information regarding casualties and damages could not be verified due to ongoing security constraints in the area.
- May 17** The military forces conducted an airstrike on Tonzang town in the afternoon.
- May 13–22** Over 10 days, the military executed 25 aerial bombings targeting urban areas in Mindat, Kanpetlet, and Matupi townships. The strikes resulted in the deaths of two civilians, including a newborn infant, injured several others, and destroyed numerous civilian homes, shops, and government offices.

### International Legal Action

- The Chin Human Rights Organisation (CHRO) filed a comprehensive lawsuit against junta military leaders and officers for systematic violations of human rights. The legal case documenting civilian casualties, systematic destruction of civilian property, and deliberate targeting of residential areas was successfully submitted to a court of first instance in Timor-Leste, marking an important international step toward accountability for wartime atrocities and civilian harm.

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### ABOUT US:

The Chin Center for Peace 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-border areas between Burma and India, engaging in peace-building, policy advocacy, technical assistance, secretariat support, and humanitarian crisis response.