

# CLAWS Newsletter



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by Dhanapriya Devi Chungkham

## **INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

### **May 25 (Mizzima) NUG Deepens Coordination with Ethnic Allies on Federal and Military Strategy**

The National Unity Government (NUG) is strengthening coordination with Ethnic Revolutionary Organisations to move from political dialogue to practical implementation of joint strategies, according to an official spokesperson. Officials said discussions now focus on concrete operational planning and closer cooperation between resistance groups, while details remain confidential for security reasons. The push follows a 21 May cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Mahn Winn Khaing Thann, where leaders reviewed progress on federal governance structures, interim administration in controlled areas, and coordination in sectors like health, education, and humanitarian affairs. The Prime Minister also held separate consultations on finance, human rights, and defence to improve policy alignment across resistance networks.

### **June 11 (Mizzima) Civil Society Urges Global Action on Kachin Crisis as Myitsone Project Revived**

Civil society groups have issued a joint statement marking 15 years of renewed conflict in Kachin State, condemning the junta's ongoing violence and calling for stronger international action, including increased humanitarian aid and civilian protection. They highlight indiscriminate attacks, forced conscription, and communication and transport blockades that have worsened humanitarian conditions, while noting that reduced global funding has deepened the crisis. The statement also criticises the junta's attempt to revive the Myitsone Dam project, warning it could escalate tensions and cause long-term environmental and security risks. It urges international pressure to halt abuses, support displaced communities, and permanently cancel the project, stressing that lasting peace is impossible under military rule.

## **June 20 ([Mizzima](#)) Myanmar Junta Intensifies Media Crackdown as 97 Licences Revoked Amid Worsening Press Freedom Conditions**

Myanmar's junta has intensified its crackdown on the press, revoking licences of three more media outlets—Myaelatt Athan, Red News Agency, and Asia Citizens in May 2026, bringing the total to 97 suspended media licences, according to Athan. By the end of May, 23 independent media organisations and 12 publishing houses had lost their licences, with the crackdown occurring shortly after the junta's new term began following disputed elections. The Independent Press Council Myanmar says the country remains one of the worst globally for press freedom. The report also notes related rights concerns, including harassment of journalists, arrests of resistance figures, a hunger strike by 200 prisoners in Kalay Prison, and continued campaigns demanding proof that Aung San Suu Kyi is alive. In conflict areas, communication remains heavily restricted, with limits on Starlink internet use in several townships and disrupted phone networks affecting civilian access to information.

## **June 20 ([Mizzima](#)) Myanmar Opposition Demands Release of Aung San Suu Kyi on Her 81st Birthday**

Myanmar's main opposition groups—the Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (CRPH), National Unity Government (NUG), and National Unity Consultative Council (NUCC)—have called for the immediate and unconditional release of Aung San Suu Kyi and all political prisoners to mark her 81st birthday. The groups stressed that Suu Kyi's release remains a central demand of the pro-democracy movement, highlighting concerns over her prolonged detention, unknown whereabouts, and lack of access to family and legal representatives since the 2021 military coup. They also urged an end to attacks on civilians and forced military conscription, while calling on the international community to increase pressure on the military government. Several Western embassies, including those of the EU, UK, Canada, Australia, and Switzerland, marked the occasion by expressing solidarity with the people of Myanmar and renewing calls for the release of political detainees

## **21 June (CAN) Synthetic Drug Trade Expands Across Asia Despite Record Seizures**

A new UN report has found that methamphetamine and ketamine seizures in East and Southeast Asia reached record levels in 2025, yet the region's synthetic drug trade continues to expand. Experts say falling drug prices and growing trafficking networks indicate that supply remains stronger than ever. Myanmar's Shan State remains the main production hub for methamphetamine, with analysts describing the country as the epicentre of transnational organised crime in Southeast Asia. The report also highlights increasing links between drug trafficking, online scam operations, money laundering, and cybercrime networks. According to the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), criminal groups are becoming more sophisticated, diversifying their activities and expanding into new markets across Asia. Experts argue that enforcement measures alone are insufficient and call for broader strategies targeting criminal finances, supply chains, public health, and community resilience.

## **23 June (Reuters) Over 5,000 People Remain Trapped in Myanmar Scam Centres**

A human rights group has reported that more than 5,300 people remain trapped in online scam compounds near the Myanmar–Thailand border, despite regional crackdowns on such operations. The victims, many of whom are foreign nationals, are believed to be held at four sites in areas controlled by the Democratic Karen Buddhist Army (DKBA). According to the Civil Society Network for Human Trafficking Victim Assistance (CSNHTV), those trapped include around 1,600 Chinese nationals, along with citizens from several Asian, African, and Latin American countries. The group has urged Thai authorities to take action, warning that many scam centres continue to operate and remain linked to human trafficking and online fraud networks that target victims worldwide. Despite efforts by Thailand and regional partners to dismantle these operations, illegal scam activities continue to persist along the border.

## **FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

### **May 24 ([Mizzima](#)) CSOs Urge Quad to Treat Myanmar Crisis as Regional Security Threat**

Over 50 civil society organisations have urged Quad countries to recognise Myanmar's crisis as a major Indo-Pacific security challenge requiring coordinated action. They said the post-coup situation has driven displacement, regional instability, and rising transnational crime, including trafficking and cyber scams, largely linked to continued military rule. The groups called for rejection of junta legitimacy, greater humanitarian access through cross-border channels, and engagement with local and ethnic governance structures. They also urged stronger regional cooperation to combat organised crime and warned that lasting Indo-Pacific stability is impossible without addressing Myanmar's crisis.

### **June 5 ([CNA](#)) ASEAN Signals Greater Engagement with Myanmar**

Thailand's Foreign Minister Sihasak Phuangketkeow has indicated that some ASEAN members are reassessing their approach toward Myanmar, emphasising that the region does not want an isolated Myanmar. He argued that engagement, rather than exclusion, offers the best path toward peace and Myanmar's eventual reintegration into ASEAN. While reaffirming support for ASEAN's Five-Point Consensus, Thailand stressed the need for a pragmatic approach that encourages dialogue, reduces violence, and facilitates humanitarian assistance. Recent visits by regional leaders to Myanmar suggest a growing willingness among ASEAN members to engage directly with Naypyidaw. Thailand also highlighted border security concerns, including cross-border crime, drug trafficking, scam operations, and the risk of conflict spilling into Thai territory, underscoring the importance of stability in Myanmar for regional security.

### **June 5 ([The Irrawaddy](#)) Key Takeaways from Min Aung Hlaing's India Visit: Legitimacy, Trade Push, and Strategic Interests**

Myanmar junta leader Min Aung Hlaing's recent visit to India—his first foreign trip since declaring himself president—sought international recognition and economic engagement amid sanctions and internal conflict. Key highlights included Min Aung Hlaing bringing influential business tycoons to promote investment in sectors such as aviation, banking, tourism, and construction. India reportedly raised concerns about the continued detention of Aung San Suu

Kyi, though no response from the junta was disclosed. Both sides also discussed cooperation in rare earths and critical minerals, though practical progress remains uncertain due to conflict zones and competing regional interests, particularly Chinese influence in mining areas. Connectivity projects such as the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project and the India–Myanmar–Thailand Trilateral Highway were reaffirmed, despite ongoing disruption from civil war in border regions. Security assurances were also exchanged, with Min Aung Hlaing pledging that Myanmar would not allow its territory to be used against India, especially amid activity by insurgent groups along the border.

### **June 9 ([Mizzima](#)) Indonesia Urges Dialogue and End to Violence in Myanmar Visit**

Indonesian Foreign Minister Sugiono met Myanmar junta leader Min Aung Hlaing on 8 June, delivering a message from President Prabowo Subianto calling for an end to violence, release of political prisoners, and inclusive dialogue among all parties. Indonesia reaffirmed support for a Myanmar-led peace process under ASEAN's Five-Point Consensus. However, differences emerged between Indonesian and junta statements, particularly over claims regarding Myanmar's recent elections. Indonesia also held talks with the junta's foreign minister on bilateral issues while continuing engagement with both the National Unity Government and ethnic armed groups as part of its broader diplomatic approach.

### **June 9 ([Mizzima](#)) Myanmar Envoy Urges UN Action as Civilian Deaths Surpass 8,000**

Myanmar's UN ambassador Kyaw Moe Tun has urged the UN Security Council to adopt a stronger, enforceable resolution on Myanmar, criticising its failure to protect civilians and calling its response increasingly ineffective. Speaking at a UN General Assembly session on 5 June, he said over 8,000 people have been killed since the 2021 coup, with millions displaced and in need of humanitarian aid. He also cited continued airstrikes on civilian areas, including schools and displacement camps. The ambassador argued that Security Council inaction, internal divisions, and reliance on closed-door discussions have weakened its credibility, while limited engagement with the junta has further emboldened violence. He called on the international community to support efforts to end military rule and promote a federal democratic system in Myanmar.

### **June 9 ([Mizzima](#)) Myanmar Junta Seeks Stronger Economic Cooperation with Russia-Led Eurasian Bloc**

Myanmar's junta is pushing for closer economic engagement with the Russia-led Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) as part of efforts to build alternative trade and investment channels amid Western sanctions. At a Myanmar-EEC Joint Working Group meeting reported on 2 June, officials discussed expanding cooperation in trade, investment, and industry with members of the Eurasian Economic Union, including Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Armenia, and Kyrgyzstan. Since the 2021 coup, Myanmar has increasingly turned to Russia and other non-Western partners for economic and political support, particularly in energy, defence, and investment sectors. While no major agreements were announced, state media described the talks as part of ongoing efforts to strengthen ties, reflecting the junta's broader strategy to reduce reliance on Western markets and counter the impact of sanctions.

### **June 12 ([Nikkei Asia](#)) China Confirms Detention of Myanmar Scholar on Espionage Charges**

China has confirmed the detention of Min Zin, a U.S. citizen and executive director of the Institute for Strategy and Policy (ISP-Myanmar), on suspicion of espionage and activities deemed harmful to China's national security. According to Chinese authorities, Min Zin was detained after arriving in Kunming, Yunnan Province. Beijing stated that it has informed the U.S. consulate of the arrest. A prominent figure in Myanmar's pro-democracy movement, Min Zin founded ISP-Myanmar, a think tank that closely monitors Myanmar's political and security developments. The detention comes amid efforts by the United States and China to stabilise bilateral relations and follows China's continued support for Myanmar's military-backed government.

### **June 16 ([Al Jazeera](#)) China Reaffirms Support for Myanmar**

Chinese President Xi Jinping reaffirmed Beijing's support for Myanmar President Min Aung Hlaing during their meeting in Beijing, underscoring the close strategic partnership between the two countries. Xi emphasised strengthening bilateral cooperation and promoting peace and stability in Myanmar, particularly in its conflict-affected northern regions. The visit highlights China's continued engagement with Myanmar's military-led government, which has faced international isolation since the 2021 coup. It was the second meeting between the two leaders

within a year and came shortly after Min Aung Hlaing visited India, reflecting Myanmar's efforts to engage major regional powers. Both sides agreed to enhance cooperation against online fraud, gambling networks, and drug trafficking. The visit also witnessed the signing of 18 agreements covering transportation, trade, disaster management, health, and media cooperation. China remains Myanmar's largest strategic partner and a key investor through Belt and Road Initiative projects, including energy pipelines and port infrastructure, despite ongoing security challenges posed by the country's civil conflict.

### **June 19 ([Nikkei Asia](#)) China Pressures Myanmar Leadership to Restore Stability**

China is reportedly increasing pressure on Myanmar President Min Aung Hlaing to reduce conflict and stabilise the country, as prolonged fighting continues to threaten major Chinese investments and infrastructure projects. Beijing is particularly concerned about the security of projects linked to the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor and other Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) investments, many of which are located in conflict-affected areas. Chinese officials are believed to be encouraging greater engagement with ethnic armed groups and efforts to restore stability along the border. The development highlights China's growing role as a key stakeholder in Myanmar's internal conflict, where economic and security interests increasingly shape Beijing's engagement with the military-backed government.

### **June 21 ([Mizzima](#)) Bangladesh Seeks Dialogue Between Myanmar Junta and Arakan Army**

Bangladesh has revealed that it is facilitating communication between Myanmar's military authorities and the Arakan Army (AA) in an effort to promote stability in Rakhine State and create conditions for the eventual return of Rohingya refugees. The initiative reflects changing realities on the ground, where the AA now exercises significant control across much of Rakhine, while the Myanmar military's authority has weakened considerably. Dhaka appears to recognise that any lasting solution to the refugee crisis requires engagement with actors who hold effective power in the region. With more than one million Rohingya refugees still living in Bangladesh, officials view political stability and improved security as essential prerequisites for voluntary and sustainable repatriation. The development also highlights a broader regional trend. Countries such as China and India continue to engage Myanmar's military leadership but increasingly face the challenge that many strategic projects and security concerns involve

territories no longer fully controlled by the junta. As a result, regional actors are gradually adapting their policies to reflect the evolving balance of power in Rakhine State.

### **June 22 ([South China Morning Post](#)) China Backs Myanmar Junta Amid Regional Competition**

Chinese President Xi Jinping's meeting with Myanmar President Min Aung Hlaing is being viewed as a significant endorsement of Myanmar's military-backed government. The visit followed Min Aung Hlaing's trip to India and highlighted Myanmar's growing importance in regional geopolitics. China and Myanmar signed 18 cooperation agreements and discussed border security, trade, and infrastructure projects. Analysts suggest Beijing's support is driven largely by its strategic and economic interests, particularly the protection of key investments under the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor. The visit also underscores the ongoing competition between China and India for influence in Myanmar, a country that remains critical for regional connectivity and access to the Indian Ocean.

### **June 22 ([The Irrawaddy](#)) UN Says Myanmar Crisis Worsening After Election**

UN Special Envoy Julie Bishop has warned that Myanmar's political, humanitarian, and security situation continues to deteriorate despite the military government's claims of improved stability following the recent election. Addressing the UN General Assembly, Bishop noted ongoing violence, aerial attacks, displacement, and restrictions on essential services. She also stated that the UN neither supported nor observed the election, while many observers questioned its credibility. The envoy highlighted rising humanitarian needs, growing cybercrime and trafficking networks, and renewed calls for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi. The European Union echoed these concerns, arguing that the election lacked legitimacy and failed to provide a genuine path toward peace and reconciliation.

### **June 22 ([Mizzima](#)) ASEAN Lawmakers Call for Release of Aung San Suu Kyi**

ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights (APHR), a network of 134 current and former lawmakers from 11 countries, has urged ASEAN leaders to demand the immediate and unconditional release of detained Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi and all political prisoners. In an open letter issued on 19 June, the group called on Myanmar's military authorities to allow independent verification of Suu Kyi's well-being, grant access to her family

and legal representatives, and pursue inclusive political dialogue in accordance with ASEAN's Five-Point Consensus. The lawmakers expressed concern over reports that Suu Kyi was moved from prison to house arrest at an undisclosed location in Naypyidaw. They also highlighted that more than 22,000 political prisoners remain in detention since the 2021 military coup, amid continuing violence and political repression across Myanmar.

## **ECONOMY AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENTS**

### **June 1 ([Nikkei Asia](#)) Myanmar's Retail Sector Faces Mounting Pressure**

Myanmar's retail industry is facing growing challenges amid fuel shortages, rising transportation costs, and disruptions to supply chains. Businesses are struggling to maintain inventories as import restrictions and logistical bottlenecks make it increasingly difficult to source goods. These pressures have led to higher prices and reduced availability of products across the country. Reflecting the difficult business environment, Alibaba-backed e-commerce platform Shop.com.mm, operated by Daraz, announced its withdrawal from Myanmar. The company cited worsening market conditions, including rising costs, product shortages, and operational difficulties, highlighting the broader challenges confronting Myanmar's retail and digital commerce sectors.

### **June 2 ([Mizzima](#)) Myanmar Junta Approves 12 Investment Projects to Signal Economic Stability**

Myanmar's military junta has approved 12 new investment projects worth tens of millions of dollars, according to state media, as part of efforts to project economic stability amid ongoing conflict, sanctions, and international isolation. The Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) approved projects in Naypyidaw across sectors such as manufacturing, energy, and services. Officials claim the investments—by both domestic and foreign actors—could generate thousands of jobs and boost industrial output. State media said the approvals are intended to encourage renewed investment after years of political turmoil and declining foreign capital inflows, with many international firms scaling back or exiting the country. While the junta presents the move as a sign of economic confidence, analysts note that persistent conflict,

disrupted supply chains, labour shortages, and currency instability continue to weigh heavily on Myanmar's economy.

### **June 16 ([Mizzima](#)) Indian Experts Aid Revival of Myanmar Steel Project**

Myanmar's junta is working to revive the long-delayed Myingyan Steel Mill in Mandalay Region with assistance from Indian experts, aiming to boost domestic steel production and reduce imports. Union Minister Dr Charlie Than met Indian specialists on 7 June to discuss repairs, technology transfer, and future operations. Officials said parts of the plant resumed production in 2023–24, producing steel billets and slabs after technical upgrades. Originally launched in the mid-2000s but suspended in 2017 due to delays and debt, the project is now being pushed again under the junta's industrial revival plans following the 2021 takeover.

### **June 17 ([Mizzima](#)) Fuel Price Surge Threatens Myanmar's Economic Recovery: World Bank**

The World Bank warns that Myanmar's fragile economic stabilisation is under pressure due to a sharp rise in fuel prices triggered by the Middle East conflict. In its June 2026 report, it estimates a 2 per cent economic contraction in 2025/26 and forecasts slow 2 per cent growth in 2026/27, revising earlier expectations downward. While there were modest improvements in manufacturing, construction, and services, the recovery remains weak and uneven. Fuel prices surged 90–160 per cent between March and April, driving up transport and production costs and pushing inflation to 24.6 per cent. The report also highlights widespread poverty, ongoing currency pressures, and structural economic weaknesses. It warns that continued fuel shocks and instability could further slow growth and deepen hardship.

## **DEFENCE UPDATES**

### **May 26 ([Nikkei Asia](#)) Fibre-Optic Drones Transform Myanmar's Civil War**

Both Myanmar's military and resistance forces are increasingly deploying fibre-optic drones, introducing a new dimension to the country's ongoing civil war. Unlike conventional drones that rely on radio signals, these unmanned aerial vehicles are controlled through fibre-optic cables, making them largely immune to electronic jamming and signal interference. The

technology has enhanced the effectiveness of drone warfare on both sides, enabling more precise strikes and surveillance operations even in contested environments. The growing use of fibre-optic drones reflects the rapid adaptation of battlefield technologies in Myanmar and highlights the evolving nature of modern conflict, where low-cost innovations are reshaping military tactics.

## **CONFLICT UPDATES**

### **May 31 [\(AP News\)](#) Explosion in Northern Myanmar Kills Over 45**

A powerful explosion at a storage facility containing mining explosives in Myanmar's northern Shan State killed at least 46 people, including six children, and injured more than 70 others. The blast occurred in Kaungtup village near the China border, causing extensive damage to nearby homes. The area is controlled by the Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA), which stated that explosives used for mining and quarrying were stored at the site. An investigation into the cause of the explosion is underway. The incident highlights the ongoing instability in Myanmar, where conflict between the military and various ethnic armed groups continues despite localized ceasefire agreements.

### **June 2 [\(AP News\)](#) Death Toll Rises After Myanmar Mining Explosives Blast**

The death toll from a massive explosion at a storage site for mining explosives in Myanmar's Shan State has risen to 43, including seven children, while more than 110 people were injured. Rescue teams continued recovery operations as authorities investigated the cause of the blast. The explosion occurred in Kaungtup village near the Chinese border, an area controlled by the Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA). The group stated that gelignite used for mining and quarrying was stored at the site. The incident has drawn attention to Myanmar's largely unregulated mining sector, particularly in conflict-affected regions where armed groups control valuable mineral resources. Reports indicate that nearby mines producing materials for the semiconductor and solar industries are linked to Chinese business interests. The tragedy also highlights the complex intersection of conflict, resource extraction, and foreign investment in Myanmar, where both the military and ethnic armed groups rely heavily on revenues from the mining sector.

**June 22 ([BBC](#)) UN: Myanmar Military Killed Over 700 Civilians During Election Period**

A new UN report has accused Myanmar's military of killing at least 702 civilians, including 224 women and 153 children, during the six-month period surrounding the country's 2025 election. The report covers August 2025 to January 2026 and describes the election as lacking credibility due to the exclusion of major opposition parties and ongoing conflict. According to the UN, airstrikes remained the leading cause of civilian casualties, with Sagaing Region recording the highest number of deaths. The report also highlights continued displacement, human rights abuses, and the worsening humanitarian crisis across the country. The UN warned that declining international assistance is further aggravating conditions for millions of Myanmar citizens, while calling attention to ongoing violence, forced recruitment, and abuses against vulnerable communities, including the Rohingya.

**June 10 ([Mizzima](#)) Fortify Rights Says Myanmar Monastery Airstrike May Be a War Crime**

Fortify Rights reports that a Myanmar junta airstrike and ground assault in Bago Region on 5 March killed 28 civilians, including women and children, and may amount to war crimes. The group says military forces bombed a Buddhist monastery sheltering civilians, opened fire in Yae Twin Kone village tract, and detained residents during the operation. Findings are based on survivor interviews and supporting casualty lists from the National Unity Government. Survivors described mass graves, destroyed buildings, and civilian deaths, including children and a pregnant woman. Fortify Rights said the attack on a religious site and civilians violates international humanitarian law and urged stronger global accountability and support for Myanmar's democratic forces.

**BORDER UPDATES**

**June 1 ([Mizzima](#)) Border Shelling Erupts in Tamu During Min Aung Hlaing's India Visit**

Artillery fire broke out along the India–Myanmar border near Tamu on 31 May–1 June between Indian security forces and Myanmar junta troops, coinciding with Min Aung Hlaing's visit to India. Local sources said shelling was exchanged between India's Assam Rifles and junta positions in Min Thar Village in Manipur–Sagaing border areas, though no confirmed

casualties were reported. The clashes came shortly after the junta chief met India's National Security Advisor in New Delhi, highlighting ongoing volatility along the border despite high-level diplomatic talks.

### **June 8 (Mizzima) Mizoram Chief Minister Flags Rising Strain from Myanmar Displacement Influx**

Mizoram Chief Minister Lalduhoma has said that the continuing arrival of people displaced by conflict in Myanmar is placing a significant burden on the state. Speaking at the North Eastern Council meeting in Shillong on 4 June, he noted that Mizoram is already hosting a large displaced population and warned that further inflows are likely due to ongoing violence near the border. Officials said the influx is straining public infrastructure, services, and local resources, with added pressure on border communities. Concerns were also raised about social tensions, labour market impacts, and drug trafficking linked to the displaced population. Authorities estimate that over 40,000 Myanmar nationals are officially recorded in Mizoram, while humanitarian groups put the broader number, including those in camps and rented housing, at over 70,000. The situation is expected to worsen amid continued fighting in neighbouring Myanmar border regions.

### **June 17 (Mizzima) Junta-Linked Committee Formed to Open Talks with Six Naga Armed Groups**

A Peace and Negotiation Committee has been established in Khamti by the Naga Traditional Literature and Culture (Central) Association to engage with six Naga armed groups, according to local sources. The 51-member body is split into six teams tasked with initiating dialogue with various factions active in the Naga region. The groups include NSCN-YA, NSCN-AM, NSCN-IM, the Naga National Council (NNC), the Eastern Naga National Army (ENDA), and one unidentified faction. A local politician said the initiative appears to be aligned with the junta's broader 100-day peace plan and is being implemented under its influence. However, some groups, such as the Naga People's Defence Organisation (NPDO) and Naga People's Defence Force (NPDF), have been left out of the talks. While NSCN-AM is already in ceasefire negotiations with the junta, other groups either avoid formal dialogue or remain active in resistance. The Naga people inhabit the Self-Administered Zone of Leshi, Lahe, and Nanyun townships, as well as Khamti, Homalin, and Tamu in Sagaing Region and parts of Kachin State

in Myanmar. They also live across the border in India's Nagaland, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, and Assam.



## **About the Author**

Dhanapriya Devi Chungkham is currently serving as a Research Assistant at the Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS), New Delhi. She completed her PhD from Centre of Indo-Pacific Studies, School of International Studies (JNU). Her research focuses primarily on security and strategic studies of India's eastern frontier, with particular interest in the Act East Policy, India-Myanmar relations, borderland dynamics, Northeast India and the evolving geopolitical landscape of Southeast Asia and the Indo-Pacific. She specialises in fieldwork-based research and qualitative methodologies.

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