

Ongoing Junta Airstrikes in Bilin and Kyaik Hto Townships Leave Over 5,000 IDPs Stranded and Vulnerable



April 29, 2025

Despite months passing since the initial attacks, more than 5,000 displaced villagers from six communities across Bilin and Kyaik Hto Townships remain unable to return to their homes, citing daily aerial threats and surveillance by junta forces.

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Hots News

Voice of a landmine victim who lost his leg



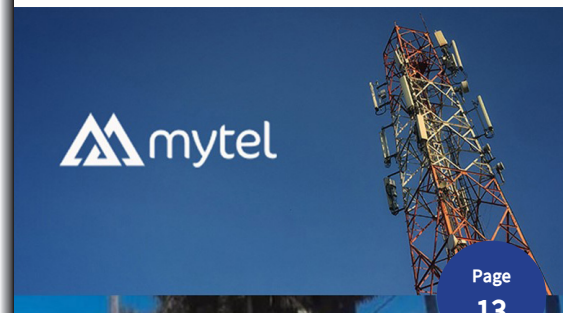
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**HUMAN RIGHTS FOUNDATION
OF MONLAND (HURFOM)**
www.rehmonnya.org

JUNTA CONTINUES TARGETING CIVILIANS DESPITE ITS OWN CLAIMS OF A TEMPORARY CEASEFIRE

(Editorial for the Mon Forum April, 2025)

HURFOM has a long-standing history of documenting human rights violations in Mon, Karen, and Tenasserim Regions in Southern Burma. This information is disseminated to the public via its website and social media platforms. HURFOM releases the Mon Forum on a monthly basis and issue No. 3, Vol. 10 was recently published.

HURFOM routinely reports on between 40 to 50 human rights violations each month. In March, 2025, we produced more than 30 articles documenting human rights violations spread across 13 townships.

After the deadliest earthquake in central Burma on March 18th, 2025, which killed more than 5,000 people and caused huge casualties and damage, the junta twice announced a temporary ceasefire to start rehabilitation efforts.

The first temporary ceasefire was from April 2nd to 22nd, 2025, and the second ceasefire is to be in place from April 23rd to 30th, 2025.

Despite their temporary ceasefire announcement, the junta continued to target civilians even during the holy Songkran period.

According to the local media, the junta has killed more than 160 civilians by air assaults, artillery attacks, and military advances during the Songkran.

The junta has also been conducting lethal air assaults in the HURFOM's project areas in Mon and Karen States, killing both civilians and religious members.

On April 14th, 2025, the junta launched air assaults on villages near Kyone Doe village, Kaw Ka Rate Township, Karen State, that killed nearly 20 innocent civilians. Additionally, approximately 100,000 residents from about 30 nearby villages have had to flee their homes.

On April 19th, 2025, the junta targeted a monastery in Min Saw village, Bilin Township, Mon State with a cruel air assault, killing three residents, including a young novice, and injuring nine other villagers.

The junta has been continuing its military advances and conducted some of the deadliest attacks soon after their ceasefire announcement. The National Unity

Government (NUG) had labeled the ceasefire as a fake one.

HURFOM remains committed to documenting and disseminating human rights violations in the region, with the hope that this information will contribute to ending the impunity of the military junta and can contribute to bringing about a genuine peace and federal democracy to Burma.

Editors' Team

Human Rights Foundation of Monland

April, 2025



Ongoing Junta Airstrikes in Bilin and Kyaik Hto Townships Leave Over 5,000 IDPs Stranded and Vulnerable



April 29, 2025

Despite months passing since the initial attacks, more than 5,000 displaced villagers from six communities across Bilin and Kyaik Hto Townships remain unable to return to their homes, citing daily aerial threats and surveillance by junta forces.

Displaced families from Min Saw and Tagaylaung villages, among others, continue to shelter in territories controlled by Ethnic Resistance Organizations (EROs), too fearful to go back due to frequent flyovers by junta spy aircraft and drones. Field reports confirm that access to food, safe shelter, and basic necessities has become increasingly difficult, especially with the onset of the rainy season fast approaching. Many IDPs face not only physical displacement but also emotional trauma, as fears of sudden attacks loom over them daily.

According to a 56-year-old Karen villager displaced from Min Saw:

“The last major aerial attack occurred on April 19, 2025, when the junta bombed Min Saw village in the Tagaylaung village tract of Bilin Township. This was the second time the area was targeted — the first attack was on February 9, 2025,

when a junta jet fighter dropped a 500-lb bomb, damaging a monastery, homes, and killing civilians.”

Due to these repeated assaults, more than 2,600 residents from the Tagaylaung village tract, which had over 700 households, have fled to ERO-controlled territories and remain displaced today.

Similarly, in Kyaik Hto Township, survivors from villages around Painae Gone have been unable to return home since an aerial attack on February 13, 2025. More than 2,400 civilians from three nearby villages remain displaced. A local service provider explained:

“The junta dropped 500-lb bombs, killing three civilians and injuring at least ten others. Since then, junta aircraft continue daily aerial surveillance over Min Saw and Tagaylaung villages, making it impossible for people to feel safe enough to return. Families are struggling to survive in makeshift shelters.”

Another local volunteer, herself an IDP, shared:

“At first, building shelter was already difficult. We had to rely on bamboo and thatch to build small huts. Now, with the rainy season approaching, it will only get harder. The junta’s constant air threats make it impossible to farm or rebuild our lives. Humanitarian aid is also extremely limited. We don’t know how we will survive the coming months. All we can do is pray that our children won’t fall sick when the rains bring new diseases.”

Most of the IDPs currently sheltering in KNU’s Brigade 1 areas were formerly self-sufficient farmers, rubber plantation workers, and small-scale livestock owners. Before the military coup, they lived stable lives in their home villages. However, since the coup and escalating military offensives, they have become victims of relentless aerial bombings and indiscriminate artillery attacks.

An Emergency Response Team member working with displaced communities reflected:

“If we cannot work safely or live securely, we cannot sustain our lives here in the long term. The junta’s military pressure grows stronger every day, and even now, we haven’t found a truly safe place to rebuild our futures.”

The situation in Bilin and Kyaik Hto Townships highlights the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe facing thousands of civilians in southeastern Burma, with urgent calls for increased international support to reach displaced communities before conditions deteriorate further.



Voice of a landmine victim who lost his leg

Since the attempted coup in 2021, the threat of landmines has emerged again in Burma. In 2023, when there was high military tension, both the military junta and the armed resistance groups used landmines in conflict zones as well as in residential areas. The landmine explosions have occurred frequently, and there have been casualties, loss of body parts, severe threats to livelihood, and living in fear due to insecurity.

The HURFOM has interviewed a 61-year-old landmine victim from Mon State who lost his leg in a landmine explosion.

“I was living on the plantation. At about 8 am on March 13th, 2024, I left my plantation to go shopping at the Kyoe Da Dar (the suspended bridge) near Maw Ka Nin village, Ye Township. I had to pass through the bushes. On the way back from shopping, I felt I stepped on something, and then, I didn’t know what happened. The landmine explosion burst my leg and I shouted for help. A nearby Karen armed group came out to help me. In reality, the landmine might be planted by them. They said, “Don’t you know the landmine was planted here? Don’t shout out. You can use a prosthetic leg”. Then, they sent me to the main road and called an ambulance.

"I didn't have money. I was admitted to the Lamine General Hospital to reduce my treatment cost, but the hospital transferred me to the Mawlamyine Hospital as my injury was severe. The explosion burst all my toes. The flesh of my hand was also burst, and I had to remove my skin from my thigh and grafted it onto my hand. I think I had the most severe injury among landmine victims.

"I had to receive treatment at the Mawlamyine Hospital for nearly a month. My wife had heart disease, and she could not take care of me at the hospital.

"When I was in Mawlamyine, one of my acquaintances in the village told me that an organization from Hpa-An, Karen State, had made contact. They would offer a prosthetic leg for free. Then, I went to Hpa-An to get a prosthetic leg. The "Hpa-An Health Assistance Organization" gave me 600,000 MMK for the transportation fee, and I returned to my village.

"When I arrived at my village, my leg was still had pain. I couldn't sleep well at night. I couldn't walk well either. I had to request that my mother-in-law stay at her house. I didn't have any plantation or house. I had to work on others' plantations. I couldn't work now and have to depend on my sons and daughters. They weren't okay to take care of me. My daughter had to borrow money from others to pay my medical fee. I was feeling upset about that.

"After being attacked by a landmine, the junta's troops reached my house and asked me, "Where and how were you attacked by a landmine? Speak the truth. Don't lie to us". As of today, none of the organizations has taken any responsibility for the attack. When our country is politically stable, I don't want to ask for too much. I just want stability and peace. I have no power to make those who planted landmines accountable. I comfort myself that I had bad luck."



"When I arrived at my village, my leg was still had pain. I couldn't sleep well at night. I couldn't walk well either. I had to request that my mother-in-law stay at her house. I didn't have any plantation or house. I had to work on others' plantations. I couldn't work now and have to depend on my sons and daughters"

Junta Airstrikes Hit Thalwehtaw Village for Fifth Consecutive Day, Killing One Civilian and Injure Civilians Including Children



April 18, 2025

A junta airstrike on Thalwehtaw village, near Kyon Doe Town in Kawka-reik Township, Karen State, killed one man and injured at least three others, including children, according to local sources.

The air raid occurred around 9:00 AM on April 18, 2025. Despite there being no clashes in the area, junta forces launched a YAK-130 jet and dropped 500-pound bombs directly on the village.

“This morning, the bombs dropped suddenly. We’re not even sure how many. A man, around 50 years old, died instantly. One child lost an

arm, and others were also seriously injured. There was no fighting nearby—they just came and dropped the bombs. Those who were hurt have been sent to the hospital. I think it was a 500-pound bomb, it was huge. Houses and even a monastery were hit,” said a resident of Thalwehtaw village.

This attack follows a string of airstrikes on civilian areas in Kawka-reik Township, despite the absence of any armed clashes nearby. Just a day before, on April 17 at around 8:00 AM, junta forces bombed Tharyettaw village, killing a man who was riding a three-wheeled motorbike and injuring several others.

On April 16, in Myaukkanmayaik village, a pregnant woman was killed when a Y-12 aircraft dropped bombs. At least four others, including children, were seriously injured in that attack.

Resistance groups have warned local communities to remain on high alert, as the junta continues indiscriminate airstrikes on villages near Kyon Doe town, despite no ongoing battles in the area.

At present, more than five villages, including Kan Ni village, have seen hundreds of civilians flee their homes in fear, seeking shelter in forests, fields, and any safe location they can find.



“This morning, the bombs dropped suddenly. We’re not even sure how many. A man, around 50 years old, died instantly. One child lost an arm, and others were also seriously injured. There was no fighting nearby—they just came and dropped the bombs. Those who were hurt have been sent to the hospital. I think it was a 500-pound bomb, it was huge. Houses and even a monastery were hit,”

Thousands Trapped in Kawkareik as Junta Escalates Attacks Amid Ongoing Clashes and Blockades



April 22, 2025

Thousands of civilians remain trapped in Kawkareik Township as fierce fighting between junta forces and resistance groups continues for over a week. Junta troops have sealed off all entry and exit points, leaving residents without safe passage, while relentless airstrikes, drone attacks, and artillery shelling have created a dire humanitarian crisis.

According to local residents and human rights monitors, the clashes intensified following joint resistance offensives targeting junta camps along the Kawkareik-Kyone Doe highway starting April 14. As of April 21, heavy fighting persists, especially near Kawkareik's northern and western outskirts. Locals report that junta forces have prohibited residents from fleeing and are actively blocking humanitarian routes.

"This has been going on for more than a week. We're running out of food and water. Some families have taken refuge in bomb shelters and

underground bunkers, but children and the elderly are in desperate need of food and medicine,” said one resident who remains trapped in the town.

Humanitarian groups estimate that more than 7,500 people have fled Kawka-reik Township in recent days, but thousands more are still inside the town, unable to escape. Many report living in fear, unsure whether they will die of hunger or be caught in the next round of fighting. Religious and community leaders in the town have attempted to negotiate humanitarian corridors with the junta, but those talks appear to have stalled.

“People here are surviving on whatever dry food and water they can find. Junta troops won’t let anyone leave. Goods can’t come in either. It’s a suffocating blockade,” said another trapped resident. “It feels like we’re waiting to die—either from bombs or starvation.”

The situation is particularly severe given the junta’s ongoing indiscriminate attacks across southeastern Burma. Recent airstrikes in Kawka-reik Township, Bilin Township, and Dawei District—including direct bombings on monasteries, schools, and civilian homes—have killed and injured scores of people. Just days ago, an airstrike on a monastery in Minn Saw village, Bilin Township, killed a 10-year-old novice monk and two women, injuring eight others.

Despite the humanitarian catastrophe, cross-border assistance remains severely limited. The eastern Thai-Burma border remains largely closed, making it nearly impossible for vital supplies, like food, medical kits, tarpaulins, and baby formula, to reach displaced populations. The suspension of U.S. cross-border aid following the Executive Order has worsened the crisis, cutting off a crucial support line for local ethnic service providers and humanitarian responders.

Humanitarian workers estimate that at least 42 villages in Kawka-reik Township alone have been displaced, pushing the total number of newly displaced persons to nearly 100,000 in Karen State and surrounding areas. Needs for food, medicine, and emergency shelter have surged, but international response remains alarmingly absent.

“We need international humanitarian organizations to step in and help—urgently,” said a local aid volunteer. “The junta has made it impossible for people to survive. No one is safe, and no one is getting the help they need.”



Murder and robbery cases on the rise in Mon State

April 29, 2025

HURFOM: The rule of law has been getting weaker ever since the military’s attempted coup which began in 2021. A noticeable trend has been the rise in the number of cases of theft, robbery, and armed robbery, which occur frequently across Mon State. In addition cases of murder related to these types of crimes have also noticeably increased.

On April 23rd, a husband and wife hired a motorbike taxi from a taxi stand in Thanbyuzayat. The couple subsequently killed the taxi driver and stole the motorbike. They abandoned the driver’s body beside the road.

“His family reported him as a missing person, but they did nothing. Finally, his son tried to search for him. At about noon on the next day (April 24th), he found the dead body of his father near Sa Khan Gyi village. The body had a cut wound at the neck. The murderers took his bike away. The police haven’t caught them as of today,” said a resident.

The victim is a 60-year-old man, U San Thein from

Pa Nga village, Thanbyuzayat Township.

In the third week of April, a group of people who disguised themselves as a group of “donation recipients” stole gold, jewelry, and cash from a house in Well Thon Chaung village, Thanbyuzayat Township.

“On April 23rd, they came by car. They didn’t target the houses on the main road but focused on the houses in the middle and lower part of the village. They used “Ketamine” to make the house owners disoriented and stole their gold and jewelry,” said a local villager.

On April 11th, two female siblings were robbed on their way to the “Kyike Marn Wealth” Pagoda. While attempting to escape, their motorbike crashed and the two sisters died in the accident.

Local authorities are still unable to arrest the criminals and haven’t held anyone accountable as of today.



Junta cuts telecommunication in armed conflict areas

April 24, 2025

HURFOM: In Kaw Ka Rate Township, Karen State and Yebyu Township, Tenasserim Division where there are ongoing armed conflicts, the military junta has cut off telecommunication services, leaving communities with communication problems.

After a week-long armed clash near Kyone Doe Town, Kaw Ka Rate Township, Karen State, that began on April 14th, the junta cut off telecommunication networks in ten nearby villages.

“We have a weak phone signal. It looks like the junta cut off the phone signal. There aren’t too many residents in the village, but some villagers have remained in the village to guard their houses. I want to contact them, but I can’t. I’m in a safe place now, but can’t contact my family members in the village, so I’m worried about them,” said a displaced villager.

A red and white telecommunication tower against a blue sky background on a clear day. Satellite antenna tower wireless technology communicates.

On April 20th, 2025, there was an armed clash between the military junta and the joint resistance forces in Min Thar village tract, Yebyu Township, Tenasserim Division. Local villagers reported to HURFOM, that the junta cut off telecommunication networks to nearby villages soon after the clash.

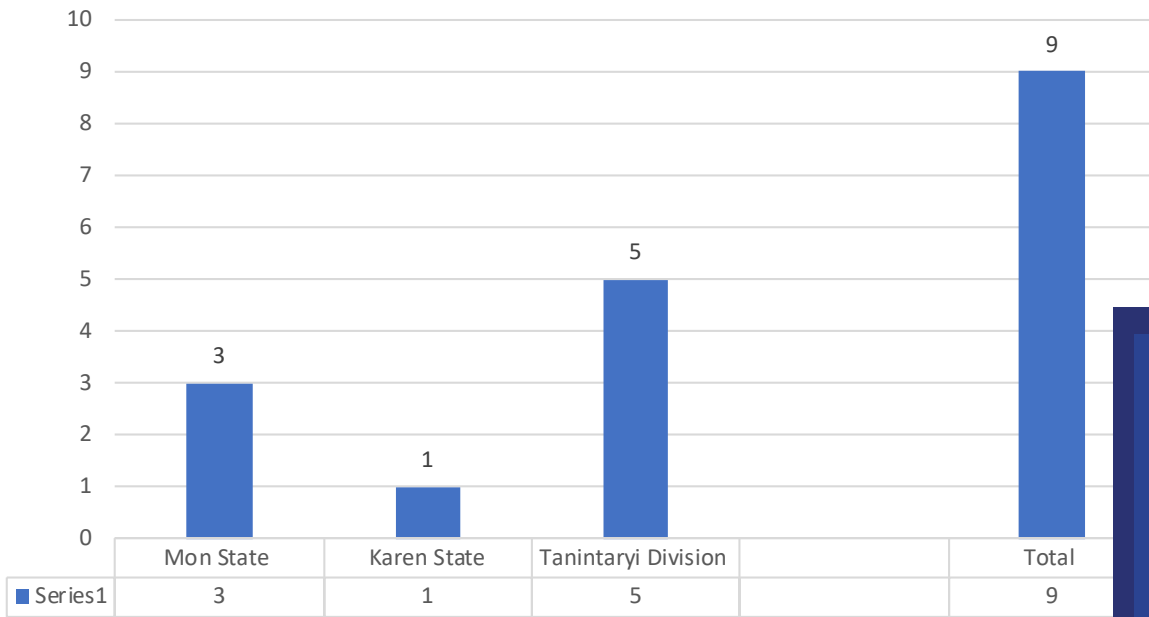
The junta is reinforcing its troop presence with boats in the Min Thar village tract, and there is military tension with the local resistance groups.

In addition to cutting off telecommunication networks, the junta closed the security gates at the entrance and exit to towns and restricted movement for local villagers.

NUMBER OF LANDMINE EXPLOSIONS, INJURIES, AND FATALITIES IN MON STATE, KAREN STATE, AND TANINTHARYI REGION

January to April 2025

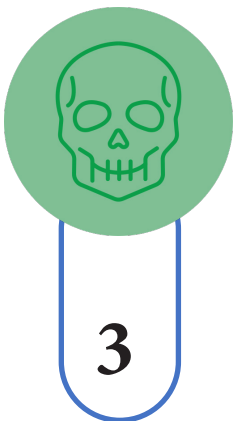
Number of Landmine
in Mon, Karen & Tanintharyi



Mon State - 3 times

Karen State - 1

Tanintharyi Division- 5 times



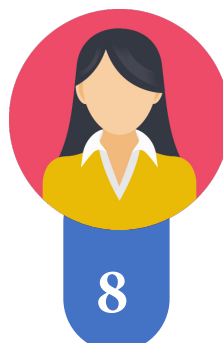
Male- 7(5 injured/ 2 Killed) , Female – 6 (5 injured, 1 killed), Child - 4 injured

LIST OF CASUALTIES AND INJURIES CAUSED BY ARTILLERY SHELLING

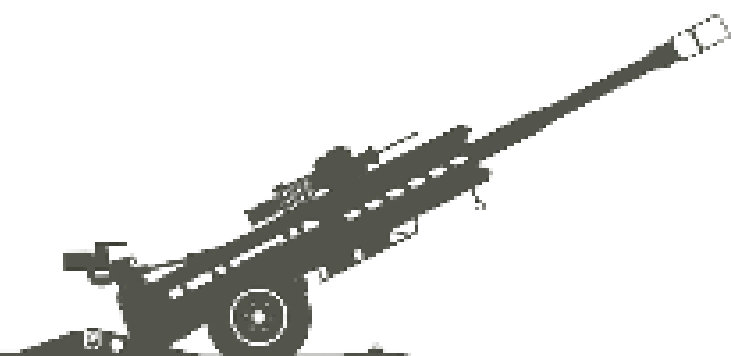
January to April 2025



Total injured – 51, Female- 15, Male- 19 and Child – 17

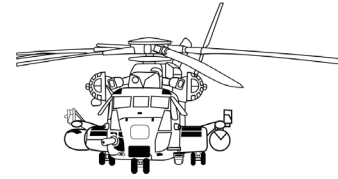


Total Killed – 15, Female- 8, Male- 7 and Child – 0



LIST OF CASUALTIES AND INJURIES CAUSED BY DRONE & AIR STRIKE

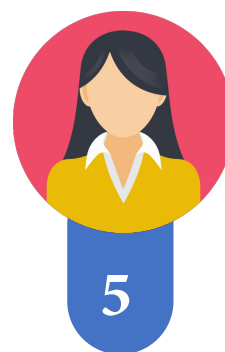
January to April 2025



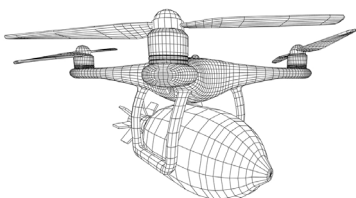
Total injured – 102, Female- 19, Male- 65 and Child – 18



19



Total Killed – 19, Female- 5, Male- 9 and Child – 5

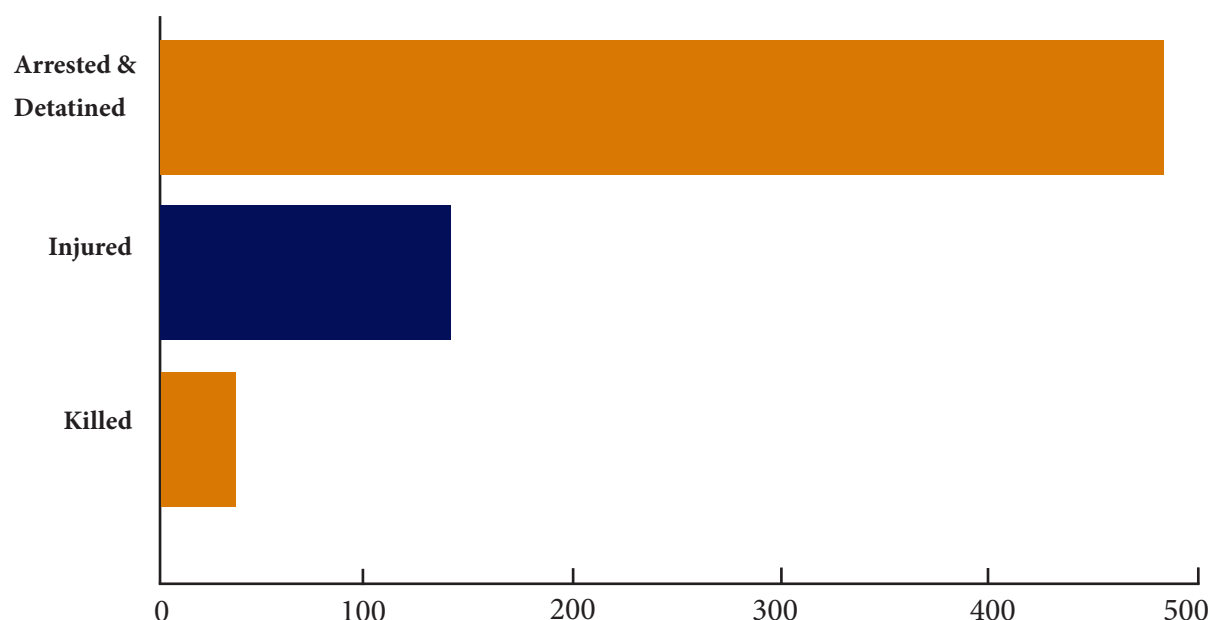


SCALED UP HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

HURFOM fieldworkers continue to take great risks to document the human rights violations being perpetrated in Mon State, Karen State and Tanintharyi region.

By the end of April 2025, HURFOM recorded at least 310 people arrested, 185 detained, 148 injured, and 45 killed across all target areas.

April 2025



5+

Pro-Democracy Protesters, Politicians & Activists
 Sentenced by the Junta

Human Rights Violation Data Records in Mon State

April 2025

Kyike Hto Township

1. Artillery Attack and injured- 3 times
2. Arrested and killed



Bilin Township

1. Air assault and Killed



Mawlamyine Township

1. Extort money

Mudon Township

1. Rule of Law
2. Arrested local civilians
3. Extort money

Paung Township

1. Extort money
2. Arbitrariness arrested

Kyaikmayaw Township

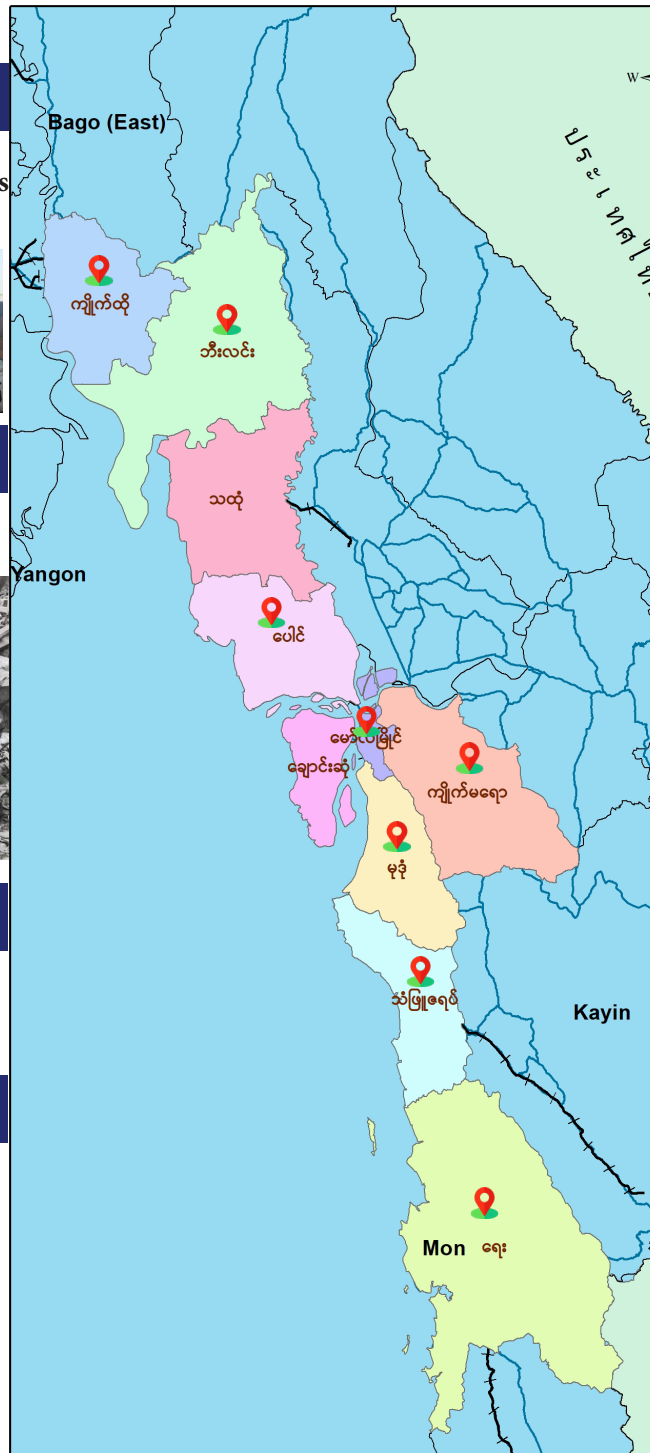
1. Rule of Law- 2 cases

Ye Township

1. Threat of life
2. Livelihood

Thanbyuzayat

1. Artillery Attack & Injured
2. Rule of Law

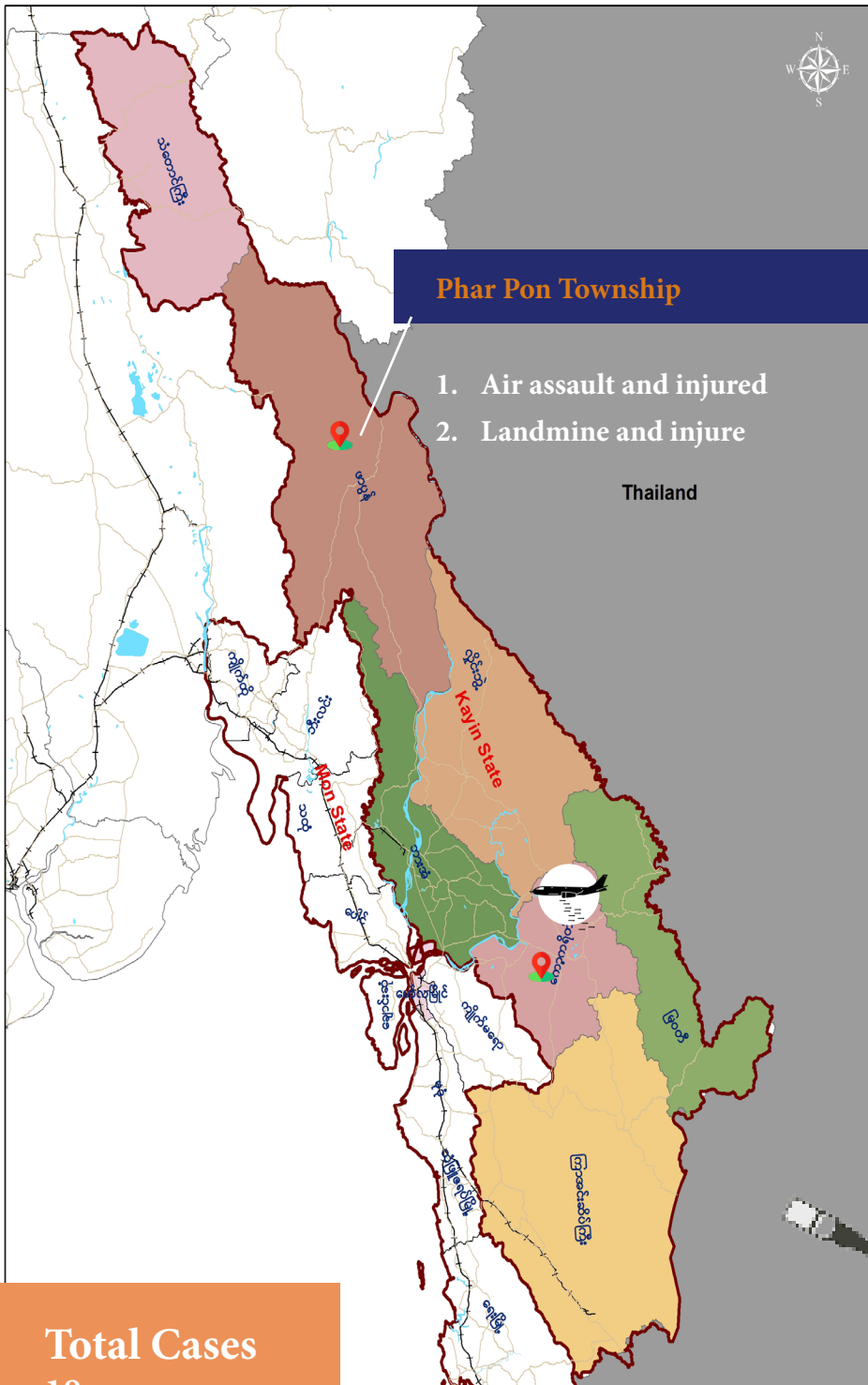


Total Cases in Mon State - 18 Cases

Human Rights Violation Data Records in Karen State

April 2025

Karen State



Human Rights Violation Data Records in Tanintharyi Division

April 2025

Yephyu Township- 11 cases

1. Extort money
2. Cuf-off Telecommunication
3. Fled home and IDPs
4. Arbitrarily arrested
5. Arrested local civilians
6. Fled home and IDPs- 3 cases
7. Arrested local civilians
8. Cuf-off Telecommunication
9. Displacement

Lon Long Township

1. Killed
2. Arrested local civilians
3. Arbitrarily arrested
4. Arrested local civilians

Dawei Township-3cases

1. Air assault and Killed
2. Livelihood
3. Fled and IDPs

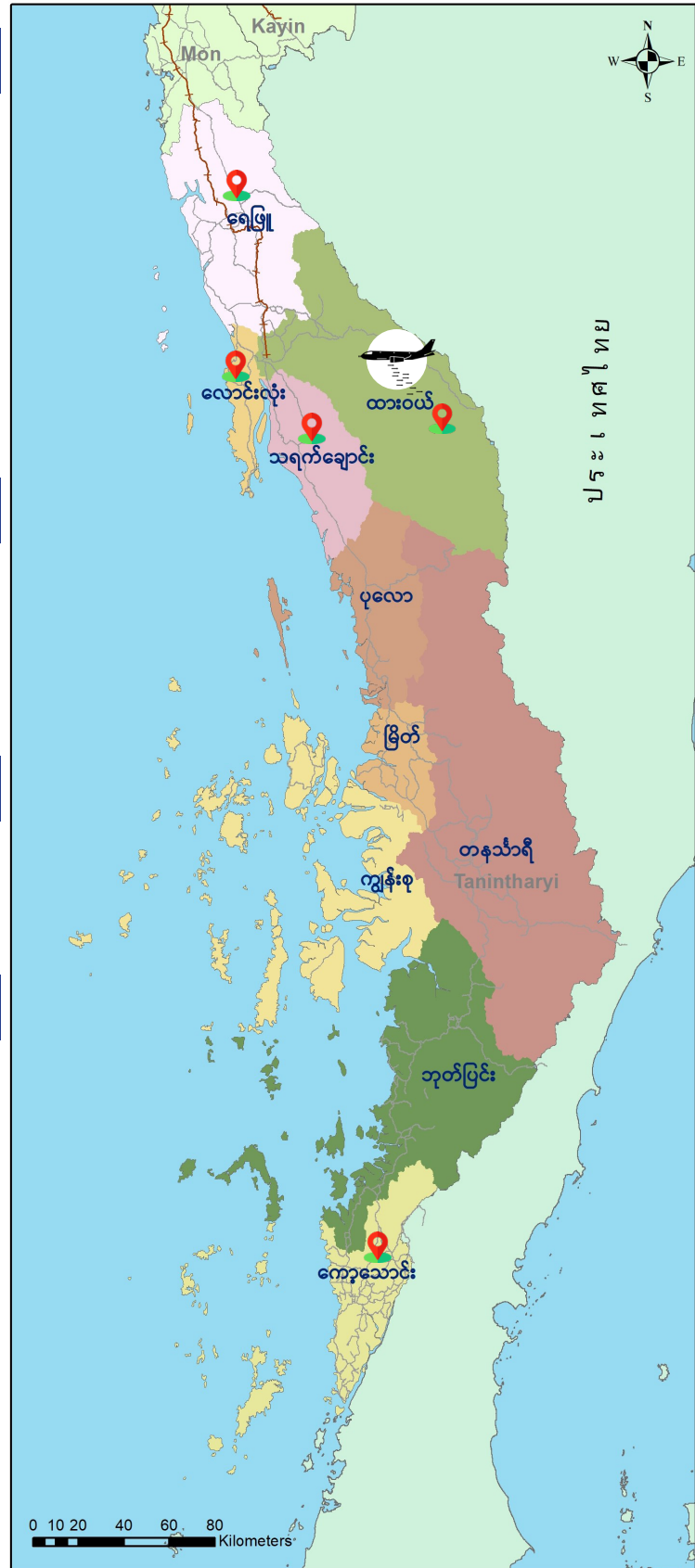
Tha Yet Chaung

1. Air assault and Killed
2. Fled and IDPs

Kaw Thauang

1. Rule of Law

Total Cases - 21



Human Rights Violation Data Records in Mon State, Karen State, and Tanintharyi Region by the Human Rights Foundation of Monland (HURFOM) April 2025

Number of IDPs, Killed and Injured

Mon State



IDPs -20,000



Killed -9



Injured - 35

Karen State



IDPs -37,000



Killed -22



Injured -65

Tanintharyi Region



IDPs -33,500



Killed -14



Injured -48

INFORMATION ON HURFOM AND INVITATION FOR FEEDBACKS FROM READER

Dears Readers,

Human Rights Foundation of Monland (HURFOM) was founded in 1995, by a group of young Mon people. The main objectives of HURFOM are:

- Monitoring the human rights situation in Mon territory and other areas in southern Burma.
- Protecting and promoting internationally recognized human rights in Burma.

In order to implement these objectives, HURFOM produces the monthly “Mon Forum” newsletters. If publication is delayed it is because we are waiting to confirm information, and it comes with our heartfelt apologies.

We encourage you to write to us if you have feedback or if you know someone who you think would you like to receive the newsletter.

Please email or email a name and address to:

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Bangkok 10501, THAILAND

E-mail: [hurformcontact@yahoo.com](mailto:hurfomcontact@yahoo.com)

Website: <http://www.rehmonnya.org>

With regards,

Director

Human Rights Foundation of Monland



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OF MONLAND (HURFOM)**
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