

ISP Stakeholder Tracker 2025 Conflict, Peace and Security Studies ST2025-01 | July 24, 2025

## FRACTURES DEEPEN AMONG CHIN RESISTANCE GROUPS

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## Fractures Deepen Among Chin Resistance Groups

Period	July 2025
Stakeholders	Chin Resistance Groups, including those operating under the Chinland Council (CC) and Chin Brotherhood (CB)
Issues/activity	On July 5, 2025, the Chin National Organization/Chin National Defense Force (CNO/CNDF) launched an assault on Rihkhawdar, a town controlled and administered by the Chin National Front/Chin National Army (CNF/CNA) and the Chinland Defense Force–Hualngoram (CDF-Hualngoram). In response, the CDF-Hualngoram's ally—the CNF/CNA—briefly seized CNO/CNDF's headquarters and then withdrew. This clash marked at least the eighth confrontation among Chin factions in the past year.
Status/trends	Chin State is home to over 20 armed groups, including the CNF/CNA. Until 2023, these groups operated under the Chinland Joint Defense Committee (CJDC), a unified military alliance. However, political and ethnic divisions in 2024 led to the fragmentation of that alliance, resulting in the emergence of two competing blocs: the Chinland Council (CC) and the Chin Brotherhood (CB). Some Chin resistance groups also operate separately without joining any bloc. Chin resistance groups collectively exert control over roughly 80 percent <sup>1</sup> of Chin state.
Implications	Territorial disputes have evolved into hostilities as rival factions engage in a process of mutual delegitimization. For Chin armed groups, this could exacerbate resource scarcity, threatening to derail any attempt to establish collective goals for the Chin.
Relevance	Myanmar now faces rising intra-ethnic tensions in addition to inter-ethnic tensions, with Chin State's conflicts spotlighting the issue. These disputes compound existing challenges, demanding serious attention in future military and political negotiations.

Data as of July 18, 2025. This finding, part of ISP-Myanmar's Conflict, Peace, and Security Studies, is based on ISP-Myanmar's research and may differ from other sources due to differences in methodology and data availability.

## Chin Resistance Groups Control 80 Percent of Chin State

## ISP Mapping Number 106

> SAC's offensive route

Resistance groups now control an estimated 80 percent of the territory in Chin State, following the advance of the Chinland Council (CC) and the Chin Brotherhood (CB), which have captured six and eight towns, respectively. However, infighting between factions within the two alliances has intensified since 2024, culminating in attacks on each other's headquarters and exchanges of fire at key positions in July 2025. CNO/CNDF seized the Rihkhawdar Town, controlled by CNF/CNA and CDF-Hualngoram in July 2025; CNF/CNA retaliated by briefly capturing CNO/CNDF's headquarters. Tonzang Rihkhawdar border trade station Rihkhawdar Tensions flared between Tedim PDF-Zoland and PDA-Tedim over control of the Kennedy Peak in June 2024. Webul Falam Thantlang O Hakha MDF/MTC, backed by the Arakan Army, took over Lalengpi Town from CNF/CNA and CDF-Mara troops in July 2024. Territorial conflict reported between CDF-Matupi Brigade 2 Surkhua Hnaring and MRO/CDF-Matupi in Matupi BANGI ADESH township in July 2025. Lalengpi Matupi Town controlled by SAC Mindat CDF-Daai and CDF-Kanpetlet Paletwa Town captured by the resistance groups arqued over territorial claims **M**kuiimnu Area controlled by the Arakan Army in Kanpetlet township in July 2025. Sa Mee Area controlled by the Chin Brotherhood Kanpetle Area controlled by the Chinland Council Area controlled by the SAC Area controlled by the other **Cyindway** resistance forces MAGWAY India-Myanmar No.2 trade route > Intra-Chin offensive directions