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**REBUTTAL**

**NEWS ARTICLES PUBLISHED ON THE DIPLOMAT WEB PORTAL, TITLED**  
**'INDIAN SECURITY FORCES MASSACRE BURMESE RESISTANCE**  
**FUNCTIONARIES' ON 20 MAY 2025**

**Kohima, Nagaland, India**  
**Wednesday, 21 May 2025**

It is clarified by the Indian Army that the article "**Indian Security Forces Massacre Burmese Resistance Functionaries**", published by *The Diplomat* on 20 May 2025 carries a malicious, deliberately misleading and factually incorrect narrative, in the sensitive subject, concerning neutralisation of 10 Armed Militants on 14 May 2025, in Chandel district of Manipur, India. The article relies heavily on unverified claims and speculations which need corrections.

The area along Indo-Myanmar Border (IMB) is extremely rugged, highly underdeveloped and lacks connectivity. The area across the IMB, in Myanmar has been rife with different ethnic armed groups who are fighting and violently contesting amongst themselves, as well as with the Myanmar Army, for control of the area, close to the IMB.

India is erecting a Border Fence, to guard against large scale infiltration by inimical elements and curb illegal activities from across the IMB. There have been regular inputs from multiple sources regarding the presence of these armed groups being hostile to fence construction by India. The work is currently progressing at different locations in Manipur along IMB and Indian Security Forces undertake regular patrolling and area domination activities to guard against use of Indian Territory for any illegal activity by the cadres or cause any hindrance to fence work by Border Road Organisation (BRO).

On 14 May 2025, one such patrol of Assam Rifles, out to sanitise the area, where fence construction is underway along the IMB, came under intense automatic fire from armed cadres. Clearly, the likely intent of the cadres was to cause severe harm to construction workers or troops of Assam Rifles to deter the fencing work.

The Indian Security Forces while operating on own side of the IMB responded to the same with professionalism and tactical precision, neutralising 10 cadres and recovering a huge cache of automatic weapons and other war-like stores. No faction / entity laid claim to the mortal remains of the cadres. The deceased cadres, who were found to be dressed in combat fatigues, could later be identified as cadres of Pa Ka Pha (PKP).

Initial details of the operation were shared by Indian Army on the day of operation (14 May 2025) through Social Media and a detailed update on the operation was further released by the Spokesperson and PRO, Ministry of Defence, Kohima on 15 May 2025.

Contact across the IMB in Maynmar was established, through existing protocols, and only then did the representatives of the concerned faction collect the mortal remains, more than 48 hours after the operation.

It is reiterated that Indian Army and Assam Rifles operate, as per its mandate, well inside the Indian territory. Allegations made are deliberately misleading, completely baseless and malicious.

Media houses are requested to verify news from authorised office / department before publishing.

**PRO & Spokesperson,  
Ministry of Defence,  
Manipur, Nagaland and Southern Arunachal Pradesh**

**PR/152/KOH/2024**

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**PHOTOGRAPH**

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## Indian Security Forces Massacre Burmese Resistance Functionaries

The torture and killing of 10 rebels at Chandel near the India-Myanmar border in Manipur has sent shockwaves through Myanmar's resistance groups.

By [Rajeev Bhattacharyya](#)

May 20, 2025

