



Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Situation Update

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Doplaya Situation Update: Kyonedoe Township, September 2015 to December 2015

This Situation Update describes events occurring in Kyonedoe Township, Doplaya District during the period between September and December 2015, including the situation for civilians, agriculture, education, healthcare, Burma/Myanmar government and Border Guard Force (BGF), Karen National Union (KNU), Democratic Karen Benevolent Army (DKBA) and Karen Peace Council (KPC).

- *On January 6th 2015, Daw N Haw Company constructed a road from K'Nyin K'Taik village to Tha Main Dwut village in Kyonedoe Township, Doplaya District. As a result, many of the villagers' farms and plots of land were destroyed. The village head went to meet the villagers at their houses, one by one, at night and he asked them to sign the agreement paper in order to get permission for this road construction.*
- *A Township Campaign Officer told villagers that because villagers had requested a better road there is no need to document lands that were destroyed due to the road construction and that the villagers will not receive any compensation.*
- *Local villagers reported that they are still being taxed by Battalion Commander Aung Yin's group from Democratic Karen Benevolent Army (DKBA) #901 and Karen National Union (KNU). Therefore, local villagers requested that only one organisation collects tax from them.*
- *The local villagers could not build a school in Kyonedoe Township, Doplaya District and have therefore applied for a school to be built by the Burma/Myanmar government education officer and the Township Education department.*

Situation Update | Kyonedoe Township, Doplaya District (September 2015 to December 2015)

The following Situation Update was received by KHRG in January 2016. It was written by a community member in Doplaya District who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions. It is presented below translated exactly as originally written, save for minor edits for clarity and security.¹ This report was received along with other information from Doplaya District, including five interviews, 77 photographs and five video clips.²

¹ KHRG trains community members in southeast Burma/Myanmar to document individual human rights abuses using a standardised reporting format; conduct interviews with other villagers; and write general updates on the situation in areas with which they are familiar. When writing situation updates, community members are encouraged to summarise recent events, raise issues that they consider to be important, and present their opinions or perspective on abuse and other local dynamics in their area.

² In order to increase the transparency of KHRG methodology and more directly communicate the experiences and perspectives of villagers in southeastern Burma/Myanmar, KHRG aims to make all field information received available on the KHRG website once it has been processed and translated, subject only to security considerations.

This Situation Update describes briefly the events occurring in Kyonedoe Township, Dooplaya District from September to December 2015.³ It includes the situation for civilians, agriculture, education, healthcare, Burma/Myanmar government and BGF [Border Guard Force],⁴ KNU [Karen National Union], DKBA [Democratic Karen Benevolent Army]⁵ and KPC [Karen Peace Council].⁶

Civilians' situation and farming, gardening, cultivation

The local people in Kyonedoe Township mainly earn their living from cultivation and plot farming. This year they have had just a fair harvest as the weather has been unusual. It was raining during harvesting. As a result, some of the paddy was spoiled. Some people said the rice price will increase in the coming year, 2016.

Currently the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement [NCA]⁷ is being signed by different armed groups and the Burma/Myanmar government. However, this year Battalion Commander Aung

For additional reports categorised by Type, Issue, Location and Year, please see the Related Readings component following each report on KHRG's website.

³ The KHRG community member has also chosen to include issues occurring outside of this stated reporting period which are deemed to have an ongoing impact on the community, such as the road construction which began in January 2015.

⁴ Border Guard Force (BGF) battalions of the Tatmadaw were established in 2010, and they are composed mostly of soldiers from former non-state armed groups, such as older constellations of the DKBA, which have formalised ceasefire agreements with the Burma/Myanmar government and agreed to transform into battalions within the Tatmadaw. BGF battalions are assigned four digit battalion numbers, whereas regular Tatmadaw infantry battalions are assigned two digit battalion numbers and light infantry battalions are identified by two or three-digit battalion numbers. For more information, see "[DKBA officially becomes Border Guard Force](#)" *Democratic Voice of Burma*, August 2010, and "[Exploitation and recruitment under the DKBA in Pa'an District](#)," KHRG, June 2009.

⁵ The Democratic Karen Benevolent Army (DKBA Benevolent) was formed in 2010 as a breakaway group following the transformation of the majority of the original Democratic Karen Buddhist Army (1994 – 2010) into Border Guard Forces (BGF). This group was originally called the Democratic Karen *Buddhist* Army until it changed its name to the Democratic Karen *Benevolent* Army in April 2012 in order to reflect its secularity. This group is comprised of different divisions, including Kilo Htoo Baw Battalion and DKBA-5, and was led for many years by General Saw Lah Pwe aka Na Khan Mway who died in March 2016 and was replaced by General Saw Mo Shay in April 2016. The DKBA (Benevolent) signed a preliminary ceasefire with the Burma/Myanmar Government on November 3rd 2011 and then signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) on October 15th 2015. The group is based in Son Si Myaing area, Myawaddy/Kawkareik Township, Dooplaya District, southern Kayin State. This DKBA (Benevolent) (2010 – present) should not be confused with, either the original DKBA (Buddhist) (1994-2010) which was transformed into the BGF in 2010, or with the DKBA (Buddhist) (2016 – present) which was formed in 2016 as a splinter group of the DKBA (Benevolent). Importantly, the DKBA (Benevolent) has signed both the preliminary and nationwide ceasefire agreements with the Burma/Myanmar government, whereas the DKBA (Buddhist) has not signed either agreement.

⁶ The KNU/KNLA Peace Council (also called the Karen Peace Council or KPC), is an armed group based in Htoh Kaw Koh, Hpa-an District, which split from the Karen National Union (KNU) and signed a ceasefire agreement with the SPDC government in 2007. The KNU/KNLA-PC subsequently refused to comply with orders from the then-SPDC government to transform into a Tatmadaw Border Guard Force in 2010. The KNU/KNLA-PC signed a preliminary ceasefire agreement with the Burma/Myanmar government on February 7th 2012, and the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) on October 15th 2015.

⁷ On October 15th 2015, after a negotiation process marred with controversy over the notable non-inclusion of several ethnic armed groups and on-going conflicts in ethnic regions, a Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) was signed between the Burma/Myanmar government and eight of the fifteen ethnic armed groups originally invited to the negotiation table, including the KNU, see "[Myanmar signs ceasefire with eight armed groups](#)," Reuters, October 15th 2015. Despite the signing of the NCA prompting a positive response from the international community, see "[Myanmar: UN chief welcomes 'milestone' signing of ceasefire agreement](#)," *UN News Centre*, October 15th 2015, KNU Chairman General Saw Mutu Say Poe's decision to sign has been met with strong opposition from other members of the Karen armed resistance and civil society groups alike, who believe the decision to be undemocratic and the NCA itself to be a superficial agreement that risks undermining a genuine peace process, see "[Without Real Political Roadmap, Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement Leads Nowhere...](#)," *Karen News*, September 1st 2015. The signing of the NCA followed the January 12th 2012 preliminary ceasefire agreement between the KNU and

Yin's group from DKBA Battalion #901 collected tax on plot farms, farms, rice mills, sawmills, cars, charcoal mounds, irrigation canals and fishing nets, [just] as KNU collected tax last year [and every year]. Therefore, the civilians want only one organisation to collect taxes if possible.

Furthermore, they [local civilians] also want KHRG to report about drug issues in the local area in order to reduce [drug use], because young people's behaviours are becoming worse and worse due to drug use.⁸

On January 6th 2015, U⁹ Myin Zaw who works for Daw N Haw Company constructed a road from K'Nyin K'Taik to Tha Main Dwut crossroads, which is 16 miles long. As a result, many of the villagers' farms and plot farms were affected. However, the villagers did not get any compensation. Moreover, they [the company] [worked on] a road across the farms and they covered the road with earth, so it is difficult [for villagers] to make irrigation channels [to drain water into their fields]. Consequently, there are many farms that are not able to grow rice [because of this road construction] between Khyin village and T'Khon Ka village.

This road construction should have been completed by the end of December 2015. Thus, Major Thet Naung who leads *Na Wa Ta* [The Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs] in Kawkaik Township came and observed the situation of the road construction. He saw that the road had not been finished yet and its quality was not good. Also, the road has many sharp curves; because of that [Major Thet Naung's disapproval of the road construction], villagers said some road constructors and the governor from Ai Paing village were beaten as punishment.

Now, in 2015, Daw N Haw Company still has not finished the road, so they requested assistance from Khin Zaw Company to continue the road construction. The road is 3 miles long from Khyin Village to Tha Main Dwut Street. Therefore, Atun, the manager from Khin Zaw Company, started to construct the unfinished road on November 28th 2015.

Many of the civilians' lands and plot farms were spoiled and destroyed as Khin Zaw Company constructed the road. However, the road must be constructed to make it 40 feet wide which was the limit given, but villagers said that they [Khin Zaw Company] would construct the road to be 30 feet wide on November 30th 2015.

Burma/Myanmar government in Hpa-an. For KHRG's analysis of changes in human rights conditions since the preliminary ceasefire, see [Truce or Transition? Trends in human rights abuse and local response since the 2012 ceasefire](#), KHRG, May 2014.

⁸ KHRG continues to receive reports detailing villagers' concerns over increased drug use and drug trading in their communities. See for example, ["Growing drug use and its consequences in Doooplaya and Hpa-an Districts, between February and December 2015."](#) May 2016.

⁹ U is a Burmese title for a respected or elder male.



These photos were taken on November 29th 2015 in a place from Ka Yin village to Tha Main Dwut crossroads in Kyonedoe Township, Dooplaya District. These photos show local villagers' lands and rubber plantations that were being destroyed due to road construction conducted by the Khin Zaw Company. [Photos: KHRG]

The land owners dared not to report or talk about their lands and rubber plantations that were destroyed due to road construction, because this road construction was permitted by responsible people in the Township office. So it was difficult to document how many lands and plantations were spoiled. People from A--- village said the reason [that villagers have not reported about their land being damaged] is that the village head went to meet the villagers at their houses, one by one, at night and he asked them to sign the agreement paper in order to get permission for road construction.

During February 2015, in Kyonedoe Township, the road from Taung Kya Inn village to Hti Hu Thi village and Aung Chan Tha village was rebuilt, since it was first constructed in the period of colonisation.¹⁰ Because of the rebuilding of this road, many lands and plantations were also spoiled. Land owners also did not get any compensation. Although people who have accountability [at the Burma/Myanmar government level] gave the paper documenting land destruction, no documentation paper has been received [prepared]. If anyone wanted to know about this case, they had to go and meet with the Township administrator.

On December 1st 2015 the villagers went to the office where the Kyonedoe Township Campaign Officer lives and they asked questions like, *"How did you know about the new road construction and the old road construction?"* He told them that the old and new roads were constructed because the local residents requested for road construction. So there is no need to document lands that were destroyed because of road construction. Also, he said that the ILO [International Labour Organisation] would not come if anyone reported this case to the ILO or KHRG.

He replied [to the villagers], *"I do not make it [the documentation paper] complicated. All of the information about lost land and plantations that were destroyed must be documented due to road construction that occurred in each District according to the 14th Dooplaya Congress in 2015"*.

The road from Taung Kya Inn village to Hti Hu Thi village and Aung Chan Tha village has not been finished yet, so Khin Zaw Company will completely take care of this case. As mentioned above, this [report] is just because no one has documented the lost lands and the destroyed plantations due to old and new road construction in Kyonedoe Township.

¹⁰ Burma/Myanmar was a British colony between 1824 and 1948. For an analysis of the impact of this colonisation from the perspective of the Karen see, "Seeing 'Karen' in the Union of Myanmar," Nick Cheesman, *Asian Ethnicity*, September 2002.

The old road from Chaung Nit Khwart village to Aung Chan Tha village had been constructed since Burma/Myanmar was colonised by the British. In September 2015, Lieutenant Kyaw Aay from BGF [Border Guard Force] Battalion #1021 together with Ngwe Kyauk Twein Company, Than Zaw Oo who is in charge of road construction, U Aung Thein Lah who is in charge of bridge construction and Bo¹¹ T'Ki who leads the road security force from BGF [Border Guard Force] organised for the old road to be rebuilt. However, they did not need to construct the section of the road that goes to Chaung Nit Khwart village; only the road from Bu Ya Kon village to Aung Chan Tha village must be constructed. Although this road is 9 miles and 1 furlong¹² long and 100 feet wide, they only would use a width of 18 feet when they lay down flat stone on the road. They have to finish this road by the end of March 2016.

3K Star Company has to take responsibility to construct 2 miles of this road. Engineer U Myin Than and his assistant engineer, Way Lin Han arrived at the road that needs to be rebuilt on November 24th 2015.

This road is between Noh T'Kaw Township and Kyonedoe Township. Thus, neither of these Township officials gave permission or authority [to the company] to construct this road. 140 acres of rubber plantation were destroyed, 5 plots of farmland were spoiled, 1 garden of lime trees was damaged, and one building was damaged due to the road construction. The villagers who lost their lands, plot farms, farms, and buildings did not know anything about how to report or submit this information. They are helpless like an orphan [without support].

The rubber plantation beside this road belongs to the villagers. They had to cut their rubber trees [to make way for the road] although they did not want to.

In 2014 Director Po Ya Wa Gya from SCGC (Japanese company) and U Myin Zaw Tun who is in charge of road construction, had to take responsibility for laying down flat stones on the road from T'Ya Na village in Mon State to Bu Ya Kon (or) Ta Khnein village in Kyonedoe Township. They have to finish the road by the end of March 2016. This road goes across [20 villages] which are T'Ya Na village, Kaw Hto Kaw P'Naw village, Shwe Wa Khyan village, Kyaik Htaw village, Nyaung Kon village, M'Yan Kon village, Ye Tha Na village, Pa Thein village, Taung Thu Kon village, Taung K'Lay village, Shwe Mo village, Nga Pel Khyan village, Taung Na village, Noh Auk village, Bu Ya Ngok To village, Kyo Kwel village, Hlwa Sin Kon village and Bu Ya Kon village. A highway bus station will be built in Bu Ya Kon. There is a stone crusher machine in Kyo Kwel village to lay down flat stones on the road.

Since 2013, U Thu Taw who runs a private business company [the group that mined stone from Atayan rocky mountain] has made money from selling stone. Because of mining stone, some of the lands were spoiled. The villagers reported it to [Burma/Myanmar government level authorities and local] organisations who have accountability, but no one took any action. According to an unknown administrator, government authorities in Naypyidaw already gave permission to U Thu Taw regarding mining stone on Atayan rocky mountain; so, nobody [within the community] can shut it down.

Many stone mining companies have been doing stone mining on Atayan rocky mountain up until now. The following companies [are doing stone mining from Atayan rocky mountain] as mentioned below:

1. U Pay Aung (private company)
2. U Thu Taw (private company but it is led by Battalion Commander Saw P'Lu from BGF Battalion #1021)
3. Mann Myin Naing (private company)

¹¹ Bo is a Burmese title for a military officer.

¹² A furlong is a unit of distance equivalent to 0.2 km or 0.125 miles.

4. Mann S'Kin Sein (this company is still mining stone but Soe Ya Za Company has not mined stone yet)

Currently many private companies are [also] mining stone from Mu Soe Ma mountain near to Atayan rocky mountain. They are:

1. Mann Mein L'Than (private company)
2. U Win Ko (private company)

No one has heard about any problems made by these two private companies, but they have to pay tax [from stone mining]. People who collect the tax money are as mentioned below:

1. KNU (300,000 kyat) [US \$218.02]¹³
2. The Burma/Myanmar government (300,000 kyat) [US \$218.02]
3. The Burma/Myanmar government police (200,000 kyat) [US \$145.35]
4. Operation Commander from Military Operation Command #19 in Kyainseikgyi Township (100,000 kyat) [US \$72.67]

"We [companies] have to pay tax once a year." said Mann S'Kin Sein, who owns a private company.

This Atayan rocky mountain is connected to people who live in M'Yan Kon village, Bu Ya Kon village, Hlwa Sin Kon village and Kyo Kwel village because they earn their living from agriculture, cultivation and farming. So they gather together and they go to worship and pray at Atayan rocky mountain in order to have a good harvest when they celebrate their traditional festival once a year, as they firmly believe.

People who worship and pray at the place near to the mountain are from [12 villages] which are M'Yan Kon village, Chaung Nit Khwart village, Yay Pu Tha Yat Kon village, Yay Pu Kaw Sat village, Bu Ya Kon village, Hlwa Sin Kon village, Kyo Kwel village, Noh Auak village, Taung Na village, Tan Ta Oo village, Nga Pel Chaung village and Nga Pu Ain village.

The villagers said they would be happy if anyone could shut it [stone mining] down. Otherwise, [the spirit of] Atayan rocky mountain will cry.

Land grant

Regarding land grants, there are two different types of land grants from the Burma/Myanmar government and the KNU government. So there is a difference between the Right to Act, granted by the Burma/Myanmar government, and the Right to Possess, granted by the KNU government. Therefore, some local residents want to ask the question which [government] side has effective assurance [guarantees] for their lands? The people in Karen State want the land grant to come from the KNU government as Karen people govern Karen State. The KNU land grant costs 4,500 kyat [US \$3.27] but in fact two land grant eyewitnesses have to sign the agreement paper so they also get 1,000 kyat [US \$0.72]. Land owners [also] have to pay for the photo fee. [Therefore] the total is 6,500 kyat [US \$4.72]. They also have to pay 1,000 kyat [US \$0.72] per acre when the land is being measured if they want the land grant guarantee.

In 2014 U Win Naing Shwe, Burma/Myanmar land measurement surveyor in Kawkaik Township, had to measure the land in A--- village, Tha Main Dwut village tract, Kyonedoe Township. So he took a list of the lands and the payments, 3 million kyat [in total] [US \$2180.25], for measuring the lands before he measured the lands. He said he would come and measure later but as of 2015 he had not measured any land for land grants yet. Thus, the villagers did not completely trust the land grant [system] from the Burma/Myanmar government. This case became known because the villagers reported it.

Education

¹³ All conversion estimates for the kyat in this report are based on the 22nd December 2016 official market rate of 1376 kyat to US \$1.

Every parent wants their child to have an education. So some people built self-reliant schools [run and funded by the local community] in some villages. Some villagers cooperate to work with the Burma/Myanmar government and people [donors] from Switzerland in order to build a Burma/Myanmar government school.

In some villages, the local people could not build any schools. So they have to apply [submit a request for a school] to the Burma/Myanmar government education officer [through the] Township Education Department. When they apply, they have to make a list of the number of [potential] students and they also have to pay an application fee, 30,000 kyat [US \$21.80], but [so far] no one [from the Burma/Myanmar government] has come to build any schools [in those areas].

In the self-reliant schools, there are no school teachers from the Burma/Myanmar government. So the villagers have to hire teachers who are local residents. They have to pay 500,000 kyat [US \$363.37] for one teacher per year. They also have to help teachers with their food, such as [giving them] rice, oil, salt and also charcoal [for cooking]. However, the villagers try to help as much as they can, although they have some difficulties.



This photo was taken on November 24th, 2015. It was taken in B--- village, Win Tha Lwel village tract, Kyonedoe Township. It shows a self-funded school which might need to be relocated in the coming year, 2016, due to road construction conducted by Daw N Haw Company, according to students' parents. [Photo: KHRG]

KED [Karen Education Department] supports self-reliant schools and gives school materials such as pens, pencils, note books, nail cutters, footballs and teacher uniforms. KED also gives them [local teachers] some money to help. Karen language is being taught in self-reliant schools, whereas it is not being taught in Burma/Myanmar government schools.

In January 2015, Daw N Haw Company constructed the road from K'Nyin K'Taik village to Tha Main Dwut crossroads. This new road crosses the place near to the school in B--- village, Win Tha Lwel village tract, Kyonedoe Township. So it affected the children [and they] have difficulty learning in the school. Therefore, the villagers reported this case to Burma/Myanmar government education officer in order to build a new school, but they have not received any reply [information] yet. Some parents said the school has to relocate in the following year, 2016, so it will need a lot of school aid [funding].

Healthcare

Being healthy is the most important need for people. There are some local clinics [run and funded by Burma/Myanmar government] in some villages, [set up] after some local residents reported [their need] to the Burma/Myanmar government. After celebrating the clinic opening ceremony, there is now not enough medical doctors in the clinic, so sometimes local mid-wives have to come to the clinic. If the patients have a serious disease, they are sent to the hospital.

Sometimes [during the reporting period] a Mother and Child Protection Group from the Burma/Myanmar government went to the clinic to give injections for women and children, in order to protect them from polio.

[Regarding the] KNU side, they also came to the clinic to give the people vaccinations in order to avoid malaria.¹⁴ They also went to other villages which have no clinics. The [local] people suffer mostly from malaria, body pain, high blood pressure, itchy skin and stomach pain.

Burma/Myanmar government and the BGF

After the NCA [Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement]¹⁵ was signed in 2015, the Burma/Myanmar government army forces [Tatmadaw] did not run any militarisation [activities] in our area but the BGF did. There are some [BGF] soldiers who do not wear their soldier uniforms in some villages near to Burma/Myanmar government police stations [therefore, they are still active]. Also, some village tract leaders who have been selected by the Burma/Myanmar government had to regularly go to meetings [at the] Township administration office, once a month. They had to report about the situation of the village and they had to manage everything that they were asked to do by the Township administrator.

KNU situation

KNDO [Karen National Defence Organisation]¹⁶ Battalion #6 and the KNU are able to work together now in KNU-controlled areas. If they [KNDO and KNU] celebrate significant Karen days such as Karen New Year's Day and Karen Martyrs' Day, they both discuss about how to work with each other. They have already formed KYO [Karen Youth Organisation] and KWO [Karen Women Organisation]. In addition, they might even discuss with civilians about the political situation during the peace process.

DKBA situation

In DKBA-controlled areas, Battalion Commander Aung Yin and Battalion Deputy Commander Hto Doh from DKBA Battalion #901 who are now based in A'Lel Kyun have not done anything special but they do collect tax on gardens, sawmills, rice mills, phone shops, irrigation canals, fishing nets and charcoal mounds. It seemed they did not do anything to bring benefit for the civilians.

KPC situation

Battalion Commander Ye Maw from KPC Battalion #776 and Battalion Deputy Commander Saw Zaw Tin from KPC Company #5 are based in Aon Nit Pin village. Company Commander Ya

¹⁴ KHRG is in the process of confirming the details of this vaccination program.

¹⁵ On October 15th 2015, after a negotiation process marred with controversy over the notable non-inclusion of several ethnic armed groups and on-going conflicts in ethnic regions, a Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) was signed between the Burma/Myanmar government and eight of the fifteen ethnic armed groups originally invited to the negotiation table, including the KNU, see "[Myanmar signs ceasefire with eight armed groups](#)," Reuters, October 15th 2015. Despite the signing of the NCA prompting a positive response from the international community, see "[Myanmar: UN chief welcomes 'milestone' signing of ceasefire agreement](#)," *UN News Centre*, October 15th 2015, KNU Chairman General Saw Mutu Say Poe's decision to sign has been met with strong opposition from other members of the Karen armed resistance and civil society groups alike, who believe the decision to be undemocratic and the NCA itself to be a superficial agreement that risks undermining a genuine peace process, see "[Without Real Political Roadmap, Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement Leads Nowhere...](#)," *Karen News*, September 1st 2015. The signing of the NCA followed the January 12th 2012 preliminary ceasefire agreement between the KNU and Burma/Myanmar government in Hpa-an. For KHRG's analysis of changes in human rights conditions since the preliminary ceasefire, see [Truce or Transition? Trends in human rights abuse and local response since the 2012 ceasefire](#), KHRG, May 2014.

¹⁶ The Karen National Defence Organisation (KNDO) was formed in 1947 by the Karen National Union and is the precursor to the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA). Today the KNDO refers to a militia force of local volunteers trained and equipped by the KNLA and incorporated into its battalion and command structure; its members wear uniforms and typically commit to two-year terms of service.

Th'Waw from KPC Battalion #908 is based in Pa Ky village. Company Commander Saw Paw Aaw Yaw from Battalion #909, KPC headquarter Officer Kyaw Win and KPC headquarter Detective Hsa K'Lein did not do any work related to benefitting civilians but they did not collect tax from the civilians. They just stay in their places; they do not have any special office. If emergencies happen, they just go to their headquarters, which are based in Htoh Kaw Koh.

Conclusion

I would like to say that the people in some villages just have a lack of access to education, healthcare and social support. Also, people have lost their lands and farm plots because of road construction, [and] they did not even get any compensation. In addition, more and more people sell and buy drugs, therefore, it badly affects a lot of young people—their behaviour becomes worse and worse.

Further background reading on the situation in Dooplaya District can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- “Ongoing Militarisation in Southeast Myanmar,” (October 2016)
- “Dooplaya Field Report: Military conflict, violent abuse, and destruction caused by development projects, January to December 2015, (October 2016)
- “Forced recruitment of a child soldier by KNLA in Kyainseikgyi Township, Dooplaya District, October 2015, UPDATED,” (October 2016)
- “Dooplaya Interview: Saw A---, November 2015,” (September 2016)
- “Dooplaya Interview: Naw A---, February 2016,” (August 2016)

Dooplaya District



Karen Human Rights Group (KHRG)