

## **Myanmar's Karen Ethnic Minority**

## Source: TH

Recently, **Myanmar's Karen ethnic minority** asserted their proximity to capturing a significant **Myawaddy trading town adjacent to the Thailand border.** 

- The Karen ethnic minority, **indigenous to the Thailand-Burma border** region in Southeast Asia, predominantly resides in the **Karen State of Myanmar.**
- Their origin is believed to have roots tracing back to the Gobi Desert in Mongolia.
- Myawaddy is Myanmar's most active trading post with Thailand and its fall would have significant economic implications.
- The Karen National Union (KNU) is the political organisation representing the Karen people and has an armed wing, the Karen National Liberation Army.
- The conflict in Myanmar began after the army ousted the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi in 2021 and suppressed widespread nonviolent protests.
- Myawaddyy is a trading town in Myanmar that connects with Mae Sot in Thailand. These are the endpoints of the India- Myanmar- Trilateral Highway.

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