FMR Along the India-Myanmar Border

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The revised **Free Movement Regime (FMR)** has led to the activation of 22 border gates out of the 43 planned crossing points along the **India-Myanmar border**, aimed at regulating movement while maintaining border security.

- India's 1,643-km border with Myanmar runs through Arunachal Pradesh (520 km), Nagaland (215 km), Manipur (398 km), and Mizoram (510 km). 1,472 km of the border has been demarcated.
- FMR: Introduced in 1968 to facilitate movement due to ethnic and familial ties across the largely unfenced northeastern border.
 - The free movement limit was reduced from 40 km to 16 km in 2004 and is now 10 km.
 - Border residents can travel without a visa or passport but require a QR codeenabled border pass. Biometric data is recorded and uploaded to a centralized portal to check against a negative list.
 - **Assam Rifles** responsible for issuing border passes and conducting initial security verification. Border pass validity is up to 7 days.
- Assam Rifles: Oldest paramilitary force in India, established in 1835. Evolved from protecting British Tea estates to maintaining internal security in the Northeast and guarding the Indo-Myanmar Border.
 - Assam Rifles played key roles in the <u>Sino-India War (1962)</u>, and were known as 'Sentinel of the North East' and 'Friend of the Hill People'.
 - Headquarters: Directorate General of Assam Rifles in Shillong.



Read more: Free Movement Regime

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