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Statement on Burmese Military Junta's Intensified Offensives in Karenni State

1. The Burmese military junta has significantly intensified its military offensives that include the use of airstrikes, tanks, and artillery in Loikaw, Demoso, Pruso, and Shadaw townships of Karenni State this week. Attacks by the junta's troops in Loikaw on January 7 killed at least 6 innocent civilians and besieged hundreds of civilians for the whole day that required a deadly rescue operation where one rescue worker was killed.
2. The junta's indiscriminate airstrikes, artillery shelling, and firing that continued on January 8 both during the day and at night have forced several thousands of civilians from Loikaw to flee for safety. Several hundred civilians remained besieged in Mine Lone sub-township of Loikaw. More nighttime airstrikes are taking place in Mine Lone sub-township as of the release of this statement.
3. Additionally, the junta's airstrikes in Thai-Karenni border areas on January 7 have also forced over 1200 internally displaced persons to flee into Thailand while about 200 at a different border crossing point remained unable to cross the border.
4. Karenni National Progressive Party is especially concerned over Burmese military junta's activities, particularly its use of airstrikes to target innocent civilians. Therefore, we solemnly call on international governments and organizations to take immediate action against the junta and provide timely humanitarian assistance and protection for the civilians under attacks.

Central Executive Committee
Karenni National Progressive Party

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