



Textbook case of ETHNIC CLEANSING

UN human rights chief slams 'cruel military operation' in Myanmar, urges authorities to reverse the pattern of widespread discrimination against Rohingyas

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The United Nations has denounced Myanmar's "brutal security operation" against Rohingyas in Rakhine State as a "textbook example of ethnic cleansing".

Zeid Ra'ad al-Hussein, the UN high commissioner for human rights, yesterday told the 36th session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva that the operation is disproportionate to insurgent attacks carried out last month.

The statement by a top UN official came when Myanmar increasingly finds itself in diplomatic isolation as atrocities against the country's minority group creates a humanitarian crisis.

The UN has appealed for aid and Dhaka urged the global community to come up with urgent assistance to deal with the Rohingya influx towards Bangladesh since violence erupted in Myanmar on August 25.

Yesterday, the estimate of refugee arrivals reportedly reached 3,13,000, an increase of 19,000 in just 24 hours.

"I call on the [Myanmar] government to end its current cruel military operation, with accountability for all violations that have occurred and to reverse the pattern of severe and widespread discrimination against the Rohingya population."

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4



Dhaka expects help from Delhi, Beijing
FM briefs diplomats of South and South-east Asian countries
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka expects India and China to stand beside Bangladesh amid the current Rohingya refugee crisis, hoping that the two countries would provide help address the influx of Myanmar nationals.

"China and India are friendly nations. As usual, they would support us during this crisis," Foreign Secretary Md Shahidul Haque told reporters after a diplomatic briefing at the state guest house Padma yesterday afternoon.

Like other countries in the world, he said, India and

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

A distraught Roksana stares blankly while her one-and-a-half-year-old daughter, suffering from hunger and fever, cries near Balukhali of Cox's Bazar's Ukhia yesterday. The Rohingya woman, escaping persecution in Myanmar, was waiting there for relief.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

Take back all Rohingyas

PM says Myanmar must do it; JS adopts resolution urging int'l community to mount pressure on Myanmar, calls for establishing a safe zone for Rohingyas under UN supervision



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in parliament last night criticised Myanmar for carrying out atrocities on the Rohingyas and said it must take back every Rohingya from Bangladesh, and ensure their safe accommodation and security in Myanmar.

Myanmar has created the crisis and it would have to resolve it, she said, adding, "Myanmar must take back every Rohingya who has entered Bangladesh so far and who are coming in now. As a neighbouring country, we can cooperate with Myanmar to rehabilitate them in their country."

She was speaking on a motion on the Rohingya issue adopted in parliament last night.

Ruling Awami League MP Dipu Moni placed the motion, which was adopted unanimously by voice vote following a three-hour discussion. At least 16 lawmakers, including opposition leader Raushan Ershad and a number of senior ministers, took part in the discussion.

Through the resolution, the House urged the United Nations and the international community to exert strong diplomatic pressures on Myanmar to take back the

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

REPORTER'S Diary

Freedom, for a moment

OSAMA RAHMAN, from Cox's Bazar

Nestled between green mountains and sandy beaches, Cox's Bazar teems with life and the promise of an unforgettable luxury and hospitality. Dotted with glitzy, gleaming 5-star hotels and restaurants offering the most delicious of meals, the town is a retreat full of excesses, the proverbial jewel in the crown of Bangladesh's tourist industry.

For residents, it is the perfect paradise on a plate full of delectable flavours. But this paradise, where we go to escape from

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1

So low, so fast

INAM AHMED and SHAKHAWAT LITON

Seldom, if ever, in history has a world hero fallen so fast into disrepute. Never have so many people and organisations representing world conscience turned red in the face because of the behavior of a person whom they had once adored, endorsed and praised for championing the cause of human rights and dignity.

Her own persecution at the hands of the Myanmar junta had deeply worried the world for long. But today the same world is worried because of her joining hands with the persecutors of the Rohingya people.

Not long before in 2009 Amnesty International had awarded her its most prestigious honour -- the "ambassador of conscience" award.

Today Amnesty views "what is unfolding in front of our eyes can be described as ethnic cleansing, in legal terms these are crimes against humanity". And Suu Kyi is not only a denier of the genocide that is being perpetrated in Myanmar but a vocal supporter of the marauding army.

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum set up by the US government had awarded Suu Kyi with its prestigious Elie Wiesel Award for her



SEE PAGE 2 COL 2

Shared food, homes for some refugees

OSAMA RAHMAN, from Cox's Bazar

"They pushed me away. I couldn't even fight back because I had my baby with me and he could have gotten hurt," Shanwara Begum in her mid-twenties says, her arm wrapped around her two-year old boy. Her eyes are a rare light shade of blue. They might have sparkled once; now they are dull.

Shanwara, a Rohingya refugee at Kutupalong camp in Cox's Bazar, came here five days ago. Today, she went for relief meant for the newcomers. But it was not to be. "Those who have been here for years are managing to get most of the relief. They know where to go and how to get it," she says.

Shafiq Alam, another new refugee who looked younger than his claimed 65, agreed. "They pushed her away and I could not get through either. What can we say? We are not here to fight," he expressed his frustration.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1



Two auto-rickshaw drivers push their vehicles out of the way in the rain after those stalled on the flooded road in Chowdhurypara near Khilgaon. Heavy rain turned many parts of the capital into a swamp yesterday paralysing normal life and causing traffic chaos.

HEAVY RAIN, WATERLOGGING No respite for city residents

Morning shower sends many parts of capital under water

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Heavy rain took the capital under ankle-to-knee-deep water and pushed the public road transport system into a near-breakdown yesterday, a day after the flooding of the city's major parts by moderate rain.

Streets, lanes and by-lanes were submerged. Traffic stood still after the morning rainfall. People, mainly office-goers, suffered immensely. Many of them had to wade through filthy water to reach their workplaces, failing to get any vehicle.

"It seems Dhaka is an orphan city. No one is there to take care of it. Whenever it rains, we face similar situation," said Muntakim Noor, a private service holder.

A major portion of the city experienced floods on Sunday as well following moderate rain.

Yesterday's heavy rain recorded by the Met office at 80 millimetres in six hours from 6:00am worsened the situation at some places.

Most part of the country, including the capital, will witness rain today also as monsoon is active over Bangladesh, a Met official said.

More often than not Dhaka city turns into a water body following a moderate rain, which experts blame on inadequate storm water drainage system managed by different authorities with little coordination between them.

They do the job haphazardly and have little clue about what the other parties are doing, according to experts.

SEE PAGE 10 COL 1