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## MASSACRE IN MYANMAR

Stop genocide, in the name of Buddha, writer pleads

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## INDIA RUNS ON DYNASTY

That's how the country works, Rahul Gandhi says, acknowledging Congress arrogance

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## SHAKIB'S CLARIFICATION

The all-rounder explains his decision to sit out the Tests in South Africa

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"We must stand by the Myanmar refugees and extend all kinds of support... as long as they don't return to their country, we will be with them."

PRIME MINISTER SHEKH HASINA

# STOP ATROCITIES

Prime minister calls upon Naypyidaw while meeting Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar, says Myanmar has to take back its nationals

AGENCIES

Denouncing the atrocities unleashed by the military in Rakhine State as "acts against humanity and violation of human rights", Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said Myanmar must take back its citizens now sheltered in Bangladesh.

"Myanmar has to take back its nationals and give them a safe place to live in their homeland. The international community should put pressure on Myanmar as it is committing such atrocities against Rohingya people... this has to be stopped," she added.

Bangladesh wants to maintain peace and good relations with its neighbouring countries, but it cannot accept the "unjust acts" the Myanmar government is committing, she said, urging Naypyidaw to end the persecution of Rohingya minorities.

The prime minister made the remarks while visiting a registered Rohingya camp and distributing relief among the refugees at Kutupalong Bazar in Ukhiya, Cox's Bazar. "Still, the fire is burning there... people can't find their family members... the bodies of infants and women are floating on the Naf River - these go completely against humanity and are violation of human rights. What sin and crimes have these innocent children, women and people committed? We can't tolerate such activities."

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her younger sister Sheikh Rehana comfort a Rohingya child at the Kutupalong refugee camp in Ukhiya upazila of Cox's Bazar yesterday. The PM visited the camp to see the condition of the Myanmar nationals who fled the recent violence in Rakhine State.

PHOTO: PMO

**ROHINGYA INFLUX**  
**3,70,000** AND COUNTING

## 2 lakh children at great risk

Many sick, need health care; global concern, condemnation on as China backs Myanmar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Unicef yesterday said more than 200,000 children in Cox's Bazar's Rohingya camps are at great risk, as the number of newly arrived refugees from Myanmar rose to 370,000.

"You see children who have not slept for days, they are sick and hungry. After such a long and challenging journey, many children are weak and they need health care right away," Jean Lieby, chief of child protection of Unicef Bangladesh, said in a statement.

The children are traumatised, and they need protection and psychological support, he said.

"We also see pregnant mothers, and we know that many babies were

INDIA HITS BACK AT UN CRITICISM - PAGE 8

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REFUGEE CRISIS  
**AL sending team to seek China's help**

PARTHA PRATHM BHATTACHARJEE

In the wake of a fresh violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State and the influx of Rohingya refugees into Bangladesh, the ruling Awami League will seek help from China to resolve the crisis.

A 20-member high-level AL delegation will fly to China on September 19 and put Bangladesh's case prominently before the leaders of Communist Party of China (CPC). It will try to convince them to use their influence on Myanmar to stop the atrocities on Rohingyas and bring the country to negotiations.

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## Death came hissing through the air

Survivors recount how Myanmar troops shot people dead, burnt down houses in a Rohingya village

PINAKI ROY with MOHAMMED ALI JINAT, Cox's Bazar

Hearing gunshots, Md Yunus realised that troops were closing in on their village. So he instantly ran towards a nearby hillock to hide with a belief that the military would target only young and grownup males.

But it was soon clear to his wife, Taslima Begum, that the army men were shooting at anyone and everyone.

There was no time to lose. So she quickly grabbed some cash and gold ornaments hidden at a corner of her house and started running towards the

hillock. Her younger son Hafiz was in her arms while the elder one, Abdul Hannan, 8, was trying to keep pace with her.

"Suddenly, I was hit in my shoulder and knee. I realised both my sons got shot. I don't remember anything... I collapsed...," said Taslima, now being treated at the 250-bed District Sadar Hospital in Cox's Bazar.

When she regained consciousness, it was evening, she recalled. Her mother-in-law came to look for them when the troops left the village of Hasoprang in Rachidong and woke her up.

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## REPORTER'S Diary



To expose the brutality of the Myanmar security forces, we are running this photograph going beyond our editorial policy.

## Alive, barely

OSAMA RAHMAN

The day after the Eid month was sighted, while the Muslim world collectively celebrated, Khurshida, 32, sat in her home in Butthidaur in Maungdaw, watching her two sons play, a seven-year-old and one-year-old. Hayat, they weren't allowed to be

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Workers loading a tractor with stones dug up from the bank of the Dhalai River at Bholagajon in Sylhet's Companyganj upazila, some 40 kilometres off the city. A group has been illegally extracting stone from the river banks for about four months after they were stopped by the upazila administration from extracting stone from the river bed. Such activity has been causing erosion of the river, threatening the very existence of nearby villages. The photo was taken on Saturday.

PHOTO: SHEKH NAJIR

## Tk 665cr to build places of worship

Plans the govt on recommendations from MPs; the project includes developing graveyards, playgrounds; Ecneec nod likely today

REJAUUL KARIM BYRON

Following recommendations of MPs, the government has planned to spend Tk 665 crore for building religious institutions and other establishments in their constituencies.

The government has prepared the three-year project eyeing the next parliamentary elections, say officials concerned.

The project, titled "Universal Social Infrastructure Development", is likely to get approval today at the Ecneec meeting, sources in the planning ministry said. Each upazila would be allocated Tk one crore (total Tk 491 crore) and Tk 109 crore would be kept as lump sum allocation. The rest of the money would be spent as project related expenditure.

The money, according to the project proposal, would be spent for mosques, Eidgahs, graveyards, temples, crematoriums, churches, pagodas and playgrounds.

The Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) would build the infrastructures as per recommendations from local lawmakers, upazila and union parishad chairmen.

The project work would begin this year. Usually, such religious institutions are run with contributions from local affluent people. Small contributions also come from those who are not affluent.

A planning ministry official said lawmakers are often requested by locals for grants for such institutions and if the MPs could manage the donations, their popularity increases manifold.

However, allegations of irregularities in such cases are plenty. To stop irregularities, another planning ministry official said, various conditions had been fixed. One of the conditions was ensuring the use of digital geographical positioning system (GPS) machines.

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