

MYANMAR'S PROPOSAL

All that glitters is not gold

INAM AHMED and SHAKHAWAT LITON

Myanmar's promise to take back the Rohingyas, who have taken refuge in Bangladesh, looks empty and seems to be a tactic to ease international pressure.

This is reflected in the contents of a hasty statement put on the official website of State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi hours after Myanmar Union Minister U Kyaw Zeya concluded his Dhaka visit.

The statement released yesterday clearly mentioned that repatriation has to be done on the basis of verification of the refugees in line with the criteria agreed to by the two countries in a joint statement in 1992.

And here comes the catch. If the 1992 agreement is followed, only around 14,000 may get the chance of repatriation, if at all. The reality is that more than five lakh Rohingyas have already arrived in

Bangladesh over the last five weeks. The mention of the 1992 agreement is devious and crafty. It's a clear indication that Myanmar is most insincere and unfeeling about the brutal genocide that is going on there.

The 1992 agreement was signed after an

ROHINGYA INFLUX | 5,09,000 AND COUNTING

influx of more than 2.5 lakh fear-stricken Rohingyas who fled their country following a crackdown. After prolonged discussions, Myanmar agreed that the Rohingyas having

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 DRUG TRADE DEFIES RAKHINE CRISIS - PAGE 2



Newly arrived Rohingya refugees from Myanmar make their way to a relief centre in Teknaf of Cox's Bazar yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Move fast for safe return of Rohingyas

Envoys, UN officials tell Myanmar after visit to Rakhine

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The foreign diplomats and UN officials, who were taken on a tour to conflict-ridden Rakhine State on Monday, want Myanmar to move quickly for voluntary, dignified and safe return of the Rohingyas who fled violence to Bangladesh.

Building on the trip, the

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Dhaka cautious in its optimism

REZAUL KARIM

Dhaka is cautiously examining Myanmar's proposal to take back Rohingyas and will keep its doors open for resolving the crisis through international means. Myanmar's Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe, at a meeting in Dhaka on Monday, proposed taking back Rohingyas who crossed over into Bangladesh fleeing violence in Rakhine State.

The two countries also agreed to set up a Joint Working Group to prepare a detailed plan and coordinate the repatriation process.

The Myanmar side, however, yesterday declared that any repatriation would be on the basis of verification of the refugees according to the criteria agreed to by the two

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Uphold image of judiciary

Justice Wahhab tells SC judges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Justice Md Abdul Wahhab Miah, who took the charge as chief justice in the



absence of Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha, yesterday urged his fellow judges to work in a manner

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Law minister bins 'speculations'

SCBA alleges the govt put pressure on chief justice to go on a month's leave

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) yesterday alleged that Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha was forced to take a month's leave, a claim both the law minister and the attorney general termed baseless.

They said the CJ took the leave due to illness. Mahabubey Alam, the AG, also dismissed as "not true" journalists' suggestions that Justice Sinha was put under house arrest.

According to him, the SCBA was raising the allegations to tarnish the image of the judiciary.

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Lift duties to cut trade deficit

Dhaka urges New Delhi; Indian FM seeks greater cooperation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka has once again called upon New Delhi to withdraw tariff, non-tariff and anti-dumping duties on shipments of goods from Bangladesh to narrow down its trade deficit with India.

The balance of bilateral trade between the two countries is heavily tilted towards



Arun Jaitley

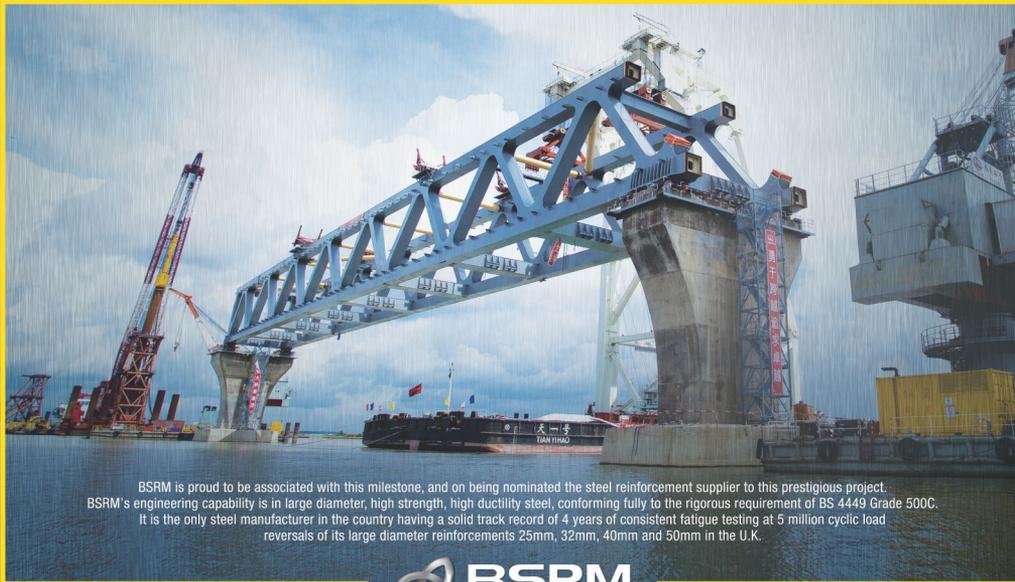
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THE COLOSSUS RISES OUT OF THE MIGHTY PADMA

We salute the courageous leadership of our Honorable Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina on this momentous milestone of the nation.

We also congratulate the Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges | Bridge Division
 Bangladesh Bridge Authority | Bangladesh Army | Korea Expressway Corporation (KEC) | China Major Bridge Engineering Corporation for their selfless hard work, dedication and devotion to this national project.



BSRM is proud to be associated with this milestone, and on being nominated the steel reinforcement supplier to this prestigious project. BSRM's engineering capability is in large diameter, high strength, high ductility steel, conforming fully to the rigorous requirement of BS 4449 Grade 500C. It is the only steel manufacturer in the country having a solid track record of 4 years of consistent fatigue testing at 5 million cyclic load reversals of its large diameter reinforcements 25mm, 32mm, 40mm and 50mm in the U.K.