



Members of the US delegation speaking to journalists after visiting Balukhali Refugee Camp in Ukhia of Cox's Bazar yesterday.

Miss India

FROM PAGE 16
countries with most victories in the history of the pageant, now in its 67th edition.

Chhillar, 20, is a trained Indian classical dancer who also enjoys painting and hopes to open a chain of non-profit hospitals in rural areas, according to the Miss World website.

"Thank you, everyone, for your constant love, support, and prayer," she wrote on Twitter. "This one's for India."

Chhillar's victory rapidly became a top trending topic on the social media platform in India after the announcement, with Manohar Lal Khattar -- the minister of her home state of Haryana -- among the first to offer congratulations.

Chhillar was handed the crown by last year's winner, Stephanie del Valle of Puerto Rico, at the ceremony in the Chinese coastal city of Sanya on Saturday night.

Stephanie Hill of England and Andrea Meza of Mexico finished as runners-up.

Saturday marked the Miss World pageant's return to Sanya, on southern China's Hainan Island, for a seventh time, where the event was last held in 2015.

At the previous occasion two years ago, controversy erupted as officials in Hong Kong stopped Miss Canada, Anastasia Lin, from boarding a plane bound for Sanya, telling her she would not receive a visa.

The 25-year old actress claimed the decision was due to her stance on China's human rights record, including its persecution of Falun Gong, a Chinese spiritual group of which she is a practitioner.

At last year's event in the United States, Lin was again embroiled in controversy when pageant officials reportedly warned her against speaking to the press for three weeks about human rights abuses in China.

Miss Lin did not participate in this year's event, with Canada represented instead by Cynthia Menard, a high school student.

Gaibandha MP

FROM PAGE 2
Awami League Lawmaker of Tangail-Sanwar Hossain, Deputy Commissioner Khan Mohammad Nurul Amin, and Superintendent of Tangail Police Mahbub Alam visited Mostofa at the hospital.

Meanwhile, UNHCR Spokesperson William Spindler on Friday at a briefing in Geneva said nearly three months into the crisis ensued afresh in August, refugees are continuing to flee Myanmar, many by increasingly desperate means.

Over the last 10 days, the UNHCR, the UN refugee agency, received reports of some 30 improvised rafts arriving from Myanmar, carrying more than a thousand people.

"Recent arrivals told us they had been waiting for more than a month in desperate conditions on Myanmar's shores. Food and water are said to be running low," he said.

ICRC REGIONAL DIRECTOR VISITS DHAKA TODAY

Boris Michel, ICRC regional director for Asia and the Pacific, arrives in Dhaka on a five-day visit today to see the Rohingya situation on the ground, said a release.

During the visit, he will meet the Bangladeshi authorities, senior officials from international organisations and the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) to discuss pressing humanitarian needs and the challenges of the forcibly displaced Rohingya people.

He will also undertake field trips and be part of ICRC's joint response with the BDRCS for the newly arrived people from Myanmar currently living in Cox's Bazar, added the release.

"We talked to the affected people

and listened to their description about the mayhem targeting Rohingya people. We will share the experience we gathered from today's visit at our congress. We also convey thanks to Bangladesh for its generosity in hosting the refugees," he added.

During their visit they talked to the Rohingya people who shared their experience of facing atrocities unleashed by the Myanmar authorities.

Rohingya people requested the delegation to take steps to put an end to the ongoing atrocities and to ensure their safe accommodation at the Rakhine State of Myanmar.

Earlier, during a meeting with Bangladesh Ambassador to the US, Mohammad Ziauddin, in the USA, Senator Jeff Markley said the US lawmakers were continuously pushing the country's administration to take actions against the Myanmar government to end the violence and implement the suggestions of the Kofi Annan Commission's Report, said a release from the Bangladesh embassy.

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The assurance came when the congressional delegation led by Senator Jeff Markley visited Balukhali camp in Ukhia yesterday.

The other members of the delegation include Senator Richard Durbin (Democrat - Illinois), Representative Betty McCollum (Democrat - Minnesota), Representative Jan Schakowsky (Democrat - Illinois), Representative David Cicilline (Democrat - Rhode Island) and US ambassador to Bangladesh Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat.

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