



SOHAIL BIN MOHAMMAD

Over the years, I've tried to express myself through my feet, which have made everything simpler for me ever since I was a child." — Francesco Totti

SNAPSHOT

THE STRUGGLE TO RETURN HOME

Bangladeshi migrants in Pakistan are struggling to strike a balance between earning money for their families back home and not seeing them for ages, at a time when the relationship between the two countries seem to be deteriorating.

NAIMUL KARIM

to earn.

There's also the issue of harassment. Most of the Bengalis in Pakistan live in poor areas and many are undocumented. Some of them have complained of being harassed by the police for not being able to produce any identity cards.

As such, several Bengalis end up applying for Travel Permits (TP) to return to Bangladesh every

year.

"There are two ways to issue TPs," explains Rahman. "Firstly, if a person brings a genuine Bangladeshi passport which belongs to him, no matter how old it is, that person is given the TP. This basically means that the person had entered Pakistan with a Bangladeshi passport and then overstayed. If someone does not have a passport,

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MAILBOX

starweekendts@gmail.com

Rohingya crisis: What's the solution?

Bangladesh is under the global spotlight because it is hosting Rohingyas who fled army oppression in Myanmar. Bangladesh has given shelter to around 1,000,000 Rohingyas and more are still coming to Bangladesh. They are staying at different camps in Cox's Bazar, a predominant tourist spot, where they are surviving by cutting firewood to use for cooking and to sell. Problems such as deforestation and landslides in the area are inevitable.

Bangladesh is not equipped to support the refugees for a long time. While representatives of various powerful nations and organisations are coming to Bangladesh to see the condition of the Rohingyas, they empathise with their plight and praise Bangladesh but haven't yet taken any significant steps against Myanmar. Why are the powerful countries of the world silent? What is the solution of this crisis?

Sayek Ahmed Sajib
Narayankul Dream Model School and College, Gazipur



PHOTO: AFP

Myanmar must be referred to the ICC

The International Criminal Court (ICC), based in the Hague, has sought to know Bangladesh's opinion by June 11 as to whether Myanmar can be responsible for atrocities held in Rakhine state. International human rights bodies have already blamed Min Aung Hlang, Myanmar State Army Chief, as the prime planner and perpetrator of the offences in Rakhine, called out by the global media as "ethnic cleansing". He stands blame for inciting the military junta and radical Buddhists and also spread racist propaganda against Rohingyas, terming them 'Bengalis'. He is the man who has been denying the citizenship of Rohingyas from the very beginning.

Aung Sang Suu Kyi, de facto counsellor of Myanmar, has also been blamed for her inaction and silent support to the atrocities against Rohingyas. For this, her Nobel Prize in Peace has been called into question by the global media and civil society. Satellite video footage, media coverage and stories of victims' families in Rakhine are vivid instances of the atrocities against the Rohingya community. The perpetrator behind the crime never confessed and now Myanmar has been trying to mislead the international community by destroying evidence of the atrocities in Rakhine using army bulldozers. Bangladesh must refer Myanmar to the ICC for the heinous crimes committed in Rakhine as soon as possible.

Md Zillur Rahaman
Lalmohan, Bhola

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