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An impassive Aung San Suu Kyi looks at the judges of the International Court of Justice in The Hague yesterday. Gambia's Justice Minister Abubacarr Tambadou is seen on her right during the hearing of a case filed by his country against Myanmar alleging genocide against the Rohingyas.

PHOTO: REUTERS

"Another genocide is unfolding right before our eyes yet we do nothing to stop it. This is a stain on our collective conscience. It's not only the state of Myanmar that is on trial here, it's our collective humanity that is being put on trial."

ABUBACARR MARIE TAMBADOU, THE GAMBIA'S ATTORNEY GENERAL AND JUSTICE MINISTER.

Arguments strong enough to convince judges: expert

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The arguments presented by the Gambia's lawyers at the top UN court yesterday were extremely strong and should convince the judges to issue "provisional measures" against Myanmar to stop genocide against the Rohingyas, said a legal expert.

If the International Court of Justice (ICJ) issues such an order, Myanmar will be under real pressure as it is a binding one, said the expert.

"It was truly convincing the way the lawyers, who are very reputed in their

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STOP GENOCIDE

Rohingya genocide hearing begins in The Hague; The Gambia lawyers say Suu Kyi 'in it together' with Myanmar army



STAR REPORT

Mass rapes, the burning alive of Rohingya families in their homes and the killing of children were described by The Gambia's legal team as it set out its genocide case against Myanmar at the highest UN court yesterday.

Myanmar's leader Aung San Suu Kyi, a Nobel Peace laureate, looked on impassively as the alleged atrocities were detailed on the first of three days of hearings at the International Court of Justice in The Hague. The case was instituted by The Gambia against Myanmar in November.

"All that The Gambia asks is that you tell Myanmar to stop these senseless killings," Gambia's Justice Minister Abubacarr Tambadou said in opening comments.

"To stop these acts of barbarity and brutality that have shocked and continue to shock our collective conscience. To stop this genocide of its own people," he said.

Around 740,000 Rohingyas fled to neighbouring Bangladesh after a bloody crackdown by the Myanmar military in 2017 that

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CITIZENSHIP BILL

Protests rage in northeast India

US panel for sanctions against Amit Shah; 600 eminent persons express concern

AGENCIES

Protestors in northeast India set fire to tyres and cut down trees to block roads yesterday in a shutdown across the region hours after lawmakers approved the government's new citizenship bill.

The legislation, set to go before the upper house today, will fast-track citizenship claims from immigrants from three neighbouring countries -- but not if they are Muslim.

For Islamic groups, the opposition,

rights groups and others this fits into Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist agenda to marginalise India's 200 million Muslims -- something he denies.

People in northeast India object for different reasons, fearing that large numbers of Hindu migrants from Bangladesh, who they say are intruders, will swamp their homeland.

The region -- that is sandwiched between

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Hosts shine as SA Games conclude

ATIQUE ANAM from Kathmandu

The 13th South Asian Games came to an end yesterday, bringing the curtain down on the largest multi-discipline sporting extravaganza of the region at the Dasarath Rangasala in Kathmandu.

The two-hour long closing ceremony was a rather low-key affair, the highlight of which was perhaps its final segment,

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IMPEACHMENT PROBE

Trump to face 2 formal charges

Announce Democrats; full House vote expected next week

AFP, Washington

Democrats yesterday unveiled two articles of impeachment against US President Donald Trump after weeks of arguing there is overwhelming evidence that the US leader abused his office and deserves to be removed.

If the charges -- abuse of power and obstruction of Congress -- are approved by the full House of Representatives in a vote expected next week, it would put Trump in the historic position of being the third US leader ever impeached and placed on trial in the Senate.

"Our president holds the ultimate public trust," said House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerry Nadler.

"When he betrays that trust and puts himself before country, he endangers the constitution, he endangers our democracy and he endangers our national security."

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