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INDIA PUSHES 21 ROHINGYA INTO BANGLADESH THROUGH SHERPUR BORDER



India's Border Security Force (BSF) has reportedly pushed 21 Rohingya into Bangladesh through the Nakugaon border in Sherpur's Nalitabari Upazila. Lt Col Mehedi Hasan, commander of the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) Battalion 39 in Mymensingh, said the group was pushed in on Thursday night through main pillar 1,116 along the border.

A BGB patrol team detained the group and temporarily housed them at a local government primary school.

The group consists of five men, five women, and 11 children from six families, according to the BGB.

They reportedly fled the Balukhali Rohingya refugee camp in Cox's Bazar's Ukhiya and travelled to India's Jammu and Kashmir, where they worked as hotel and domestic labourers. A month ago, Indian police arrested them for residing illegally in the country and later handed them over to the BSF, who then pushed them into Bangladesh.

Lt Col Mehedi said authorities are currently verifying their identities and determining the next course of action. Earlier, on Jul 11, the BSF had similarly pushed in 10 Rohingya, including children, through the Nalitabari's Panihata border.

Source: bdnews24.com

FIVE ROHINGYAS CROSS INTO BANGLADESH TO ESCAPE TORTURE BY ARAKAN ARMY: RRRC OFFICIAL

At least five Rohingya refugees crossed into Bangladesh today (24 July) to escape escalating violence and alleged torture by Myanmar's ethnic armed group, the Arakan Army (AA), officials and community sources confirmed. The Rohingyas, who were fleeing from Myanmar's conflict-ridden Rakhine State,

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Five Rohingyas cross into Bangladesh to escape torture

are now in the custody of the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB). Sources within the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner's (RRRC) office said they are being held near the border amid ongoing efforts to verify their claims of persecution. "Speaking to the fleeing Rohingyas, we learnt that they are escaping to Bangladesh after facing persecution by the Arakan Army," said RRC official Mohammed Mizanur Rahman.

"The five Rohingyas are currently in BGB custody."

Despite previous promises to protect Rohingya civilians, the Arakan Army is accused of committing serious human rights abuses against them in areas under its control. One such case involves Md Jobaier, a resident of Camp-16 in Cox's Bazar, whose cousin recently fled Maungdaw to avoid extortion and threats.

"My cousin had a small scrap business in Maungdaw. For months, the AA extorted money from him. His life was under threat, so he fled to Bangladesh. But BGB caught him at the border and is now trying to push him back," Jobaier told The Business Standard.



Two-year-old Abdur Rahman's leg had to be amputated after it was torn apart by shellfire during an Arakan Army (AA) attack in Buthidaung, Rakhine State, in 2024. Photo: Collected

He added, "The torture we faced in 2017 was horrifying, but what is happening now in Buthidaung and Maungdaw is even worse. A relative was recently shot dead by the AA, and a three-year-old child was shot in the leg."

The fresh influx follows renewed fighting between the Arakan Army and Myanmar's military, the Tatmadaw, in Rakhine State. Since the conflict reignited, an estimated 125,000 Rohingyas have fled into Bangladesh, reviving memories of the 2017 genocide that forced over one million Rohingyas to seek refuge across the border.

Rohingya sources alleged that back in Rakhine, civilians are subjected to killings, enforced disappearances, forced recruitment as human shields, and used as labourers by the AA in areas where the military junta and rebels continue to

clash. Yesterday (23 July), Fortify Rights, a Southeast Asia-based human rights organisation, published a report accusing the Arakan Army of committing war crimes, including abductions, torture, killings, and beheadings of Rohingya civilians.

"The Arakan Army is responsible for widespread abductions, brutal torture, and the murder of Rohingya, some of whom were found beheaded, in blatant violation of the laws of war," said Ejaz Min Khant, a Human Rights Specialist at Fortify Rights.

The organisation urged the International Criminal Court (ICC) to investigate and prosecute AA members involved in these atrocities.

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■ Source: tbsnews.net