

# ROHINGYA PRESS

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## UN ENVOY TOM ANDREWS MEETS YUNUS OVER ROHINGYA CRISIS



Tom Andrews, the UN special envoy for human rights in Myanmar, has met with Chief Advisor Muhammad Yunus at the State Guest House Jamuna in Dhaka.

During the meeting on Thursday, Andrews praised the chief advisor’s leadership in drawing international attention to the Rohingya crisis, state news agency Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS). He noted that the initiative for the international conference on

Rohingya, scheduled for Sept 30 at the UN headquarters, had come from Yunus.

He added that a swift and lasting solution remained possible with the continued efforts of all stakeholders and urged Bangladesh to maintain its leadership on the issue.

Andrews is in Bangladesh to attend a stakeholder dialogue on the Rohingya issue in Cox’s Bazar on Aug 25, which will be inaugurated by Yunus.

Source: bdnews24.com

## SHATTERED SANCTUARIES: EARTHQUAKE-DAMAGED MOSQUES FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL

The March 28 earthquake in central Myanmar killed hundreds of Muslims and damaged many mosques, and survivors are forced to pray in makeshift shelters while waiting for permits to rebuild their houses of worship.

Since the March 28 earthquake in central Myanmar, the junta has denied permission for damaged mosques in hard-hit areas to be repaired or rebuilt, and authorities have even indicated that some of the mosques will be permanently closed.



Source: frontiermyanmar.net

### More News:

Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus has expressed the hope that the UN Conference in New York in September will provide concrete pathways to the resolution of the prolonged Rohingya crisis.



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# UNICEF WARNS OF CHILD SURVIVAL CRISIS IN ROHINGYA CAMPS AMID FUNDING COLLAPSE

Unicef’s deep funding cuts have forced the closure of early-grade classrooms in Rohingya camps, triggering violent protests, threats, and vandalism from laid-off volunteer teachers, according to Unicef Representative to Bangladesh Rana Flowers.



Unicef Representative to Bangladesh Rana Flowers. Photo: Ahadul Karim Khan/Dhaka Tribune

She spoke about the situation during a briefing with the Dhaka Tribune and other media on Thursday.

## Funding slash

Education, long considered a lifeline for nearly one million Rohingya refugees in Cox’s Bazar, has been among the hardest-hit sectors of the crisis. With funding slashed by more than half, Unicef was forced to close kindergartens and grades one and two earlier this year.

“It breaks my heart, but the reality is that we simply didn’t have the funding to keep those schools open,” Flowers said.

Unicef currently manages over 4,500 classrooms reaching some 228,000 children. The closures directly affected 1,179 community volunteer teachers providing early education. About 60% returned to their home districts, 25% joined SKILFO,

Unicef’s initiative offering skills training and potential employment pathways, while the remaining 15% resisted the changes.

## Protests and violence

Some dismissed teachers responded violently. Flowers detailed incidents including threats against humanitarian workers, confinement of local NGO staff, smashed windows, and physical attacks.

In one case, a staff member was hospitalized after being struck with a chair. Other incidents included classrooms locked by volunteers, colleagues forcibly removed, and online disinformation to inflame tensions.

“There will be blood on the streets of Teknaf,” read one alleged threat, highlighting the dangers faced by education workers.

The unrest spilled onto the streets as well. On August 18,

dismissed teachers blocked the Cox’s Bazar–Teknaf road at Court Bazar station for 10 hours, cutting off traffic along the key highway connecting the camps to the district town. Two days later, on August 20, police detained 28 protesters but released them after several hours.

Bangladeshi NGO staff have been particularly vulnerable, with many too frightened to file police reports, Flowers said. Unicef has called on authorities to strengthen protection measures for aid workers in the camps.

## The broader picture

The unrest reflects a wider collapse in funding for the Rohingya response. Unicef’s education budget has been cut by more than half, with at least \$15 million per year needed just to cover teacher incentives. Other essential services—including food, cooking fuel, soap, health facilities, and sanitation—are also under severe pressure. Refugee families that once received four bars of soap per month now receive only one.

Flowers said Unicef prioritized limited resources toward secondary education, which is critical for adolescents.

Source: dhakatribune.com



**CALLED ‘BANGLA-  
DESHI ROHINGYA’,  
GROUP OF STUDENTS  
PHYSICALLY AND  
VERBALLY ASSAULTED**

*The incident occurred in central Calcutta, amid a nationwide rise in reports of Bengali-speaking individuals being harassed and branded as Bangladeshi nationals*

A group of students staying at Carmichael Hall in Sealdah, a hostel for Calcutta University students, were allegedly beaten and called “Bangladeshi Rohingya” after walking out of a mobile accessory shop on Wednesday night without making a purchase.

The incident occurred in central Calcutta, amid a nationwide rise in reports of Bengali-speaking individuals being harassed and branded as Bangladeshi nationals.

Following a complaint by one of the students, police have arrested Dipak Kumar Shaw, 29, and Imtiaz Ali, 35, both employees of the mobile accessory shop.

Tarik Ali, the complainant and a master’s student, said he and other students visited the store in Sealdah’s Sisir Market.

■ Source: telegraphindia.com

**MYANMAR JUNTA  
PLANS VOTING IN 102  
TOWNSHIPS**



Myanmar’s regime announced on Thursday that voting will be held in 102 townships, mostly under its control, during the first phase of elections planned for December 28.

Elections would be held in six townships in Kachin, two in Karenni (Kayah), three in Karen, two in Chin, five in Mon, three in Rakhine, and 12 in Shan. Others include 12 in Sagaing, four in Tanintharyi, eight in Bago, nine in Magwe, eight in Mandalay, 12 in Yangon, eight in Ayeyarwady, and eight in Naypyitaw.

**In Rakhine State,  
the AA has  
captured 14 of 17  
townships, and the  
regime plans to  
hold the voting in  
the three  
townships—Sittwe,  
Kyaukphyu and  
Manaung.**

■ Source: irrawaddy.com

**GOVT TO HOST INT’L  
CONFERENCE ON RO-  
HINGYA CRISIS IN  
COX’S BAZAR AUG  
24-26**

The interim government is going to organize a large-scale conference in Cox’s Bazar from August 24 to 26 to highlight the Rohingya crisis before the international community.

"Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus is scheduled to attend the conference on August 25," Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam said today at a press briefing at the Foreign Service Academy in the city.

He said this conference will facilitate the Rohingyas, who took shelter in Cox’s Bazar, to share their problems, hopes and aspirations as well as their dreams directly with international organizations and foreign representatives.

Noting that the interim government is working sincerely to resolve the Rohingya crisis, the press secretary said the government is continuing close discussions with different countries and organizations.

■ Source: bssnews.net