

# ROHINGYA PRESS

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UNICEF, SAVE THE CHILDREN

## SHUT DOWN OVER 6,400 LEARNING CENTRES IN ROHINGYA CAMPS

UNICEF and Save the Children have announced the indefinite closure of 6,493 learning centres in the Rohingya camps of Ukhiya and Teknaf in Cox's Bazar, citing recent unrest and operational challenges.

The announcement was made in a joint letter sent Tuesday afternoon to the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC) by Angela Kearney, Head of UNICEF's Cox's Bazar Field Office, and Mohammad Golam Mostafa of Save the Children.

The letter stated that all education activities in the Rohingya camps have been suspended due to the current situation in Ukhiya. The decision follows a press briefing by UNICEF on Monday, where it warned that 230,000 Rohingya children were at risk of losing access to education due to a severe funding shortfall.



The organization noted that it had already begun downsizing local volunteer teachers due to the budget crisis. RRRC Additional Commissioner Shamsud Douza Nayan confirmed receipt of the letter and said that UNICEF had laid off approximately 1,200 local teachers working in education centres within the camps.

Meanwhile, protests erupted Tuesday at Courtbazar in Ukhiya and Unchiprang Station in Teknaf, located along the Cox's Bazar-Teknaf (Shaheed ATM Zafar Alam) Arakan Highway. From 7:30am to 2:00pm, the highway remained blocked for more than seven hours, severely disrupting traffic and causing significant hardship...

■ Source: observerbd.com

## UN TO OPEN RIGHTS OFFICE IN DHAKA SOON: RESIDENT COORDINATOR

United Nations resident coordinator in Bangladesh Gwyn Lewis said in Dhaka on Wednesday that the UN would soon open its human rights office in Dhaka.

'We have finalised the process to formally open a small office of the human rights council in Bangladesh,' said the UN resident coordinator at a dialogue with the Diplomatic Correspondents Association, Bangladesh at the National Press Club.

Responding to a question about the much-talked-about UN proposal for a humanitarian corridor to the conflict-ridden Rakhine state of Myanmar through Bangladesh she said that it was a legal issue requiring an agreement between all parties involved, including Bangladesh government, Myanmar government and others concerned.

Gwyn Lewis said that the UN would support only all parties concerned reach a legal agreement in this regard. There was no such humanitarian corridor to Rakhine at present.

■ Source: newagebd.net

More News:

■ Humanitarian corridor is a matter of Bangladesh and Myanmar: United Nations Resident Coordinator in Bangladesh Gwyn Lewis made the remark at a discussion hosted by the DCAB



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**RAKHINE CORRIDOR  
DEPENDS ON DHAKA,  
NAYPYITAW: UN**



United Nations Resident Coordinator in Bangladesh, Gwyn Lewis, has said the proposed humanitarian corridor in Myanmar’s Rakhine State will only be possible if both the governments of Bangladesh and Myanmar agree.

“The UN will assist only if both sides agree. The decision will not be made by the UN,” she said while speaking at a discussion at the National Press Club in Dhaka on Wednesday (June 4). The event was organised by the Diplomatic Correspondents Association, Bangladesh (DCAB).

Replying to questions from journalists, Lewis said the UN is interested in providing technical support in Bangladesh’s next national election, but when and how the election will be held is entirely up to the government and people of Bangladesh. She said access to Rakhine for delivering humanitarian aid is currently very difficult and challenging. “We call on everyone’s attention to this issue,” she added.

■ Source: banglanews24.com

**ROHINGYA REPATRIATION:  
PROMISING PAPERWORK  
BUT HOLLOW GESTURE- OPED**

On the sidelines of the April 2025 BIMSTEC summit in Bangkok, the Myanmar junta, through its Foreign Minister, confirmed that 180,000 Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh are eligible for return. While Bangladesh had provided a list of 800,000 Rohingyas for verification, junta’s Foreign Minister also assured that the verification of the remaining 550,000 Rohingyas would be expedited.

Hope was raised by the news because a repatriation agreement, even if it is only partial, marks the conclusion of a long-running problem. However, a closer look reveals that this is only a token act, a publicity gimmick by a regime looking to bolster its eroding credibility.

Myanmar has a long history of unfulfilled promises on the Rohingya issue. Following international condemnation of the genocide, the government and Bangladesh inked an agreement in 2017 to make it easier for the displaced Rohingya to return. However, several repatriation attempts even with Chinese mediation were unsuccessful. Repatriation barriers are intentional rather than just logistical snags. One of the main pillars of the Rohingya’s

subjugation is the Citizenship Law of 1982. Even though they had lived in Rakhine State for millennia, this law essentially made them stateless by removing them from the list of recognized ethnic groups. The Rohingya cannot travel freely, own land, or receive an education if they do not have citizenship.

Even if 180,000 Rohingya returned, they would still be considered noncitizens in their own nation and would be subject to the same persecution that forced them to leave because the Myanmar government has demonstrated no intention of repealing or changing this law. Eligibility announcements are nothing if this basic injustice is not addressed.

Additionally, the documentation and the reality on the ground in Rakhine do not correspond. Since 2017, a lot has occurred. Over 80 percent of Rakhine is currently under the Arakan Army’s (AA) authority. Instead of welcoming the Rohingya, the AA is accused of launching a campaign to expel the surviving Rohingya from Rakhine. In light of this fact, repatriation is impossible without AA’s agreement, even with the junta’s assent.

■ Source: eurasiareview.com