



UNHCR team Meets Rohingya refugees in Jammu | Jammu & Kashmir | 16 Dec 2024

Why in News?

Recently, a two-membered team of [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees \(UNHCR\)](#) visited [Rohingya refugees](#) staying in Jammu and surrounding areas.

Key Points

- The **visit followed controversy over the administration's order to disconnect water and power supplies** to slums housing illegal Rohingyas.
- Jammu's Jal Shakti Minister clarified that water and power supply to these areas would not be cut.
- **Government and Public Response:**
 - Local organisations and political groups have been calling for the deportation of Rohingya refugees.
 - The Chief Minister stated that while the **Centre must decide the fate of the Rohingyas**, they **cannot be left to suffer from starvation or cold**.
- **NGO and Aadhaar Linkages:**
 - Investigations revealed that four [Non-governmental Organizations \(NGOs\)](#) were **helping Rohingyas settle in Jammu**.
 - Reports indicate that **158 Rohingyas obtained Aadhaar cards unlawfully**, and several Rohingya women have married local youths in Jammu and Kashmir.
 - According to government data, **over 13,700 foreigners, including Rohingyas and Bangladeshi nationals, reside in Jammu and other districts of J&K**.
- **Legal and Political Actions:**
 - [First Information Reports \(FIR\)](#) were recently registered against landlords **renting properties to Rohingyas without informing the police**, violating district magistrate orders.
- **National Security Concerns:**
 - **Political organisations have urged the Central Government to deport Bangladeshi and Rohingya refugees**, citing potential national security risks.

Rohingya Crisis

- The Rohingya people have suffered decades of **violence, discrimination and persecution in Myanmar**.
 - Rohingyas are not recognized as an official ethnic group and have been **denied citizenship since 1982**. They are one of the largest stateless populations in the world.
- Since the early 1990s, the **Rohingyas have fled successive waves of violence in Myanmar**.
 - Their **largest and fastest exodus began in August 2017** when violence broke out in [Myanmar's Rakhine State](#), driving more than 742,000 people to seek refuge in neighbouring countries, **the majority of whom were women and children**.



J&K to Host Khelo India Winter Games 2025 | Jammu & Kashmir | 16 Dec 2024

Why in News?

Jammu & Kashmir is set to host the [Khelo India Winter Games \(KIWG\) 2025](#) from **23rd to 27th January 2025**. Ladakh will host ice sports, including ice hockey and ice skating events.

Key Points

- **Khelo India Winter Games:**
 - For the **second consecutive year, the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) and Ladakh jointly hosted** the Khelo India Winter Games.
 - J&K previously hosted all events but Ladakh successfully organized ice events, such as skating and hockey.

- **Origins and Growth of Participation:**
 - The **Khelo India Winter Games began in 2020**, attracting nearly 1,000 athletes, including 306 women, in its inaugural year.
 - Participation steadily increased, with over 1,350 athletes in 2021 and more than 1,500 in 2022, reflecting the games' growing popularity in the region.
- **KIWG 2024:**
 - The 2024 Winter Games featured over 1,200 participants, including:
 - More than 700 athletes.
 - A total of 136 medals were contested during the event.
- **Increased Professional Management:**
 - For the first time, **the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**, in collaboration with [the Sports Authority of India \(SAI\)](#), [National Sports Federations](#), and the [Indian Olympic Association](#), managed the technical conduct of the games.

Khelo India Winter Games (KIWG)

- The KIWG is a **multidisciplinary, national-level winter sports competition** that **promotes winter sports** and encourages more athletes to take up skiing and skating.
- It includes events such as **skiing, alpine skiing, nordic skiing, snow rugby, ice stock sport, snow baseball, mountaineering, snowshoe running, ice hockey, figure skating, and speed skating.**
- It is organized by the [Sports Authority of India](#) and the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.**
- The **2025 KIWG** will be held in the **Union Territory of Ladakh from 23 to 27 January for ice events**, and in **the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir from 22 to 25 February for snow events.**

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