



UNHCR team Meets Rohingya refugees in Jammu

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 **Rohingya 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**.



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