

# India and Rohingyas conflict

### Why in news?

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Myanmar has recently increased military deployment in the northern Rakhine area as part of its counter-insurgency efforts against Rohingyas.

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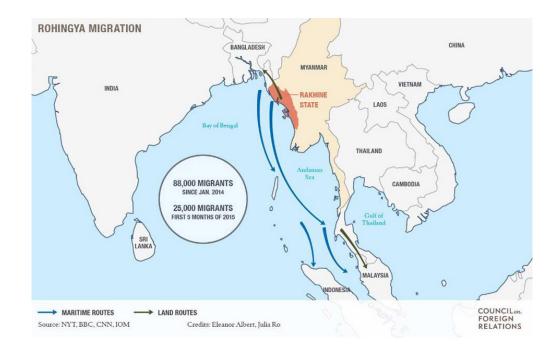
### Who are Rohingyas?

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- The Rohingya are an ethnic Muslim group in the majority Buddhist country
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- They reside predominantly in Rakhine state and speak a Bengali dialect.  $\space{\space{1.5}n}$
- They are not recognised by the Myanmar government as an official ethnic group and are therefore denied citizenship.  $\n$
- While it is claimed that there were no Rohingyas in Myanmar before the British brought 'Bengalis' to Burma, there is sufficient evidence to show for the Rohingyas' pre-existence.
- They are often said to be the world's most persecuted minority.  $\ensuremath{\sc n}$

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# What is the recent problem?

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• In the past ten months alone, nearly 100,000 more Rohingyas have been displaced, with three-fourths of them seeking refuge in Bangladesh and India.

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• The fundamental reasons for the violation of the human rights of the Rohingyas.

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- They suffer "mass atrocities" perpetrated by security forces in the northern part of Rakhine state.
- There has been no effective international pressure to roll back such policies.

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• Neighbouring countries like Bangladesh, India and Indonesia have raised the issue with Myanmar only when the refugees became economically burdensome.

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# How is India affected by this issue?

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• **Migration** - In India, there are nearly 40,000 Rohingya refugees, with 16,500 registered with the office of the United Nations Human Rights Commissioner.

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- Islamic extremism Efforts of radical Islamists to influence some of the Rohingya youth, to capitalise on the situation and promote anti-India activities is possible
  - \n **Political to**
- **Political tensions** They are spread over several cities and states Jammu, New Delhi, Jaipur and some places in Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and the north-east.

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- There are a few places in the country where politically instigated attempts are being made to re-locate them.  $\n$
- North-East security India has a stake in the security conditions in upper western Myanmar adjoining the Naga self-administered zone where the Khaplang faction of the National Socialist Council of Nagalim operates.

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# What should be done?

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- Short-term Indian financial assistance for better rehabilitative measures in Rakhine may not be effective in the present circumstances.  $\n$
- India's diplomacy need to induce Myanmar to take actions of its own political stability, internal security and social harmony.  $\n$

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# Source: IDSA

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