

The Rakhine Investigation Commission, composed of prominent figures from civil society, academia and all faiths was established on 17 August 2012. The report by the Commission on 29 April 2013, recommended as priorities, the need to maintain peace and stability in the region and to put law enforcement measures in place to prevent the recurrence of violence.

Following the report, President U Thein Sein, in his statement on 6 May 2013, expressed his administration's determination to resolve the ongoing problems in Rakhine State in a systematic and pragmatic manner and to create a harmonious society where all communities can live together peacefully. He also highlighted the importance of ensuring freedom of religion and speech, the need to practice tolerance and mutual respect in order for religious freedom to prevail and peaceful coexistence. He also reminded that all perpetrators to violence will be dealt with law without any discrimination and also that the Government would provide genuine and decisive leadership in resolving the conflict in Rakhine State while ensuring national security, rule of law and human rights.

Measures taken for long-term development

To address the root causes that led to the conflict and implement reconstruction activities swiftly, the Government has established a Central Committee for Implementation of Stability and Development in Rakhine State. In implementing the state policy and recommendations of the taking into consideration of the recommendations of the Rakhine Investigation Commission -seven subcommittees are now working on:

- ▶ rule of law,
- ▶ security and law enforcement,
- ▶ immigration and review of citizenship,
- ▶ temporary resettlement and reconstruction and,
- ▶ social and economic development and strategic planning.



Vice President's visit to the camps

A coordination centre for effective execution of conflict prevention and reconstruction activities has been set up in Sittwe since May this year.

Considerable progress has been achieved in construction of shelter, housing, schools, clinics in addition to food security and education and health services.



A scene of a camp

Provisions necessary to support livelihood such as tractors, power tillers, seeds, fertilizer, fuel, fishing boats and nets are provided to the local population.

Upgrading and installation of telephone landlines in Buthidaung, Gwa and Yanbyae Townships has been completed. Mobile phones for temporary camps for camp management authorities have been distributed as well.

For the ease of daily life, temporary bazaars will be established. One such bazaar has already been in place.

Views by UN Officials

*Mr. Quintana meets with
chief abbot of Shwe Zaydi
Monastery in Sittwe*



In his statement at the Yangon International Airport on 21 August 2013, the special rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights in Myanmar Mr. Tomas Ojea Quintana noted that the states and central government were working well with the international community to address urgent humanitarian needs of both Rakhine Buddhists and the Muslim Communities.



*At a mosque in Aung
Mingala Quarter*

The Chief Minister of Rakhine assured him that there was no two-child policy in place for the Muslim populations in Northern Rakhine State and it was reconfirmed by the Union Minister of Immigration and Population.

United Nations Secretary General's special advisor Mr. Vijay Nambiar during his meeting with Rakhine State Government on 1-9-13 said "The conflict that had broken out in Rakhine State is a domestic issue that is to be settled in Myanmar and no other country needs to interfere the internal affairs."

He also said that "As a matter of fact, this conflict is just a internal affair that is to be resolved between two communities just in Myanmar. We don't like that any other foreign government will intervene this affair."

Cooperation with the International Community



Food security is one of the priorities.

Myanmar is grateful to international partners that are donating funds for Rakhine State. The main donors include the United States of America, UK, Australia, Sweden, Switzerland, Germany, UAE, Luxemburg, New Zealand, Norway, France, India and Indonesia. The United Nations and its system, international organisations and other entities like UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOCHA, UNDP, WHO, WFP, UNFPA, EU Humanitarian Office and ICRC. Non-Governmental Organisations including Malteser, Care, Save the Children, MSF, Oxfam, Solidarities, CDN, ZOA Refugee Care, Various Recipients, DRC, Coalition of Dutch NGOs, Swedish Civil Contingency Agency and Church of Sweden.

Areas of humanitarian activities are providing food, non-food items, nutrition for children, shelter, water and sanitation, health and education services, means for livelihood and so on.



Providing blankets

Since the launching of emergency, resettlement and reconstruction programs a year ago in July 2012, a total of US\$ 73 million donated by the above-mentioned international partners has been received and disbursed until now. However, US\$ 6.2 million is still needed to meet the needs of current programmes.

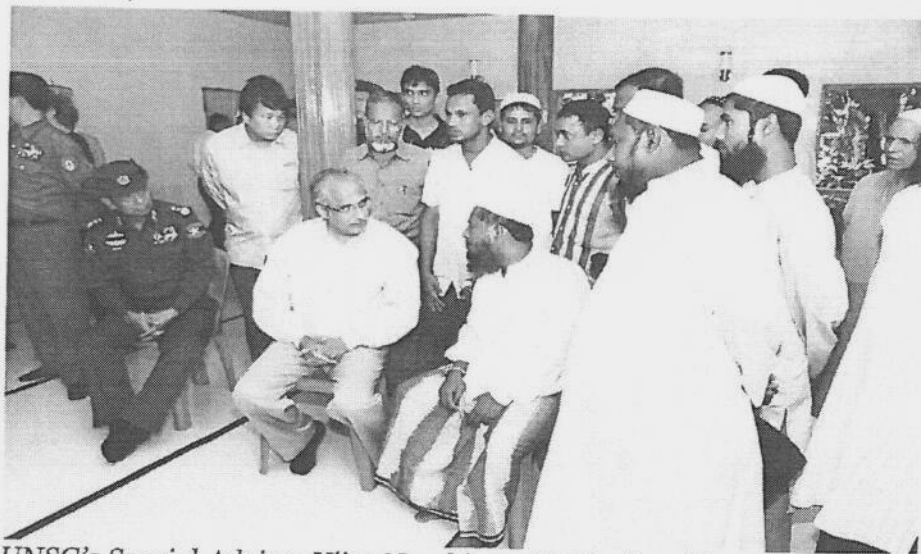


Resident Diplomats visiting camp



UN Resident Coordinator/ Humanitarian Coordinator Ashok Nigam and US Ambassador Derek Mitchell with IDP

The Government has already spent over 12.45 billions of Kyat from its own resources in addition to providing materials and services. Local well-wishers have also contributed cash and kind worth of billions of Kyats. However, international assistance continues to play an important role.



UNSG's Special Advisor Vijay Nambiar with Muslim elders