



UN gets access to Rakhine for the first time since Aug. 2017

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Highlights

- The UN began inside Myanmar's violence-torn northern Rakhine State, the first time its agencies have been granted permission to operate there since more than 7,00,000 Rohingya Muslims fled the area last year.
- The UN has been waiting for access to the epicentre of the military's "clearance operations" against the Rohingya minority since June when its refugee and development agencies signed a deal with the government.
- The task is complicated further as the UN's rights arm is expected to heavily censure Myanmar again in the coming days when it publishes in full the findings of its investigation into atrocities against the Rohingya.
- Specialists from the UNHCR and the UNDP were finally given permission to enter northern Rakhine before work began to assess local conditions.
- This first step of the UN's "confidence-building measures" is expected to take and will cover 23 villages and three additional clusters of hamlets.

Additional Info:

Confidence-building measures

- Confidence-building measures (CBMs) or confidence- and security-building measures are in actions taken to reduce fear of attack by both (or more) parties in a situation of tension with or without physical conflict.
- The term is most often used in the context of international politics, but is similar in logic to that of trust and interpersonal communication used to reduce conflictual situations among human individuals.
- CBMs emerged from attempts by the Cold War superpowers and their military alliances (the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and the Warsaw Pact) to avoid nuclear war by accident or miscalculation.
- However, CBMs also exist at other levels of conflict situations, and in different regions of the world although they might not have been called CBMs.