

JOINT PROTECTION MONITORING REPORT

452

Focus Group Discussion (persons reached)

289

Home Visits

617

Key Informant Interviews (persons reached)

59%

Men

41%

Women

7%

People with disabilities

	Female	Male
Children (0-17)	1%	1%
Adult (18-59)	34%	51%
Elderly (60+)	6%	7%

The Joint Protection Monitoring framework is implemented by the Protection Sector since January 2022 to promote the systematic and regular collection, triangulation, and analysis of protection incidents and risks for the Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar camps. The Joint Protection Monitoring reports serve to inform protection programming and advocacy through a common and standardized evidence-based information collection. This report offers a better understanding of the protection situation in the camps through joint monitoring of the protection incidents and analysis of risks, threats, and vulnerabilities periodically. Six partners (UNHCR, IOM, IRC, DRC, OXFAM and HI) conduct protection monitoring as a core protection program covering 33 camps and an estimate of 967,765* refugees. This report also reflects the contributions of CP and GBV Sub-Sectors as well as of the Anti-Trafficking Working Group, Gender-Diverse Population Working Group and the Housing, Land and Property Technical Advisor.

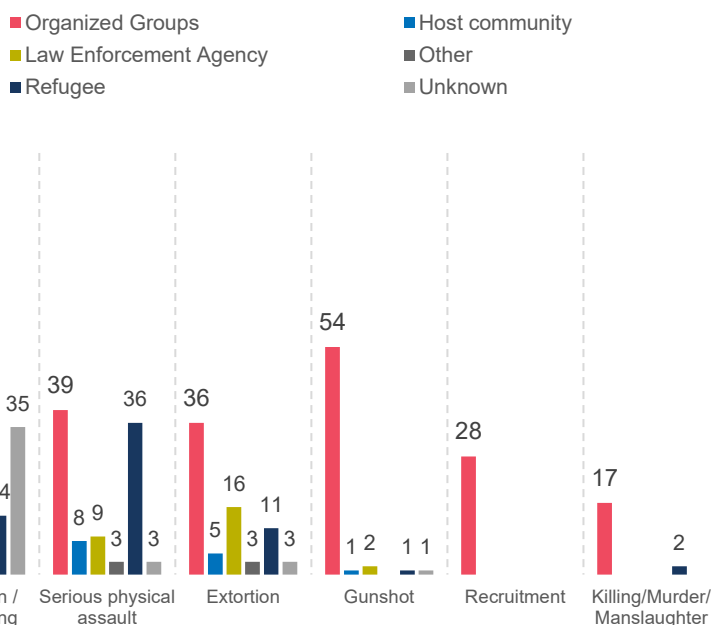
Executive Summary: Reduced Armed Police Battalion (APBn) presence, insufficient patrolling, and limited efforts to maintain law and order in the camps in the context of the national protests during the months of July and August emboldened the organized groups and enabled them to operate with increased impunity resulting in a surge of violent incidents, including gun shots, abductions, killings, and serious physical assaults. The overall camp security situation remained highly volatile even after the resumption of APBn's functions. New arrivals have been reported across the camps as a result of the intensified armed conflict in northern Rakhine State posing protection challenges as new arrivals remain unregistered and their needs for humanitarian assistance remain unmet including for shelter.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

A total of 435 serious security incidents¹ directly affecting 1,024 Rohingya refugees were recorded across the camps in Ukhiya and Teknaf during Q3 2024. Major safety and security incidents included abduction/kidnapping (157), serious physical assault (98), extortion (74), gunshots/suspected use of firearms (59), recruitment² (28), as well as killing/ murder/ manslaughter (19).

There was a decrease of 15% in the overall reported protection incidents in comparison to Q2 2024 after the sharp reduction in forced recruitments. However, the number of affected refugees rose by 70% in comparison to the previous quarter. This is mainly attributed to the increased confrontations between the Arakan Rohingya Salvation army (ARSA) and the Rohingya Solidarity Organization (RSO) contributing to widespread fear among the communities, gunshot wounds and fatalities within the camps. 62% of the incidents were attributed to organized groups. From the reported 19 killing incidents, 17 were a direct result of confrontations

Alleged perpetrator per category by incident



¹ For this report, the serious incidents collected are related to the following categories only: abduction/kidnapping, extortion, killing/murder/manslaughter, serious physical assault, gunshot/suspected use of firearms and recruitment. This last category was included for this report and will be monitored in the following Joint Protection Monitoring Reports.

² Child recruitment cases kindly refer to page 3.

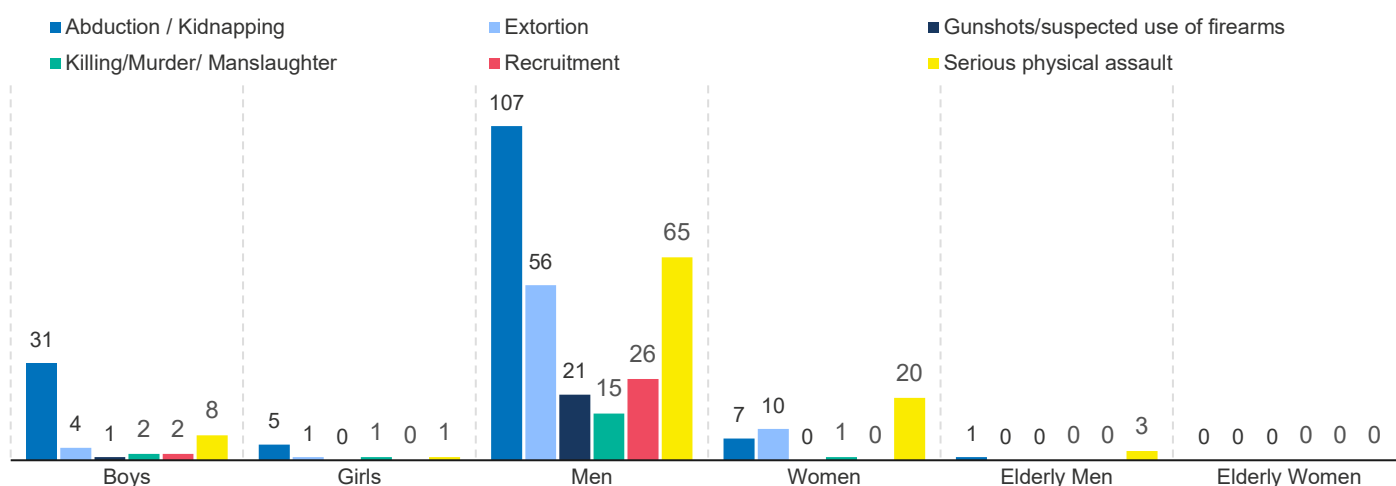
*Last Updates, September 30, 2024 - UNHCR Data portal link available [here](#)

between ARSA and RSO or targeted killings by organized groups. In two cases, a woman and a girl were killed, both the result of gunshots. The woman, wife of a head Majhi, died as a result of a stray bullet in Camp 4Ext and the girl by a stray bullet as a consequence of crossfire between organized groups.

Dynamics within the Ukhiya camps shifted noticeably due to ARSA's resurgence and reprisal attacks against RSO. In Teknaf, the Safi and Shalman Shah groups have reemerged and were reportedly involved in 10 abduction incidents. Despite a noticeable decrease in recruitment, cases were still recorded, especially targeting young males aged 16 to 36 years. Organized group factions of RSO were said to be actively abducting and forcibly recruiting individuals for combat roles in Myanmar or to bolster their ranks within the camps, mainly in Camps 4 Ext, 8W and 17. Some refugees were reportedly lured with financial incentives. There was an unverified incident of around 30 madrasa students from Camp 9 that were gathered allegedly by RSO to recruit them to fight against the Arakan Army (AA) on July 10 in Myanmar. On July 19, around 50 young refugees from Camps 22, 8W, 9 and 10 allegedly left for Myanmar to engage in the fighting. While some refugees joined voluntarily without any payments, others reportedly joined upon receiving financial incentives from RSO. During the reporting period, RSO seemed to have shifted their approach by attempting to persuade refugees to "voluntarily" join. This also explains the decreased in forced recruitment cases. The leader of the Arakan Rohingya Army (ARA), Nobi Hossain, was arrested by APBn in Camp 8E during the reporting period.

In July and early August, security in the camps was severely impacted by the reduced presence of Law Enforcement Agents and humanitarian actors as well as the absence of government officials following the national curfew and internet shutdown³. The redeployment of a significant number of Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB) and Armed Police Battalion (APBn) to other cities decreased the patrolling strength inside the camps and at the border, allowing organized groups to operate with increased impunity.

Demographic of Serious Protection Incidents*



*There were 47 reported incidents, the majority related to gunshots or suspected use of firearms and a few linked to abductions and extortion involving persons of unknown gender and age. Therefore, the figures provided for the demographic data may not fully correspond to the exhaustive list of incidents covered in the first graph.

Abduction and kidnapping incidents decreased by 14% inside the camps and in the adjacent host communities in comparison to Q2 2024. Incidents of serious physical assault and verbal abuse decreased by 13%, while extortion cases increased by 32% in comparison to the last quarter. There were reports of APBn assaulting refugees at checkpoints, accusing them of spying for ARSA, while the army detained some individuals attempting to leave the camps. Exploitation of refugees through extortion linked to disputes, marriages, and night patrols were reported in Q3 2024. Refugees reported incidents where Law Enforcement Agents, in collaboration with Majhis, extorted bribes under the threat of false accusations, raids in the refugee shelters and demolition of the refugee run shops inside the camp. Men continued to be disproportionately impacted by security incidents, constituting 75% of refugees affected during Q3 2024. Young men and male adults still face the highest risks of being recruited, abducted or killed by organized groups, followed by boys who make up 12% of affected profiles. No cases of recruitment of female refugees were reported, and women comprised 10% of refugees affected by security incidents, in particular, by serious physical assaults.

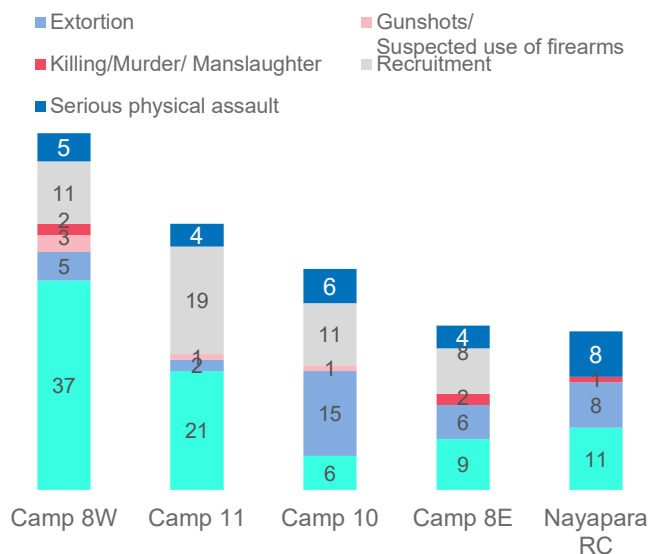
Gunshots/suspected use of firearms increased by 157% in comparison to Q2 2024. There was a sharp increase in the prevalence of gun shot in August compared to July as the number of camps that reported gunshots increased from three to 14. At least ten refugees including two children were injured by stray bullets during gunfights between ARSA and RSO. On September 4 and 5, protests involving around 1,000 refugees, including women and children, erupted in Camp

³ On July 18, the Bangladesh authorities announced a national curfew and shutdown internet access as a response to national protests that led to the resignation of former Prime Minister Sheik Hasina.

15 against ARO (a coalition of RSO and ARA) and APBn. These events led to the vandalization of an APBn check post, forcing APBn members to leave the camp and enter their barracks for safety.

This rising insecurity across the camps directly correlated with increased feelings of fear, anxiety, and uncertainty among the refugees and host communities, which have exacerbated tensions between the two communities. On August 21, the abduction of two host community members by the Safi group within Nayapara Refugee Camp (NRC) left 30 refugees, including women and children, injured when APBn fired pellets on the protesting crowd of refugees. On 7 September, a refugee was beaten by members of the host community in Muchoni Bazar, as he was suspected to be involved in the abduction. Tensions worsened again on 29 September, when host community members, armed with sharp weapons, participated in an operation alongside APBn to rescue another abducted host community individual. In this incident, three refugees were captured, beaten, and handed over to the police. In retaliation, the host community staged a protest at Muchoni Bazar. Reports of abductions by groups labeled as "refugee robbers" targeting members of the host community have triggered communal violence, further heightening tensions and leading to clashes between refugees and host community members.

Top 5 camps by incidents reported



As security threats, incidents of violence, and criminality were most prevalent at night, this also meant that those Rohingya assigned to night patrolling were more vulnerable to being victims of criminality, especially by organized groups. Night patrolling remained inconsistent, with volunteers being penalized for non-performance and sub-Majhis facing physical assault. At the same time, several households and particularly women and girls were left more vulnerable when their male members were on night patrol. Several women reported feeling less secure and preferred staying in other shelters to avoid security threats. Refugees noted that the individuals involved in nighttime gunfights were also responsible for the increased thefts, particularly the rising number of stolen solar lights from homes and roadsides. The loss of solar lights has made nighttime mobility difficult, forcing residents to heighten vigilance to prevent further theft. These widespread incidents have further deepened fear and mistrust within the refugee community, eroding their already fragile security.

During the third quarter of the year, 86 cases of human trafficking of refugees within Bangladesh were recorded. The profile of victims, type of trafficking and modus operandi of traffickers remained largely the same as in quarter 2 (2024). Most human trafficking victims were male (60%), trafficked under the promise of paid labor and who ended up in forced labor. In addition, 11 children were identified as victims of trafficking. Refugees' homes/shelters were reported to be the main place for initial engagement with the traffickers and the majority remained in Cox's Bazar (47%) or were reportedly taken to Chittagong (27%).

More details in the quarterly Dashboard produced by the Anti-Trafficking Working Group (AT WG), available [here](#).

86
Refugees Identified

54
Men

21
Women

8
Boys

3
Girls

CHILD PROTECTION

Between January and 25 July, a total of 68 incidents of serious child rights violations perpetrated by armed groups were documented through the Child Rights Monitoring Mechanism (CRMM)⁴. Of these, 33 incidents affecting 31 children

⁴ The Child Rights Monitoring Mechanism (CRMM) is an undertaking of the United Nations in Bangladesh and led by UNICEF. It aims to prevent occurrences and trigger an immediate response to Child Rights Violations (CRV) in situations of violence. The CRMM is a specialized framework established to monitor, document, respond to, and report serious violations of children's rights in situations of violence, particularly Cox's Bazar. With the growing instability in the Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar and along the border with Myanmar, there have been increasing reports of CRVs that need to be properly monitored and verified.

aged between 14-17 years were verified. These incidents comprise two children killed, three children injured, 15 children abducted, nine children recruited, and two children subjected to sexual violence. All were boys except for the two survivors of sexual violence. Camp 4 and Camp 9 had the highest number of verified cases, while Camps 1W, 11, 13, and NRC, were also affected. The data collection and verification process for this period was challenging, with community members, volunteers, and humanitarian workers risking violence and harassment. Data for the months of August and September will be provided in the Q4 2024 report.

While there was a decrease in child recruitment incidents in comparison to Q2 and considering that August and September data is still pending, concerns over abductions have intensified, indicating that armed groups are possibly altering their methods of child recruitment. Some cases of abducted children resulted in their release after ransom payments, others remain missing, and few children managed to escape and return to their families by their own means. As a coping mechanism, children were reported to limit their movements to avoid recruitment, which has impacted the overall participation of boys and adolescents in camp activities.

During Q3 2024, children continued to face serious protection challenges such as child labor, child marriage, neglect, and mental health concerns.⁵ Neglect and physical maltreatment were reported as the most pressing concerns, with 63% of adult informants reporting instances of neglect by parents or caregivers. Economic hardship was cited as a significant driver of violence, coupled with limited awareness among caregivers. Data from the CPIMS+ shows that neglect constituted 31% of all reported cases in Q3 2024. In focus group discussions with children, many children suggested that neglect was the result of large family sizes, parental separation, or substance abuse by caregivers. Children with disabilities are especially vulnerable as they are frequently left isolated without adequate care. Girls are often expected to assume childcare responsibilities, limiting their participation in social activities. Children also reported experiencing violence at the hands of parents, teachers, and peers. Boys reported facing punishment from their fathers while girls reported being punished by mothers.

Mental health and psychosocial challenges are a growing concern, with 58% of key informants identifying behavioral or psychological issues in children. CPIMS+ data showed that 12% of all reported cases involved psychological distress. The children identified family conflict, separation, restricted freedom, and feeling unheard by their elders as significant sources of stress. Uncertainty about their future, reliance on aid, and social exclusion further exacerbates their anxiety. Girls face additional stress due to restrictions on their movement and fear of violence. However, children reported that community activities, religious events, and support from child protection centers provide moments of relief and joy.

Child labor continues to disrupt children's education and well-being, with 61% of informants reporting that children are engaged in labor. This is a violation of children's rights and can prevent children from attending school or participating in recreational activities. The CPIMS+ recorded 7% of all reported cases involve child labor. Children revealed that boys must work due to family pressure, large household sizes, lack of aid, and limited access to education or vocational training. Some boys prefer working to attending school due to strict rules.

Child marriage remains a deeply rooted issue with 29% of key informants acknowledging its prevalence in their communities. During the reporting period, 5% of cases in the CPIMS+ involve child marriage (age between 10 and 17 years old). Cultural norms, family pressure, heightened security risks and fears about unsafe relationships drive families to arrange child marriage. Although awareness efforts have helped reduce the incidence of child marriage, it remains a concern for refugees. Many girls expressed their desire to pursue education and personal goals rather than early marriage.

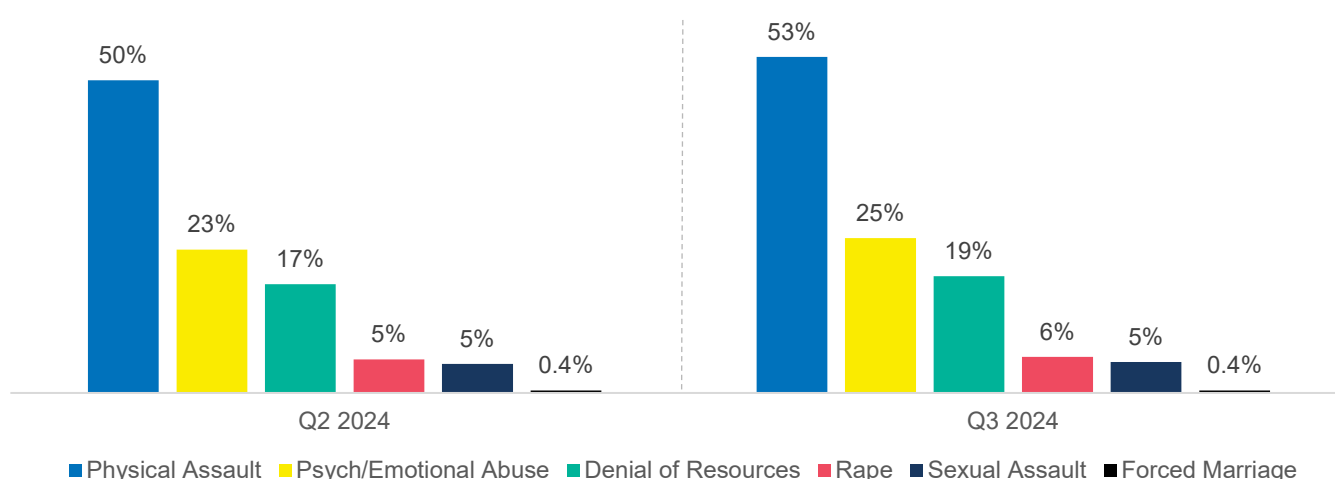


GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

During the reporting period, physical assault was the most common type of GBV reported in the refugee camps and host communities, accounting for 51.5% of the overall incidents reported under the GBVIMS. This was closely followed by psychological/ emotional abuse at 21.3 % and denial of resources at 15.5%.

⁵ Data has been gathered from the Child Protection Situation Monitoring (CPSM) initiative. It includes inputs from 676 key Informant Interviews (KII) comprising community leaders, teachers, Majhi's, child protection workers, and volunteers, alongside 392 Adolescents who participated in 44 Focus Group Discussions (FGD). Additionally, the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS+) records child protection cases managed by CPSS partners in the camps and child recruitment risk assessment and analysis.

Top types of GBV reported (by %)



Sexual violence constituted approximately 10.9% of the reported incidents in Q3 2024 with rape accounting for 6% and sexual assault for 4.9%, an increase from 10.4% in Q2 2024. However, the rise may be attributed to increased reporting amid heightened insecurity and armed group presence, which severely limits access to services for women and girls. The recent political instability has also directly contributed to the deteriorating safety situation of women, girls, and populations with diverse vulnerabilities as well as service providers, including volunteers, who work to support these communities.

76.4% of cases involve intimate partner violence (IPV), compared to 73.8% in Q2 2024. This increase is attributed to factors such as unemployment, lack of livelihoods opportunities, polygamy and gambling within the camp. These economic and social stresses are exacerbated by safety concerns reported by men and boys linked to abductions, and forced recruitment by organized groups, which are reportedly weakening family units and escalating tensions that lead to increased violence.

Of the reported rape cases, 46% occurred within 72 hours of reporting. A significant 96% of these cases were referred for clinical management of rape (CMR) services within the critical window, while 4% did not receive services within the timeline. The heightened risks, insecurity, ongoing violence and fear of GBV incidents deterred the 4% of individuals from seeking services promptly, especially women and girls who felt unsafe due to the increased presence of the armed groups in the camps.

GBV camp focal points from 58% of the surveyed camps indicated that women and girls felt unsafe or very unsafe in the camps. Heightened protection risks reported by the GBV actors in Q3 included threats to caseworkers and volunteers due to increased incidents by organized groups, especially at night; exploitation by perpetrators from the host community; and the improper use of technology, such as surveillance tracking, online exploitation, cyberbullying and scams.

**For a full comprehensive report with more in-depth GBV risk monitoring, please refer to the [GBVSS Rohingya Response webpage](#) and the corresponding quarterly in depth GBV report.*

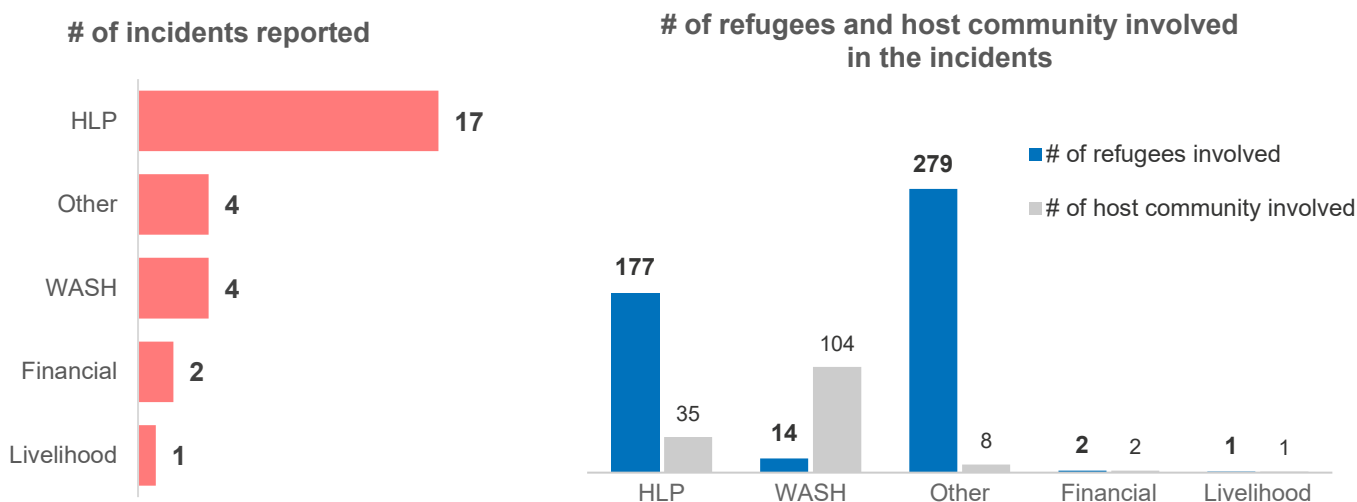
SOCIAL COHESION AND PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE

During Q3 2024, 28 incidents affecting social cohesion and peaceful coexistence among refugees and between refugee groups and host communities were recorded showing, a sharp 60% decrease compared to Q2. Incidents involved 623 individuals, with 76% relating to refugees and the rest to host communities. During Q3, more new arrivals sought safety inside the camps with their relatives. Where space was unavailable, relatives arranged shelter with neighboring households. However, some landowners were reluctant to rent out shelters without official permission, and families hosting new arrivals feared reprisals for hosting additional family members or friends and expressed concerns over shortage of humanitarian assistance and increase in rent by host communities.

During the period of national unrest and CiC absence in the camps, an increase in rents, incidents of forced and/or alternative dispute resolutions, and evictions by landowners and the host community were recorded. Organized groups, landowners, host communities, and Majhis benefited from this power vacuum especially when coupled with lack of reliable information. For example, rumors that the change in government would invalidate the agreement of Rohingya staying in Bangladesh enabled landowners and host community members to increase rents and even evict beneficiaries.

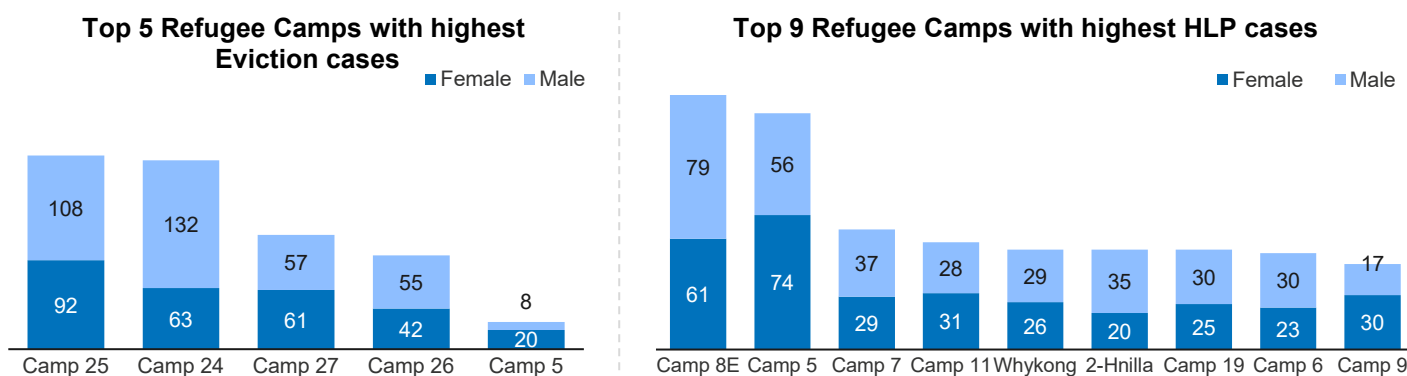
Seizures and forced checking of refugees' mobile phones by Law Enforcement Agencies, as well as beatings for suspected connections to organized groups, have heightened mistrust and fear within the communities, eroding social cohesion and trust.

The highest number of incidents were related to Housing, Land and Property (HLP) issues, with 17 recorded incidents. This was followed by "other" disputes which include disagreements regarding the division of income from joint business projects, conflicts linked to debts and borrowed money, quarrels related to loan repayments, disputes over the sale of counterfeit gold and online gambling. Four WASH-related incidents caused social tensions and led to negative attitudes towards Rohingya refugees, attributable to disputes over shared use of water points and latrines. Access to communal WASH facilities remains a critical issue, with limited resources causing frustration and competition between both groups, intensifying irritation, and hostility. Financial struggles, including growing debts, have compounded these issues. Incidents associated with financial conflict and lack of resources amongst refugees and host communities and access to livelihood opportunities were also reported.



New arrivals have also impacted social cohesion as the community struggled to accommodate and provide essential services to new refugees. Newly arrived families were said to be moving from one camp to another seeking shelter as they faced difficulties finding accommodation in their relatives' shelters due to overcrowding and limited accommodation space. For example, in Camp 7, organized group members and Majhis were allegedly demanding money from new arrivals, claiming they could help them get family attestation cards and food. In Camp 26, Majhis and APBn have been reported to demand money from the new arrivals to allow them to stay inside the camps and access services.

Members of host communities were also reported to be taking advantage of the current situation, with newcomers pressured to pay larger amounts for rental fees. In Camp 16, host community members demanded approximately BDT 2,000-3,000 from two new arrived families. In Camp 25, landowners were reported to be illegally selling vacated shelters for BDT 7,000 to 20,000 after families moved out or were pushed out. Some refugees opted to relocate to other areas of the camp with lower rent. However, it was reported that, in some cases, families who have relocated are not welcomed by the existing refugees, leading to disputes between them. Additionally, approximately 173 families from various blocks of Camp 25 were financially charged BDT 300 to 700 by local landowners, based on family size, for access to water due to insufficient water supply.



 **ACCESS TO JUSTICE**

Between July and September, 6,194 refugees benefited from services provided by legal with women and girls comprising 58% of cases. Services provided during Q3 2024 include legal counselling, assistance to file a case with the police and in courts, as well as court representation, and release from detention after intervention by legal actors. Among these, 4,054 refugees were provided with legal counselling, 114 were assisted with filing legal complaints in police stations and courts, as well as obtaining the camp exit permits from CiCs, and 198 refugees were represented in legal proceedings.

During the reporting period, legal assistance was provided mostly in cases where refugees had been victims of serious physical assault, killing, abduction and sexual violence-related cases. Legal actors also provided mediation support as an alternative dispute resolution mechanism in family and civil disputes. In Q3, 960 cases (1,919 refugees) were referred to legal actors for mediation, 43% of which were successfully resolved.

Through legal awareness sessions, 9,523 refugees were reached with lawyers informing refugees and responding to questions on legal issues, including protection mechanisms, legal procedures, the right to legal aid, and free legal services available in camps. Of cases reported to legal partners, the highest numbers included abduction, family and marital disputes, physical assault, as well as killings and drug-related incidents. Several challenges related to access to justice were reported, such as delays in filing and investigating reported cases at the police station as well as the deteriorating security situation in camps.

Legal partners were unable to conduct legal awareness and mediation sessions in August due to reduced presence in the camps following the curfew measures in Bangladesh. Partners provided remote legal counselling to refugees and ensured the presence of paralegal volunteers in legal assistance centers to receive refugees and connect them with partner lawyers. During this period, legal partners could not follow up on several cases requiring support at the police station and court due to the unstable situation.

 **ACCESS TO SERVICES**

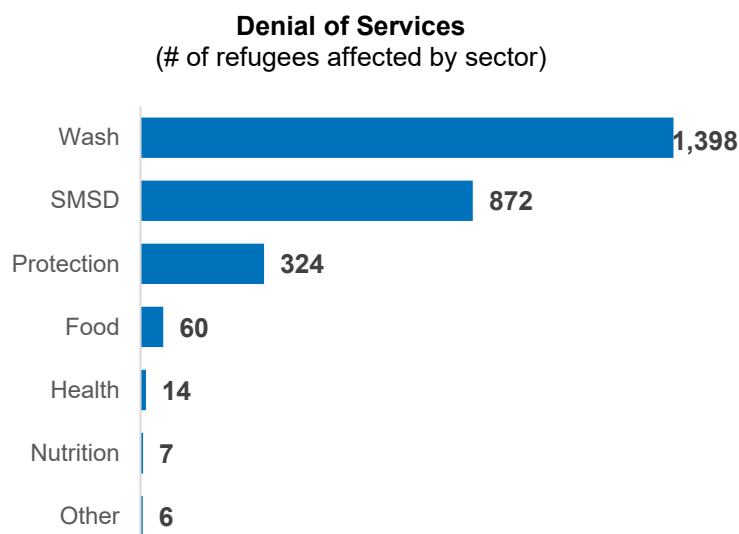
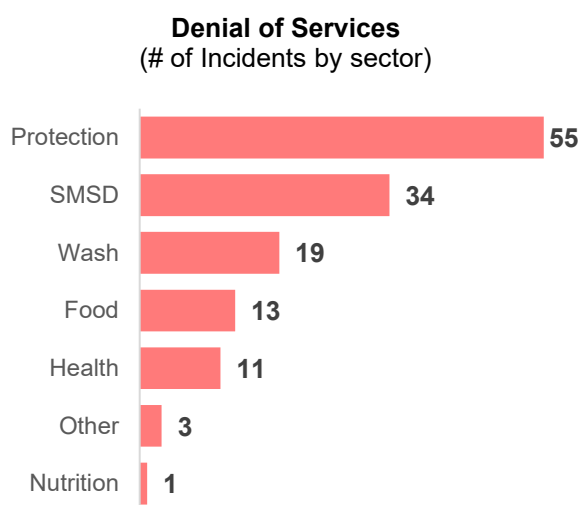
During Q3, there was a 20% increase in the number of refugees reported to have faced challenges in accessing services with a total of 2,681 affected individuals. Due to movement restrictions, curfews, and imposed internet blackouts during mid-July and August, camp operations, logistics, and programming were severely impacted. Field visits, community consultations, running of facilities, and regular operations inside the camp were interrupted impacting the overall access of refugees to protection services. The absence of CiCs and administration services created a significant delay in processing cards (i.e. family attestation cards and health cards could not be replaced when lost or damaged) and certificates such as marriage, divorce, and birth certificates. The internet shutdown hampered information access and collection of information in the camps, including registration processes. Volunteers were able to communicate with humanitarian actors only through SMS messages amidst reported increased fear and threats during this period, leading many to discontinue block visits and in-person follow-ups.

Registration of new arrivals remained prohibited by the Government's policy. Thus, the new arrivals were unable to access humanitarian services including, but not limited to, food assistance, non-food items, and dignity and hygiene kits. Most kept a low profile out of fear of deportation, including fearing to seek humanitarian assistance available to them, such as basic healthcare, legal assistance, and wider protection services.

Site Management and Site Development (SMSD) was reported by refugees as the sector where they experienced the second most challenges in accessing services. This was also attributed to the movement restrictions and curfews during mid-July and August and because of the recurring issues of evictions by host community, shelter destruction, and land disputes reported during Q3. Refugees reported being charged excessive fees for shelter repairs during this period and delays by service providers to address complaints, such as drainage repairs and lack of shelter materials, impacted timely assistance to refugees. Heavy rainfall, landslides, and flooding exacerbated the shelters and road conditions. Repairs to damaged homes, roads, infrastructure, broken latrines and fallen trees were delayed by operation constraints caused by the national curfews.

Theft of camp and private infrastructure was also reported in Q3, especially solar lights which heightened vulnerabilities at WASH stations, latrines, and unlit pathways. Many beneficiaries reported being unable to access camp facilities at night often out of fear. This compounded an already delicate hygiene situation as latrines and WASH stations were not

regularly attended to during this period. Scabies outbreaks was prevalent with some refugees being unable to access preventive health services, such as hygiene and sanitation, medical treatment and education on disease prevention. Distribution of food and LPG was also impacted given the restriction in movements imposed by the Government during the national protests. Partners had to quickly adapt remote distribution services and communication with communities' strategies to ensure adequate access for all refugees.



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Enhance advocacy for the registration with biometrics of new arrivals as well as their full access to all services, including shelter.
- Sustain advocacy for enhanced protection-sensitive security in the camps including mechanisms, in line with international standards, to screen, disarm and remove armed elements in order to maintain the civilian and humanitarian character of the camps.
- Advocate with camp and law enforcement authorities to promote and support access of refugees to formal justice mechanisms. This includes the strengthening of investigation and prosecution of perpetrators of crimes in the camps, particularly for serious protection incidents, to reduce impunity and threats to refugees, deter criminal activities in the camps and ensure protection and assistance for refugee victims and witnesses as well as reinforced mechanisms to prevent and address instances of police misconduct while promoting a supportive environment for law and order.
- Enhance activities to promote peace and security in the camps as well as peaceful coexistence as part of the Peace and Security Campaign through communication with the communities, community engagement, response to the specific needs of victims of violence and strategies to engage security actors to create a safe and secure environment for refugees in the camps.
- Address extortion practices by Majhis and block leaders while working with “community champions” on developing risk mitigation mechanisms as part of community-based protection. Also provide training to Majhis and other community leaders on their roles and responsibilities, emphasizing integrity, impartiality, community mediation skills/capacity and adherence to human rights.
- Intensify the use of effective awareness-raising strategies on identified risks, negative coping trends, deeply rooted harmful social norms as well as onward movements to prevent the loss of lives and reduce the risk of trafficking in person.
- Provide sufficient educational support for adolescent boys and youth to reduce the risk of drug addiction and involvement in other illegal activities. This could include expanding access to quality schooling, vocational or skill development training, recreational activities including sports for protection, meaningful community engagement opportunities, and mentorship programs.

- Strengthen and enhance gender-based violence prevention strategies amongst women and men in the community, particularly about the challenges faced by widowed women, women-headed households, youth and adolescent girls and boys to promote gender equality. Provide safe spaces, meaningful engagement opportunities, women and girls targeted sports for protection activities, support groups, and counselling services. Encourage women's participation in trainings, meetings, accessing service facilities, as well as support for women's empowerment and leadership.
- Advocate for more livelihoods and skill development opportunities to prevent and address harmful coping mechanisms such as child marriage, child labor, and other protection concerns and to empower communities, particularly the young people.

END