

# JOINT PROTECTION MONITORING REPORT

**1,493**

Focus Group Discussion (persons reached)

**515**

Home Visits

**266**

Key Informant Interviews (persons reached)

**58%**  
Men

**42%**  
Women

**7%**  
People with disabilities

	Female	Male
<b>Children (0-17)</b>	0%	0%
<b>Adult (18-59)</b>	41%	56%
<b>Elderly (60+)</b>	1%	2%

The Joint Protection Monitoring framework has been 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. This report serves to inform protection programming and advocacy through the collection and analysis of protection incidents, analysis of risks, threats, and vulnerabilities.

Seven partners (DRC, HI, IOM, IRC, NRC, OXFAM and UNHCR) conduct protection monitoring as a core protection programme covering a total of 1,189,213\* refugees living across 33 camps and the island of Bhasan Char.

This report also reflects the contributions of Child Protection and GBV Sub-Sectors as well as of the Anti-Trafficking Working Group and the Housing, Land and Property Technical Advisor.

For further details on the scope, interpretation and limitations of the monitoring inputs used in this report, please see the [methodology note](#).

**Executive summary:** Overall, serious security incidents increased by 14% compared to the first quarter of 2025, with abductions and kidnappings remaining the most frequently reported incidents. Reports of killings tripled in comparison to the previous quarter including 4 cases of femicides. ARSA, Islamic Mahaz, RSO, RCPR, and UCR conducted gatherings and meetings in at least 19 camps, aiming to mobilize refugees to engage in conflict and to discuss issues related to repatriation. On 11 January, approximately 53 alleged fighters -including 13 children- were intercepted retreating into Bangladesh in Whykong, Teknaf, after being attacked by the Arakan Army (AA) in Myanmar. The individuals were alleged members of ARA and Islamic Mahaz. In parallel, incidents related to land use and ownership increased, resulting in rising rent demands and financial impositions as conditions for accessing services. The first quarter was marked by the national elections. While the elections were largely peaceful, they were accompanied by temporary detention of refugees, as well as movement restrictions imposed on refugees both prior to and during the election period. The scale and trajectory of reported protection cases indicate a growing risk of system overload. Case volumes increased compared to 2025; without proportional expansion of frontline staff capacity and reduced prevention activities, response quality and timeliness are likely to deteriorate. While the protection monitoring tool continues to be refined to better capture the correlation between funding reductions, deteriorating camp conditions, and increasing protection risks, the quarterly report highlights concerning trends. These include, among others, rising rates of child marriage and human trafficking, as well as a persistently high prevalence of GBV, including intimate partner violence, reflecting the adoption of negative coping mechanisms.

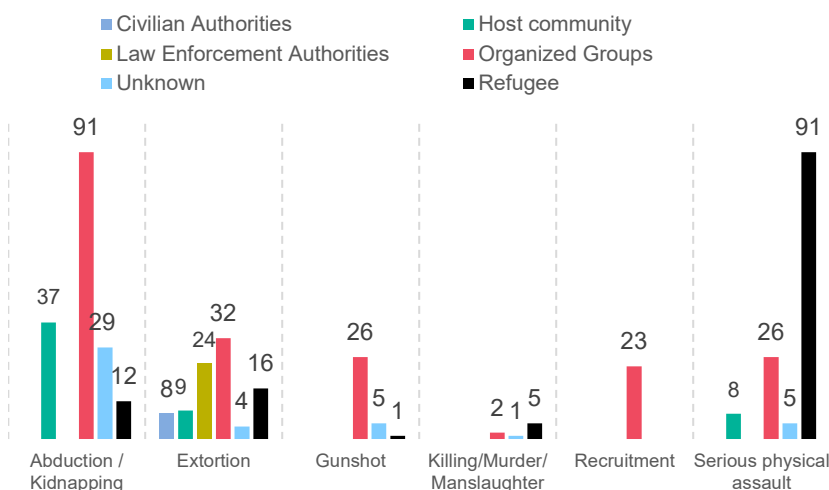
## SAFETY AND SECURITY

455 serious security incidents<sup>1</sup>, impacting 832 Rohingya refugees, were documented across the 33 refugee camps in Ukhiya and Teknaf and on Bhasan Char<sup>2</sup> during the first quarter of 2026. These included abduction/kidnapping (169), serious physical assault (130), extortion (93), gunshots /suspected use of firearms (32), recruitment<sup>3</sup> (23) and killing/murder/manslaughter (8). Reported **protection incidents increased** by 40% and the number of affected refugees increased by 63% compared to the last quarter of 2025. The overall security environment worsened in comparison to the corresponding period in 2025.

### Recruitment and cross-border mobilization activities

continued to be reported during 2026, with **38 community-level gatherings (41% increase)** identified across camps 1E, 2E, 2W, 5, 8W, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 18, 19, 20, 20 Ext, 24, and 26. These gatherings were conducted by organized groups: ARSA, RSO, ARA and

**Alleged perpetrator per category by incident**



<sup>1</sup> For this report, the serious incidents collected are only related to the following categories: 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.

<sup>2</sup> As of 2026, the island of Bhasan Char will be included in the Protection Monitoring Report.

<sup>3</sup> Cases of recruitment are linked to refugees being coerced to fight in Myanmar often linked to abduction cases or cases where ransom could not be paid. For child recruitment cases refer to the child protection section.

\*Population in Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char Update as of 31 March 2026 - UNHCR Data portal link available [here](#)

through the RCPR<sup>4</sup>, UCR<sup>5</sup>, and URDF<sup>6</sup> organizations. Participation levels varied significantly, from small group discussions to larger gatherings of up to 1,500 individuals. On 10 January, for example, RCPR convened a meeting in Camp 20 attended by approximately 1,000 participants from Camps 17, 18, 19, 20, and 20E. During the meeting, RCPR leadership asserted its claim as the sole representative body, rejected affiliation with other groups, and reportedly advised participants not to engage with UCR. In February, a UCR-led meeting was reportedly held in Camp 20E and chaired by the UCR president, during which statements were made calling for a plan to return to Rakhine State and engage in armed resistance against the AA.

During the same period, ARSA conducted recruitment, fundraising, and monitoring activities in Camps 5, 13, 17, 18, 19, and 20E. In Camp 13, households were allegedly pressured to contribute one member and to pay a monthly fee of BDT 100. **Recruitment** increased by 20% with 23 reported cases in comparison to last quarter and it is no longer driven only by coercive tactics, but increasingly through organized meetings, mosque-based messaging, phone-based mobilization, and peer-to-peer influence. In Camp 19, ARSA allegedly compiled lists of members killed or injured in recent clashes within the camps and in Rakhine and held meetings aimed at reintegrating former members who had joined ARA, reportedly offering approximately BDT 5,000 to individuals participating in armed activities in Myanmar. In Camp 15, ARSA members reportedly discussed alleged Rohingya involvement in supplying goods to the AA in exchange for drugs, as well as the recruitment of educated youth with IT skills.

In addition, an estimated **32 internal meetings** were allegedly organized by ARA, ARO, ARSA, RSO, RCPR, and UCR across Camps 1E, 1W, 7, 8W, 9, 10, 11, 15, 18, 19, 20, and 20E. These meetings reportedly focused on inter-group coordination to recruit and mobilize members to oppose the AA across the border. Participants were encouraged to provide names for potential **recruitment** targeting younger individuals, including adolescent boys. Involvement of returnees was also reported in certain meetings to describe experiences in Rakhine, including training and combat conditions. These meetings were also used to distribute monetary incentives of up to BDT 5,000 and to impose disciplinary measures on members considered inactive or non-compliant with group directives. During Eid, an RSO commander was allegedly distributing Eid bonuses among the group members to encourage recruitment.

During RCPR internal meetings, Dil Mohammed reportedly monitored members' attendance and performance, reflecting efforts to further consolidate the group's organizational structure. He also allegedly referenced ongoing negotiations with authorities to obtain special cards or passes to allow freer movement outside nearby camp areas, claiming that UCR members had already received such documentation.

In documented cases, recruited individuals left the camp without family consent or knowledge, indicating coercive elements intended to prevent any kind of resistance. Families often learned of recruitment only after border crossing. Subsequent loss of income, psychological distress, social stigma, and exposure to further exploitation were reported particularly by wives, mothers, and children left behind.

On 11 January, approximately 53 alleged fighters -including 13 children- were intercepted retreating into Bangladesh in Whykong, Teknaf, after being attacked by the AA in Myanmar. The individuals were alleged members of ARA and Islamic Mahaz and were subsequently imprisoned and charged with illegal entry in accordance with the Foreigners Act.<sup>7</sup> Children who were being held at the Child Development Center were released in early March and returned to their families in the camps following legal intervention. Some of the refugees claimed to have joined the fight voluntarily in the pursuit of reclaiming their homeland while others were paid salaries of approximately BDT 10,000 (about 80 USD) per month.

The situation in **Teknaf** remained highly volatile as criminal gangs (Alam, Nur Kamal, Sadam and Saleh groups) reportedly fought violently over control of drug trafficking, abduction for ransom and arms dealing. Violent incidents peaked in the first two weeks of January, including five gunshot incidents in one week and a total increase of 68% in the total number of **gunshots and suspected use of firearms** in comparison to the last quarter of 2025. In one case, gunfire near the camp-in charge (CiC) office in Camp 26 forced a UN staff member and the CiC of that camp to take shelter at his office. The violence may have been linked to the killing of Nur Kamal, leader of his gang on 10 January by a rival gang, Khaled group. Following advocacy, authorities increased patrolling in Nayapara Registered Camp (Nayapara RC) and Camp 26 which resulted in reduced security incidents in February and March. By end March, Alam Group had consolidated control over most Teknaf camps, with rival groups retaining limited areas in Nayapara RC.

<sup>4</sup> The Rohingya Committee for Peace and Repatriation is an organization active in the refugee camps as of early 2025 and led by Dil Mohammed, a figure known to have long standing connections to the Myanmar Armed Forces -MAF- and who has been allegedly implicated in supporting NASACA clearance operations in the 1990s and in forced recruitment and trafficking in persons activities in 2024.

<sup>5</sup> The United Council of Rohang—later renamed the United Council of Rohingya (UCR)—is a body composed of five Rohingya individuals who claim to represent the Rohingya population in Bangladesh. The five representatives ('presidents') were chosen through a process in which approximately 3,700 selected individuals participated in the vote. Humanitarian actors have expressed concerns about the nature of the selection process.

<sup>6</sup> The United Rohingya Defense Force (URDF) first appeared at the end of 2025 as a platform mainly to represent the alliance among the four organized groups (ARSA, RSO, ARA, RIM). The platform predominantly steered by RSO conducted few meetings under its banner in the late 2025 and beginning of 2026.

<sup>7</sup> <http://bdlaws.minlaw.gov.bd/act-details-216.html>

**Killings increased** during the reporting period, with a total of eight incidents documented: two in Nayapara, two in Kutupalong, one in Bhasan Char, and the remaining cases in Camps 5, 14, and Ukhiya Pourashava. On 10 January, an alleged leader of the Nur Kamal gang was reportedly shot by the leader of the Khalek group in Nayapara RC. Subsequently, on 7 February, a 19-year-old male reportedly linked to the Saleh group died following an attack by a member of the Shofi group.

The killings recorded in Kutupalong, Bhasan Char and camp 5 involved four female refugees and constitute **incidents of femicide**. On 8 February, two male refugees reportedly assaulted a 25-year-old woman with a sharp weapon; she was later declared deceased after injuries in her chest and back. On 22 March, a three-year-old girl was reported missing while walking toward her grandmother's shelter; her body was found three days later in a waste disposal area within the same block. The killing reported in Bhasan Char was of a 28-year-old female reportedly killed by her partner. Similarly, in Camp 5, on 3 March, a 25-year-old woman was allegedly beaten to death by her husband following a dispute over the provision of iftar items. In Camp 14, on 12 February, a 27-year-old male refugee was reportedly stabbed by another refugee following a family dispute and a 28-year-old refugee from Camp 13 was seriously injured by unknown individuals, received medical treatment, and later died as a result of the injuries sustained.

Incidents of **abductions and kidnappings** slightly increased by 7% compared to the previous quarter and remain the most frequently reported protection risk with ransom demands ranging from BDT 20,000 to over BDT 1,000,000 forcing families to sell their assets or borrow money. As in the previous quarter, children and male adolescents remained disproportionately affected, with individuals targeted both through deceptive practices where victims are lured with job offers by brokers or acquaintances, then sold, detained, or held for ransom. Some cases involved trafficking to other countries like Thailand or Malaysia. In Camp 24, a child was abducted and a ransom of BDT 1.3 million was reportedly demanded; after five days, BDT 300,000 was reportedly paid following negotiations; in a separate incident in the same camp, another boy was reportedly abducted by an organized group, and his family was required to pay BDT 30,000 for his release; organized groups accounted for 54% of the alleged perpetrators. Individuals involved in gambling activities also continued to resort to abductions to pay their debts.

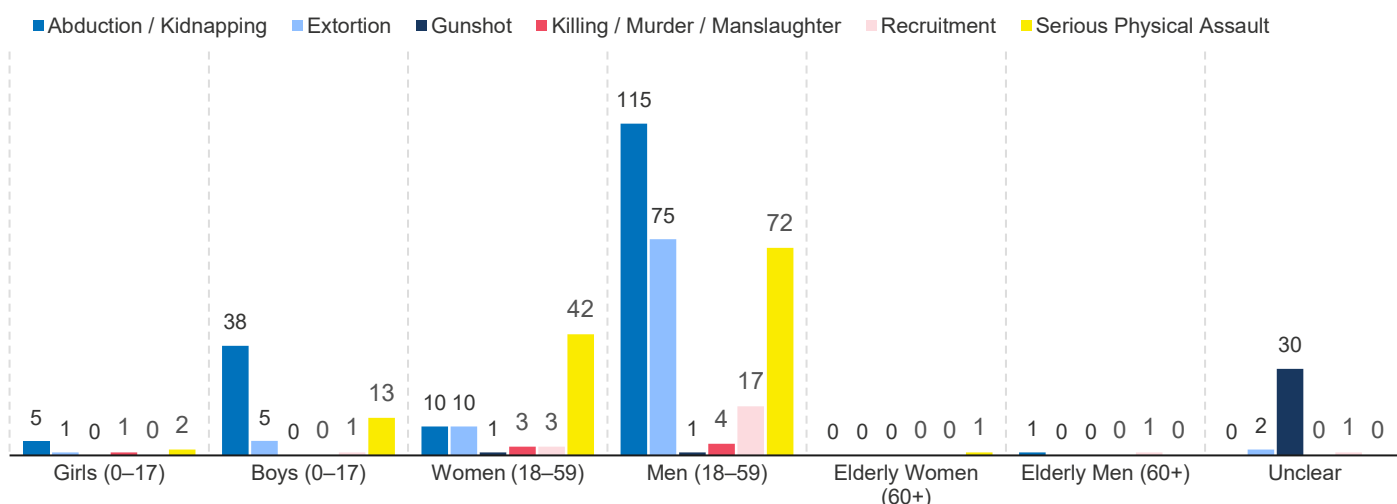
The normalization of ransom payments as the primary means of resolution has become a deep-rooted practice across camps. This trend continues to be driven by the presence and influence of criminal and organized networks, compounded by the limited availability of trusted and effective accountability mechanisms. In several cases victims received retaliatory threats from the perpetrators after approaching the law enforcement authorities while in some cases the victims' families were advised by law enforcement personnel to pay the ransom instead of taking any effective actions.

The number of **serious physical assault** incidents increased by 73% this quarter. Higher trends of intimate partner violence, polygamy-related disputes, and gambling-associated physical abuse were recorded across all camps. Cases of physical assaults often overlapped with cases of abduction and gender-based violence. In Camp 16, for example, a man physically assaulted his wife following gambling losses to obtain additional money. In a separate incident, a man sold his second wife's gold to finance his first wife's child's travel abroad, resulting in a violent physical conflict with his second wife. Reports of severe physical assault from organized and criminal groups were also reported. Men and adolescent boys remain the primary targets - those refusing recruitment faced threats and physical assault. Violent disputes between refugees accounted for 70% while actions from organized groups corresponded to 20%. The remaining incidents were attributed to host communities (6%) and unknown perpetrators (4%).

Reports of **extortion** also increased by 82% and remains widespread and systemic across all camps. Perpetrators include organized groups, host community members, civilian authorities, law enforcement authorities and refugees (i.e. Majhis). Refugees are increasingly being forced to pay for basic services in certain camps such as shared water facilities due to land disputes. Extortion practices tend to target cash assistance recipients and small-scale income earners. Female-headed households remain especially vulnerable to intimidation and exploitation with limited access to resources. Persons with disabilities are also at high risk of extortion due to reduced mobility and limited coping capacity. The weak accountability systems at community level and authority level to address misconduct and arbitrary payments for services and mobility, has created an enabling environment for abuse. This accountability gap is one of the most significant structural protection challenges.

During the national elections, approximately 1,000 Rohingya refugees reportedly living outside the camps were detained amid measures by authorities to prevent perceived risks of refugee movement or involvement in electoral irregularities or disturbances. On 8 February alone, the movement of approximately 622 individuals was restricted within the camp boundaries in Balukhali and surrounding areas of Ukhiya. Most of those detained were newly arrived families without shelter allocations and were held in Thaingkhali field (a host community area adjacent to Camp 13). They were subsequently released by the Army and APBn and transported to the camps they had provided.

**Demographic of Serious Protection Incidents\***



\*Demographic information for this report is captured per incident, not per individual or household affected. As a result, incidents involving multiple affected persons (e.g Extortion cases impacting several families) are represented by a single demographic entry. The figures should therefore be interpreted as indicative of incident-level demographics, not the full demographic scope of all individuals impacted.

\*\*There were 30 cases related to gunshots or suspected use of firearms, 2 reported incidents of extortion and 1 incident of recruitment involving persons for whom gender and age could not be determined.

**Men** continue to be disproportionately affected by all reported security incidents, accounting for 62% followed by women 15%, boys (12%) and girls (2%). A total of 7% of affected refugees age and gender could not be established. There was a 3% decrease on the number of affected men but they continue to be the highest population group impacted by abduction and extortion – elderly men, men and boys comprised 91% of all abductions and kidnapping victims. There was 5% increase on the number of women being impacted by overall protection incidents with higher numbers of abduction and serious physical assaults linked to intimate partner-violence and gambling-associated physical abuse. The **killing of women** remains to be significantly high in relation to previous trends with 4 cases reported in what constituted femicides.

**Secondary displacements<sup>8</sup>:**

**Top 10 population movements within the camps**

From Camp	# HH	# of Refugees
Camp 24	28	148
Bhasan Char	25	68
Camp 9	21	56
Camp 11	20	92
Camp 10	19	67
Camp 7	18	30
Camp 22	18	59
Camp 26	16	73
Camp 16	14	78

Reports of gunfire outside camp boundaries, particularly at night, armed incursions, and host community linked extortion in Teknaf camps have driven temporary secondary displacement of refugee households within and outside the camps during this quarter. Shelter inadequacy and the need to remain close to family members was also reported as a driver of secondary displacement movements in all camps.

A total of 315 households comprising 1,119 individuals relocated or sought to relocate. Camp 24 registered the highest volume of movements, with 28 households

leaving primarily due to security concerns and the ongoing armed disputes between criminal groups, the majority relocating to Camp 14 as the preferred destination. Movements from Bhasan Char, were driven by personal reasons, with refugees seeking better facilities or proximity to relatives in the mainland camps, predominantly relocating to Camp 2E.

In Camp 11, shelter inadequacy was the main driver of secondary displacements, with several households leaving after landslide damages to their shelters. In Camp 10 shelter disputes, organized group activity, and damages in shelters contributed to the movement of the 19 cases recorded. A woman living alone following the departure of a family member sought to relocate to be closer to relatives for support as an informal protection mechanism. Camp 9 movements were driven by shelter unavailability and community tensions forcing households to seek relocation across other camps.

As in previous quarters, documented figures likely underrepresent actual movements, as cases reflect only those identified through partner monitoring activities and case management. The top camps where refugees relocated to during the reporting period were Camp 2E, Camp 9, Camp 14, Camp 2W and Camp 8W.

<sup>8</sup> Secondary displacements refer to refugees moving from their original camp to another camp -or within the camp- due to safety and security concerns, availability of services or to be closer to protection networks (relatives/families).

The protection situation in **Bhasan Char** remained comparatively stable, with overall levels of criminality described as modest. Most protection cases reported involved family and intra-community disputes, while a smaller number related to more serious criminal offences. Economic stress and limited livelihood options remains the driver of community tensions. There was an increase in disputes related to undocumented financial transactions or informal loans, with some individuals reportedly leaving for the mainland to avoid financial obligations. Some of these disputes escalated into physical confrontations. There was a perceived increase in child and adolescent involvement in criminal activity, including theft and minor assaults. Child neglect continued to be identified as a significant protection concern together with child marriage and gender-based violence incidents linked to intimate partner violence.



During the reporting period, 119 cases of human trafficking involving refugees were recorded, reflecting an increase compared to the 99 cases reported in the fourth quarter of 2025. The profile of victims, types of trafficking, and modus operandi of traffickers remained broadly consistent with the previous quarter. Most human trafficking victims were men (61%) who were promised paid work but ended up being subjected to forced labour. In addition, 32 children were identified as victims of trafficking. Refugees' homes/shelters were reported as the main sites of initial contact with the traffickers. Among the recorded victims, 72% remained in Bangladesh, while 28% were reportedly trafficked outside the country, mainly to Malaysia, with one case reported in Myanmar.

The data in this dashboard is generated only from information communicated by ATWG members and does not necessarily indicate the full extent of trafficking in the camps due to possible underreporting of cases. These statistics may be subject to change. More details in the quarterly Dashboard produced by the Anti-Trafficking Working Group (ATWG), available [here](#).

## **CHILD PROTECTION<sup>9</sup>**

Between January and March 2026, Child Protection Situation Monitoring (CPSM) collected qualitative and quantitative information through 458 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with adolescents, caregivers, community members, volunteers, and service providers, alongside 21 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) involving 219 children. In parallel, the CRMM recorded 727 incidents affecting 816 children during the first quarter of the year, confirming the persistence of serious child rights violations. CPIMS+ data further highlights the scale and intensity of protection needs across Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char, 3,602 new child protection cases were recorded, with Cox's Bazar accounting for 95% of the total caseload.

During the reporting period, child protection partners managed a rapidly expanding caseload dominated by **neglect (approximately one-third of all cases)**, followed by physical abuse, emotional and psychological abuse, psychosocial distress, and child labour. Harmful practices including child marriage, trafficking, sexual abuse or exploitation, children associated with armed forces or armed groups (CAAFAG), and other traditional harmful practices remain consistently present and intersect with other forms of violence and deprivation.

Children continue to face significant and interconnected protection risks, with CPSM and CPIMS+ data showing sustained increases in violence within households and communities. During this quarter, the CPIMS+ recorded 3,602 (977 violence, abuse) and (606 exploitation and neglect). **Physical abuse** increased steadily across the quarter, while emotional and psychological abuse showed a marked upward trend, particularly affecting girls. Neglect remains the most prevalent concern, peaking in February before a slight decline in March, but consistently accounting for roughly one-third of all cases.

CPSM findings underscore the extent of caregiving strain. More than 72% of KIIs reported that children experience neglect in their communities, 47% reported **domestic violence** perpetrated by caregivers, and 62% reported widespread **child psychosocial distress**. Critically, 63% of caregivers acknowledged being unable to provide adequate

<sup>9</sup> This situation monitoring report is a triangulated analysis of child protection concerns collected through Child Protection Situation Monitoring (CPSM), Child Rights Monitoring Mechanism (CRMM), and CPIMS+ case management data points present a dual and mutually reinforcing protection crisis. At household level, poverty, caregiver stress, and mental health challenges are driving neglect, domestic violence, school dropout, and psychosocial distress. At community level, insecurity, armed group presence, and weak rule of law are increasing risks of recruitment, abduction, trafficking, and sexual violence.

care due to their own mental health challenges. Key drivers include unemployment, food insecurity, overcrowded living conditions, harmful social norms, and limited parenting skills. The impacts on children are evident through school dropout, emotional and behavioural difficulties, low self-esteem, mental health concerns, and physical injury, illustrating a systemic erosion of the care environment.

**Child labour** remains a pervasive protection concern. 69% of KIIs reported that child labour affects both boys and girls within their communities. CPIMS+ data recorded **344 child labour cases**. Boys are predominantly engaged in hazardous and exploitative work, including blacksmithing and workshop labour, market work, load carrying, day labour, agriculture, and transport. Girls' labour is more often unpaid and less visible, concentrated on domestic work, tailoring, and small-scale market activities. The trends in child labour cases reflect survival-driven exploitation.

FGDs with children highlight household poverty, school closures and disengagement, loss of family breadwinners, cultural acceptance of child labour, and restrictive gender norms as key drivers. Children involved in labour face interrupted education, physical harm, psychosocial distress, and heightened exposure to exploitation, abduction, substance use gambling, and involvement in criminal activities.

**Child marriage** remains a significant and increasingly concealed protection risk. 30% of KIIs reported the presence of child marriage in their communities, while FGDs indicate a shift toward informal or hidden practices, complicating detection and response. CPIMS+ data recorded **213 child marriage cases** during the reporting period, with monthly cases in Cox's Bazar, affecting mainly children in the 15-17 age band (72%), followed by children aged 7-14 (27%).

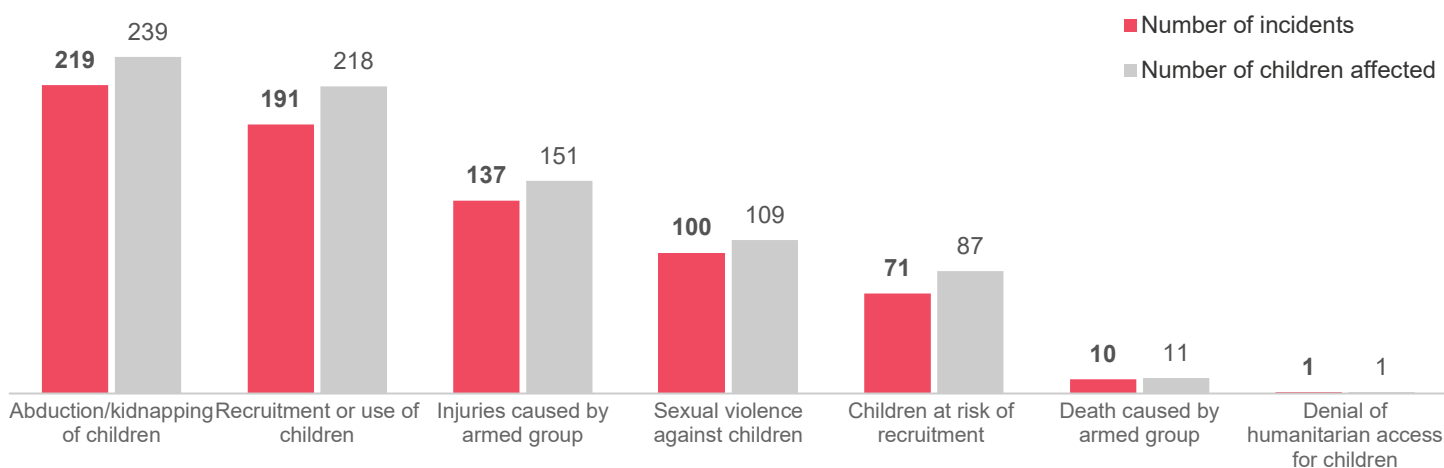
Key drivers identified include poverty, overcrowding, perceived social and security risks, harmful cultural norms, food insecurity, fear linked to armed actors, and concerns around adolescent relationships. Girls are disproportionately affected, with immediate consequences including school dropout, early pregnancy, health risks, reduced autonomy, and heightened long-term vulnerability.

**Armed group activity** remains a central and acute child protection concern. Only 30% of KIIs were willing to discuss this issue, reflecting its sensitivity and the fear surrounding disclosure. Among respondents, 32% reported knowing children currently associated with armed groups, while 28% expressed concern about ongoing **recruitment risks**.

In the first quarter of 2026, 727 incidents of serious child rights violations were reported through Child Rights Monitoring Mechanism, affecting 816 children (girls: 183, boys: 594, other/unknown: 39). Based on the dashboard verification status currently reflected, 290 incidents (40%) were verified, and 147 incidents (20%) were confirmed to a reasonable level<sup>10</sup>. The highest number of incidents was reported on Camp 8E (61 incidents). Abduction and/or kidnapping of children remained the highest reported violation with 219 incidents, followed by recruitment or use of children (191 incidents) and injuries by armed group (138 incidents).

Recruitment and abduction continue to dominate violation patterns, consistent with 2025 trends, accounting for many serious violations. Boys and adolescent males are the primary targets. ARSO and RSO have been verified as responsible for most reported violations, including deaths, recruitment, sexual violence, and abduction.

**Types of incidents and affected children**



**Demographic breakdown and verification status:** Among the 816 affected children, 594 were boys (73%), 183 were girls (22%), and 39 were other/unknown (5%). At the time of reporting, CRMM verification status showed that 290 incidents were verified (40%), 290 remained unverified (40%), and 147 were confirmed to a reasonable level (20%).

<sup>10</sup> Incidents assessed as credible and likely to have occurred based on reliable information, although full verification was not possible

**Gender-based violence (GBV) against children** remains widespread and underreported. 25% of KIIs reported risks of sexual violence affecting children. CRMM data confirms a strongly gendered pattern: girls account for **over 90% of reported sexual violence survivors** for this quarter, despite representing a much smaller proportion of total affected children. Stigma, social restrictions, safety concerns, and limited confidential access to services particularly for adolescent girls—remain major barriers to disclosure and support.

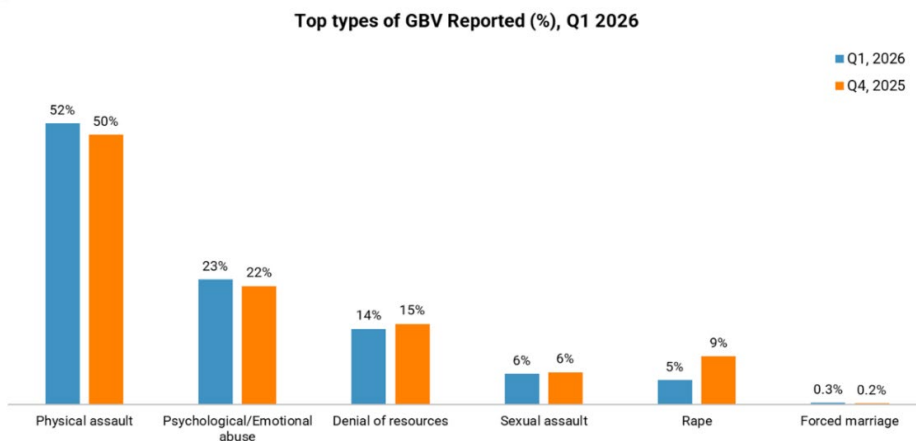
FGDs consistently emphasize that child protection risks are interconnected and structurally driven. Children describe chronic poverty, insecurity, overcrowding, and restrictive gender norms as shaping everyday risks and harmful coping strategies. Child labour and child marriage are widely normalized, domestic violence is commonly linked to stress and lack of awareness, and nearly half of FGDs reported awareness of children primarily boys being coerced or encouraged to join organized or armed groups.

While awareness of child protection services exists, access remains constrained by distance, safety concerns, social restrictions (especially for girls), and limited visibility and trust in services. Children and adolescents emphasized the need for livelihood and vocational opportunities, recreational activities and safe spaces, increased presence of female staff, stronger referral pathways, and services located closer to residential areas.

The scale and trajectory of reported cases signal a growing risk of system overload. Case volumes have more than quadrupled compared to 2025, and without proportional expansion of frontline capacity, response quality and timeliness are likely to deteriorate. Many children face intersecting vulnerabilities such as neglect combined with separation, disability, or exposure to violence underscoring the need for integrated, multi-sectoral case management rather than siloed responses.

## GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Reports of GBV cases **decreased by 13%** in this quarter compared to quarter 4 of 2025, based on GBV Information Management System (GBVIMS) data. However, this decline is considered to reflect reporting dynamics rather than an actual reduction in incidents. This trend is likely influenced by a combination of factors, including variations in service utilization patterns, reporting access constraints in some areas following partial reductions in Data Gathering Organization (DGO) operational presence. Further, the broader security-related constraints increasingly affect survivors' ability to disclose incidents. Field observations, focus group discussions, and Camp Focal Point (CFP) feedback continue to indicate sustained, and heightened GBV risks within the camps in several contexts.



**Physical violence** remained the most reported form of GBV during the reporting period, accounting for **52% of all types of GBV cases**. This could be largely driven by Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), which emerged as the most prevalent form of GBV across camps. Field observation, focus group discussions, and Camp Focal Point feedback identified frequent incidents of women being beaten, punched, or assaulted with objects such as bamboo or wood, often accompanied by destruction of household items. The violence is deeply rooted in economic stressors - particularly unemployment, poverty, and financial instability - which intensify household tensions. Patterns indicate strong links with negative coping mechanisms such as drug abuse (Yaba) and online gambling, where men continue to sell household assets or ration supplies, and violence is triggered when women resist or question these actions. Polygamy, dowry demands, and extramarital affairs further exacerbate tensions, often resulting in physical abuse. Additionally, women engaged in income-generating roles (e.g., volunteers) are specifically targeted for financial control, facing violence to surrender their earnings. Physical assault rarely occurs alone and is often preceded by other forms of violence.

**Emotional and psychological violence** is widely reported as the second most common form of GBV, often occurring alongside and preceding physical violence **23%** in the first quarter of 2026 to 22% in quarter 4 of 2025. The field observation, focus group discussions, and Camp Focal Point feedback highlighted the patterns of threats, blackmail, verbal abuse, humiliation, and coercive control, including threats of polygamy, divorce, or abandonment. Women are subjected to continuous pressure for money or resources, as well as intimidation from both intimate partners and, in many cases, organized group members. Emotional abuse is also linked to suspicion, extramarital relationships, and family interference, contributing to a hostile domestic environment. Adolescent girls and unmarried women face social stigma, harassment including being coerced or pressured to share images insinuating for sexual suggestive interactions further deepening psychological distress.

**Denial of resources** remained **14%** of reported cases closely interlinked with IPV and economic abuse. The focus group discussion indicated that women and children are systematically deprived of basic needs, including food, financial support, healthcare, and access to services. Common patterns include husbands withholding money, refusing to provide for girl children's education, or selling relief items and household assets to fund addictions such as gambling or drug use. Women are frequently restricted from accessing humanitarian services or participating in household decision-making, reinforcing dependency and vulnerability. Notably, in-laws (e.g., mothers-in-law or brothers-in-law) often influence financial decisions, limiting mobility, and reinforcing harmful norms, at times directly contributing to abusive practices within the household. Like physical violence polygamy further compounds this issue, as resources are divided or withdrawn, leaving women and children without adequate support.

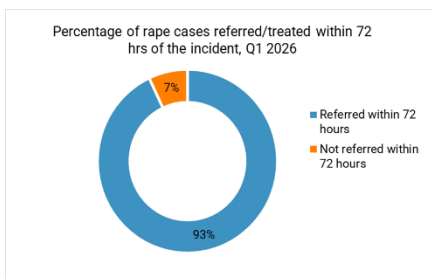
**Sexual violence** including rape (5%) and sexual assault (6%), showed a decline the first quarter of 2026 compared to quarter 4 of 2025. However, qualitative findings suggest the decline in reported rape incidences reflect suppressed disclosure rather than reduced occurrence. Focus group discussions indicate that adolescent girls and young women are particularly at risk, driven by perceived vulnerability and often targeted by youth in the camps influenced by exposure to sexual content and limited supervision. The report highlights that the technology facilitated gender-based violence for adolescent girls and women who have been exposed to online marriage and sexual exploitation. Incidents occur in both private and public spaces, including within households and in insecure, poorly lit areas. Reports also indicate cases of sexual abuse within extended family settings, particularly affecting newly arrived individuals staying with relatives. Additionally, there are accounts of assaults among children during community play, including peer-to-peer abuse where boys target girls, highlighting critical gaps in supervision. In intimate relationships, forced sexual acts (including marital rape) are also reported, often linked to substance abuse.

Reported rape cases involved organized groups, including gang rape and assaults by unidentified perpetrators, frequently occurring at night. Fear, threats, and intimidation - especially by organized groups or influential community leaders significantly suppress disclosure, resulting in underreporting. Another emerging pattern involves manipulation through false promises of marriage, where perpetrators establish relationships, abduct survivors, and subsequently commit rape.

**Child/forced marriage** accounted for 0.3% of reported GBV cases in this quarter. Child marriage is linked to economic hardship, dowry practices, and protection concerns. Emerging patterns include marriages arranged from abroad - sometimes conducted over the phone without the girl meeting the groom - raising risks of trafficking and exploitation. Girls who are unable to marry due to dowry demands face social stigma and emotional abuse, while some are coerced into marriages as a coping mechanism by families under financial strain.

Females accounted for 98% of the total reported cases, with 85% involving married women and 1% involving persons with disabilities. In terms of case context, Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) remains the most prevalent form of GBV, increasing from 69% in quarter 4 of 2025 to 73% in this quarter. This rise is closely associated with economic hardship, unemployment, limited livelihood opportunities, and increased household stress linked to prolonged time spent at home due to movement restrictions. Additional contributing factors include family conflict, dowry practices, gambling, substance abuse, in-laws' influence, extra-marital affairs, and financial pressures during periods such as Ramadan and Eid. These conditions are further compounded by broader community stressors, including security concerns and intensified activities by organized groups, contributing to persistent and cyclical patterns of violence.

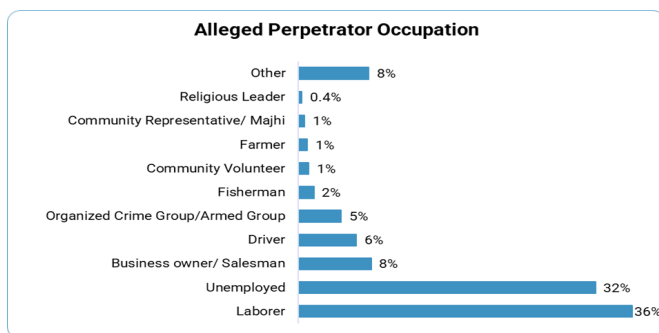
During the reporting period, out of the GBV cases referred to the legal services, **64% of survivors declined legal services** due to multiple intersecting barriers, including prolonged and time-consuming legal procedures, complicated medicolegal documentation processes, lack of ID or camp registration, limited legal knowledge, and fear of retaliation, all of which collectively constrain access to justice. There is also a gap in the law-enforcement due to ongoing security risk and staff turnover due to funding constraints. Perpetrators often evade accountability, reducing trust in legal



systems. Out of all reported rape incident cases, the majority **93%** of survivors were able to **access lifesaving Clinical Management Rape (CMR) services** within 72 hours. At the same time, gaps in medical care, limited medicines, need for travel outside the camp for longstanding cases, and understaffed facilities impede timely treatment.

The perpetrator and survivor relationship profiles indicated that

73% of incidents were perpetrated by intimate partners, 9% by other family members, 8% by family friend/neighbor. Notably, 91% of all reported incidents occurred within the survivor's residence. This significant figure confirms that the home remains the most unsafe environment for women and girls within the camps. Furthermore, 1% of the alleged perpetrators are community volunteers at the camp's level.



\*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 the reporting period, incidents affecting social cohesion and peaceful coexistence showed a sharp increase compared to the previous quarter with 52 reported incidents affecting 2,344 individuals. Incidents linked to the use of land and right of ownership together with perceived disparities in access to services and limited shared spaces continue to hamper social cohesion and peaceful coexistence. Relations with host communities, particularly in Teknaf area, remain strained. Gambling-related disputes involving host and refugee youth further exacerbated these tensions. Intra community tensions were mainly linked to leadership disputes, organized group rivalry and scarcity of resources. Minor disputes over shelter space, water access, football games, or gambling were also reported as contributing factors. The cumulative impact of fear, intimidation, and polarization continues to silence voices within the refugee community. Refugees reported avoiding participating in community discussions or leadership roles which have also contributed to the weakening of grassroots peace building capacity.

The number of individuals involved in these incidents was the highest compared to previous quarters, largely due to an incident of unauthorized toll collection and the temporary closure of access routes to the Asian Highway near Camps 7, 8E, and 9 during Eid-ul-Fitr celebrations. Large numbers of refugees gathered in the area to observe Eid, during which some members of the host community allegedly demanded unauthorized payments from vehicles entering the area. This practice created tension and heightened protection concerns driven by financial exploitation for approximately 1,000 refugees and 20 members of the host community. The Bangladesh Border Guards (BGB) intervened to address the situation.

Additional incidents captured under the category "other" included incidents that escalated from minor disputes into physical assaults. For example, on 22 March near Leda Tower Station, approximately eight men from the host community reportedly assaulted 15 Rohingya boys from Camp 24 who were allegedly seen smoking cigarettes during the Eid celebration. The boys were subjected to physical violence, including slapping and punching. Serious altercations involved targeted intimidation and violence, on 1 March, in camp 24, a Rohingya man was reportedly apprehended by members of the host community on suspicion of theft and subjected to severe physical assault, resulting in serious injuries. Reported incidents also raised gender related protection concerns: a host community man assaulted a Rohingya refugee after being refused entry to his shelter following inappropriate sexual remarks toward a female family member.

Water shortages and WASH infrastructure constraints coupled with claims over land ownership contributed to recurring disputes with 10 incidents reported. Most reported incidents were during morning water collection hours including one incident in camp 22 where an individual was injured after being struck with a chair. Limited access to sanitation facilities continues to exacerbate tensions, in camp 25 a host community landowner refused authorization to construct a latrine, forcing approximately 15 families to share a single facility. In addition, host community hostility toward WASH service providers disrupted essential services: in early March, Rohingya WASH volunteers working in latrine desludging and waste collection were reportedly assaulted by host community members, resulting in injuries and temporary suspension of services. On 4 March, a water tap stand installed in camp 25 was cut off by a landowner. Refugees using this water point were said to be paying BDT 8,000 annually since 2022 under a verbal agreement for water access, including pipeline connections to individual shelters. Recently, the landowner demanded an increase to BDT 9,000, which the

beneficiaries refused to pay. Following the disagreement, the landowner disconnected the pipeline, cutting off access to water from the tap stand and affecting approximately 200 refugees. Similarly, a host community member was reportedly providing water to refugee households for BDT 200 per month and later increased the amount to BDT 250. Community members reported that the increased amount was not affordable. And after refusing to pay the water supply was reportedly suspended.

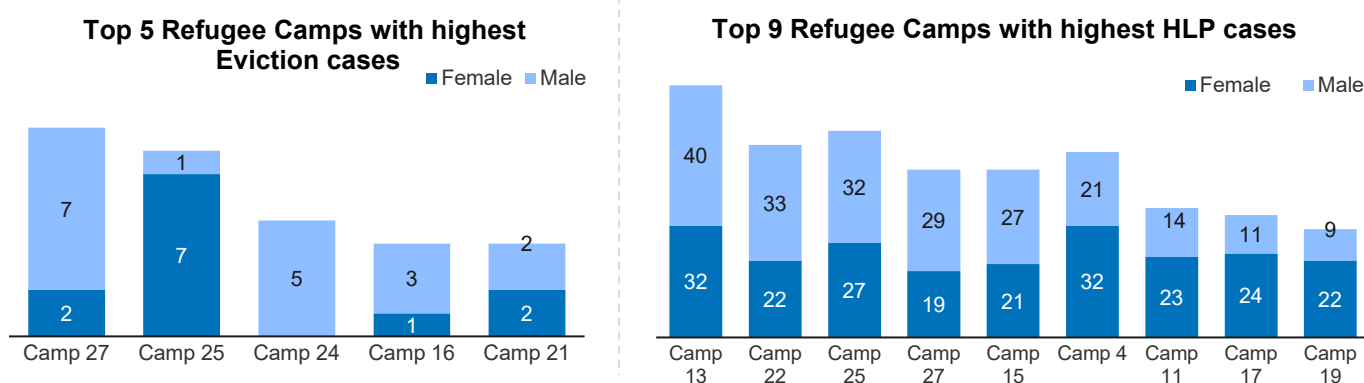
There were 8 reported incidents directly linked to livelihood activities and economic vulnerability with overlapping instances of extortion and exploitation of refugees. On 1 March in Boli Bazar Market, a Rohingya shopkeeper was physically assaulted by three host community members after refusing to sell clothing worth BDT 3,000 for BDT 700. In camp 12, a 38-year-old widow was forced by a host community man to pay BDT 3,000 monthly rent after he initially demanded BDT 50,000 to allow her a shop near the host community pathway.

The reporting period was characterized by persistent incidents of rent demands and financial impositions as conditions for accessing services or pursuing small-scale livelihood activities. On 10 February, for example, a Rohingya man was sitting on the roadside of camp 9 selling dry fish in front of a host community shop. The shop owner refused to allow him to sell there and threatened him demanding payment despite being outside the shop's area; the victim was forced to pay BDT 50 to the shop owner. In a separate incident, two Rohingya men, representing a group of 50 individuals who had collectively purchased a cow for Eid-ul-Fitr, reported being threatened by a host community member. He allegedly objected to their purchase, claiming it would affect his business, demanded compensation for potential losses, and warned them not to slaughter the cow. Fearing harm, the group later slaughtered the cow secretly, and the two reported victims remained inside their shelter due to fear of further threats.

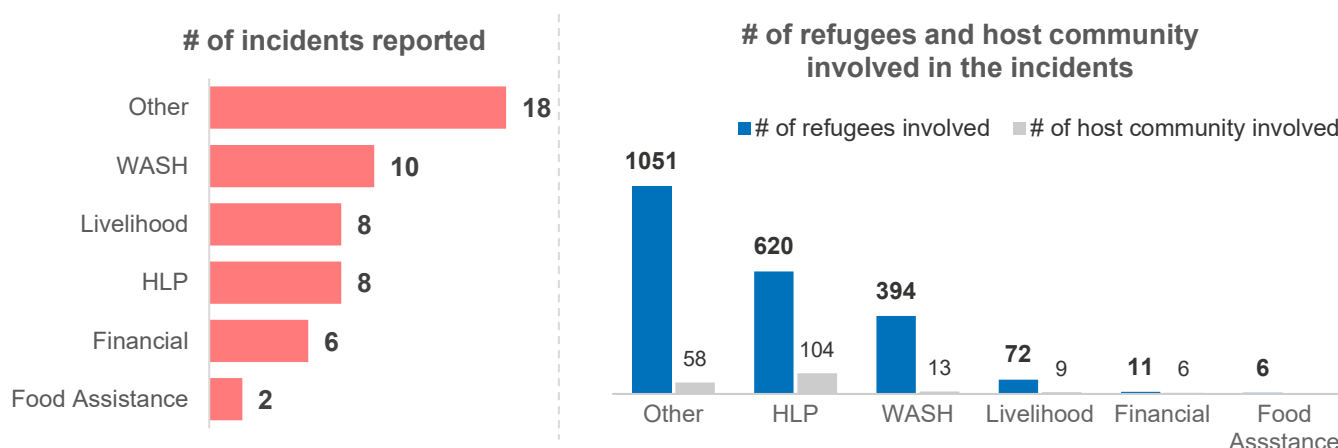
Ongoing insecure land tenure, power imbalances and financial and rent demands, such as household fees and monthly water charges imposed by landowners, continues to create financial pressure and tension within communities. A host community landowner reportedly collects BDT 4,000 per household annually from refugee households in Camp 15. In addition, households are reportedly charged BDT 400 per month for water and are also asked to provide items such as oil, lentils, and sugar impacting approximately 100 individuals. An infrastructure-related conflict was also reported in Camp 16, where a damaged pathway used by an average of 500 people daily could not be repaired due to a landowner's refusal to grant permission.

A total of 1,039 HLP cases were recorded across the camps, out of which 457 cases (44%) involved women. Relocation and disputes over access to services, including pathway, latrines and water points was the most reported issue, followed by relocation, with 306 cases registered. A total of 46 of the relocation cases were motivated by security issues, including threats from the organized groups; the rest were linked to limited shelter space, access to better services and family reunification. Rental disputes, including demanding rent or arbitrary rent increase was also reported (23 cases). Tenure insecurity and exploitative practices continued to affect households during the reporting period. There were 57 eviction related cases in 16 of them eviction took place and 41 cases have received eviction threats. Inheritance disputes within the host community were also recorded (75 cases) affecting both refugees and host communities.

While HLP cases were registered across all camps, the following ten camps recorded the highest number of cases:



Financial disputes were also reported this quarter. Disputes between individuals over debts frequently escalated into assaults. In camp 24, a verbal dispute between a host community youth and a Rohingya boy over debt escalated into a physical attack, during which another Rohingya boy intervening to de-escalate the situation and sustained a knife injury that required hospital treatment. In the same camp, in a different incident, a woman was severely assaulted at her shelter over an unresolved financial penalty resulting in serious injuries and hospitalization. Two incidents were reported involving disputes between refugee and host community families following the distribution of iftar food assistance in Camp 22.



## ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Between January and March, 5,831 refugees (59% women and girls) accessed legal services. The services included legal counselling, assistance to file case with the police and in courts, as well as court representation, and release from detention after intervention by legal actors. Among these, 4,078 refugees were provided with legal counselling, 83 were assisted with filing cases with police and courts, as well as obtaining the camp exit permits from CiCs. During the reporting period, 210 refugees were released from detention, and 495 refugees were represented in legal proceedings in court. Legal assistance was provided mostly in cases where refugees were victims of abduction, physical assault, human trafficking and family related disputes. Mediation support was provided in 977 cases (1,954 refugees), 77% of them were successfully resolved as part of alternative dispute resolution mechanism.

However, refugees continue to face significant barriers to accessing justice. Criminal threats, abductions, extortion and the influence of organized groups create fear and discourage formal complaints, particularly when perpetrators remain outside the camps to evade legal action. Administrative obstacles, including CiC offices declining or delaying approvals, burdensome verification processes, weak medico-legal documentation and reluctance of police to register complaints, further restrict access. Rising disputes related to financial arrangements, marital issues, shared shelter and WASH facilities, gambling and tensions with host communities have also undermined effective and timely delivery of justice.

Legal partners reported that the involvement of district police investigation officers, including APBn, in the initial investigation of refugee-related cases has contributed to faster case processing within the camps. However, APBn officers reportedly often advise or encourage refugees to resolve cases at the camp level and, in some instances, facilitate direct meetings between complainants or survivors and alleged perpetrators, potentially exposing those at risk.

Majhis, organized groups and other influential actors are increasingly involved in informal dispute resolution processes that are often arbitrary and not aligned with national or international laws and standards. Reports indicate that these actors sometimes resolve serious protection incidents, including serious physical assault and sexual violence cases, through informal processes rather than appropriate legal channels. These actors often charge refugees money to resolve disputes and decisions tend to favor those with greater power or influence. RCPR members are actively involved in such practices; they reportedly put pressure on refugees from several camps to report their cases to RCPR and arbitrarily resolved cases in "RCPR office" in Camp 1E. Financial transactions are part of this process, particularly in cases related to family disputes, intimate partner violence and divorce or separation. For example, in one camp, a fee of BDT 10,000 per case was reportedly charged by these informal actors.

Women, survivors of gender-based violence, children, and newly arrived refugees are especially affected by these practices. Rather than resolving disputes, these processes perpetuate existing inequalities and may lead to further harm for refugees. In the Teknaf camps, some host community actors reportedly dominate these informal dispute resolution practices and pressure refugees not to seek legal or protection support from humanitarian organizations.

## ACCESS TO SERVICES

The number of incidents reported in accessing services increased by 30% and it affected a total of 3,637 individuals. Access constraints or unequal access to services was most frequently reported within the Shelter - Camp Coordination Camp Management (SCCCM), Wash and Food Security Sectors during this quarter. The interlinkages between

individuals requesting payment over resources operating in land which they claim ownership over and maintenance and repair services that continue to be underfunded have increased the barriers in refugees accessing services.

Needs related to SCCCM were identified across multiple camps with 42 reported incidents. As in the previous quarter, cases involved multiple households reporting prolonged shelter-related challenges, particularly unrepaired damage to the overall structure, walls, and slope constructions. There were reports of shelters damaged for months with cracks in walls and poles, torn tarpaulins, water leakage -especially during rainfall-, and increased risks of landslides. Despite requests, assistance has largely not been provided due to budget constraints or technical work pending. These delays have disproportionately affected female-headed households and elderly persons who often lack the capacity or resources to carry out repairs independently. Newly arrived families continue to face heightened challenges, as they are currently unable to access shelter allocation due to lack of government authorization. LPG distribution issues were raised by some households due to the exclusion of certain individuals when issuing data separation requests and marriage-related disputes. These disruptions often lead to families purchasing LPG at high cost or resort to unsafe coping mechanisms such as transferring gas between cylinders or collecting firewood.

Additional service delivery gaps were reported because of lack of street lighting where families restrict nighttime movement to latrines and water points as a safety mechanism. This continues to impact -predominantly- women, elderly persons, and persons with disabilities.

WASH-related concerns that impeded access for some refugees were raised across several camps with 24 reported incidents. These were linked to persistent challenges related to drainage, sanitation, and enough water facilities. Incidents of organized groups denying access to refugees were also reported during this quarter. In Camp 20E, an individual reportedly cut down trees near two communal toilets used by eight families and constructed an unauthorized shelter. The structure has occupied one of the toilets along with the surrounding drainage area, while also obstructing access to the road and the remaining toilet. Neighboring households attempted to raise concerns but were reportedly intimidated as the occupying household member is an alleged member of ARO. Incidents of waste left in drainages resulting in clogged drainage, stagnant water, foul smells, and increased mosquito infestation were reported in at least 11 incidents. In some areas, drain water has reportedly entered shelters, posing additional health and safety risks.

Community latrines were reported to be insufficient for the number of refugees using them, in Camp 25, a latrine used by about 50 people has become completely full overflowing, leading to strong odors and limited usability. Some families with members with disabilities reported difficulties accessing appropriate WASH facilities and requesting private bathrooms inside their shelters (Camp 15). Water supply duration and damaged water infrastructure in some camps have resulted in overcrowding and tension at water points. Women and adolescent girls in Camp 1E, in particular, were reported to have to carry water over long distances daily.

There were 22 reported incidents related to access to food. There was a single incident that affected approximately 2,130 individuals. In February, 426 Hindu newly arrived families residing in Camp 1E were unable to access food assistance following a decision by the CiC, based on the assessment that the families were not permanently residing in the camp. These families had arrived in Bangladesh between 2024 and 2025 fleeing armed conflict between the Arakan Army (AA) and the Myanmar military. In the absence of shelter allocation for new arrivals, the families were initially hosted by relatives in Camp 1E, in an area locally referred to as "*Hindu Para*". However, after three months, severe overcrowding and increased pressure on WASH facilities forced many households to temporarily relocate to nearby host community areas such as Kutupalong and Balukhali. As a result, these families faced exclusion from food assistance despite maintaining social and familial links with residents of the camp. In a separate incident within the same camp, a family that temporarily relocated outside the camp following separation from their relatives' household had their food card confiscated after the CiC became aware of the family's relocation. There were reported cases linked to system-related barriers to updating food cards and concerns raised at household level following the announcement on the food prioritization exercise<sup>11</sup>.

During the reporting period, refugees reported 19 incidents related to challenges in accessing health services. Newly arrived families continue to face delays or denial of care, as some health facilities require them to have medical books before providing services. Medication shortages and limited treatment capacity were reported in some camps, with

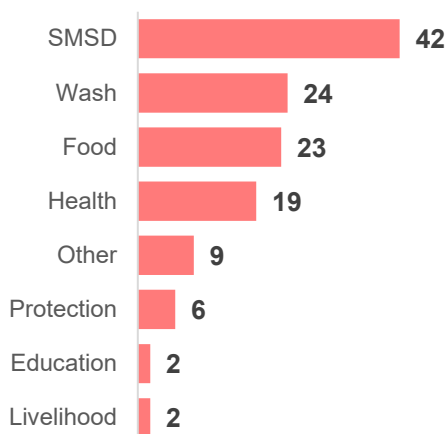
<sup>11</sup> The World Food Programme (WFP) initiated a Targeting and Prioritization Exercise (TPE) in all 33 camps in Teknaf and Ukhiya and in Bhasan Char, in April 2026 shifting from blanket aid to targeted support based on household-level vulnerabilities.

cases of patients suffering from Hepatitis C, kidney stones and post-accident disabilities often receiving only pain relief medicine. In one instance, a patient requiring urgent surgery could not be treated at the Primary Health Care Clinic due to the unavailability of an operating room. There were reports of discontinuation of rehabilitation and assistive device support—such as physiotherapy and walking sticks— for people with disabilities and elderly people.

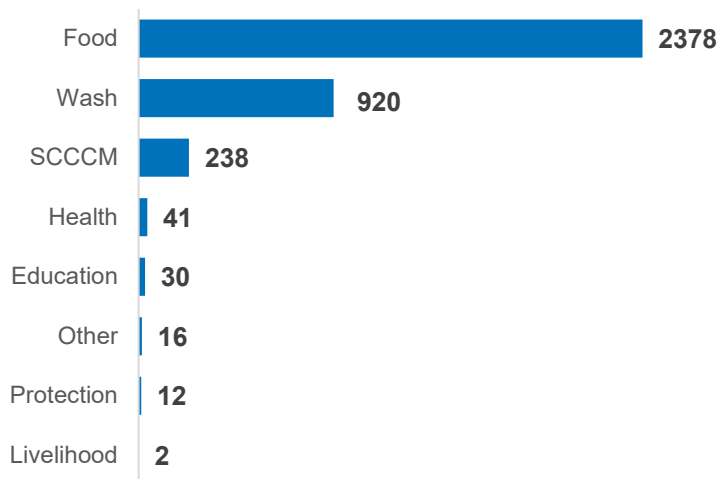
Challenges reported on access to “other” services involved delays and irregularities in the issuance of marriage registration and related civil documentation by the CiC office. Incidents were reported of waiting periods ranging from two months to over one year without receiving marriage permission. In camp 1W, a refugee reported repeated delays of over 3 months with no clear justification, while another family reported waiting for marriage registration for more than a year. Concerns of corruption were also raised as a barrier to access timely services: there was an incident reported of a Majhi allegedly demanding BDT 6,000 to facilitate marriage registration but failed to deliver any outcome. Additional cases reflected broader administrative and documentation challenges, such as a woman being unable to remarry due to the inability to present divorce documentation for a spouse absent abroad for several years.

The 6 incidents of protection were related to data registration services. This included a case in camp 1W where a woman lost her data card due to shelter damage and hasn’t received a replacement yet. Inconsistencies in data cards in relation to family composition affected assistance access, in 2 incidents including a young refugee that was unable to collect LPG support because biometric records remained linked to his mother, who left the camp for Malaysia a year earlier. In camp 20E there were reports of an armed group allegedly resuming informal arbitration practices and compelling community members to bring disputes to them instead of formal justice mechanisms and demanding bribes, with reported involvement of some Majhi’s. Incidents of access to education and livelihood were connected to safety concerns, particularly for women and girls traveling to learning centers together with limited availability of Grade-12 education.

**Denial of Services**  
(# of Incidents by Sector)



**Denial of Services**  
(# of refugees affected by sector)



## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Take urgent action in restoring the **humanitarian and civilian character of the camp**: law enforcement authorities should conduct regular screening and identification, disarmament and separation of armed elements, including through regular in-camp weapon searches. This includes through the Government’s application of the Arms Act, for those posing arms inside the camps as well those potential active fighters arriving to camps with arms.
- Strengthen **supervised and documented patrolling by APBn** in areas with high prevalence of recruitment, abduction, extortion, and arms presence -with emphasis on nighttime operations-. Camp Authorities, including CiC’s and APBN must urgently verify reports of recruitment meetings and ensure that **no meetings, campaigns, or other activities are used to pressure refugees into returning to Myanmar**; as conditions for returns are not conducive and any such return may be under adverse circumstances.



- **Recruitment—or threats of recruitment**—for combat, specially of **children**, must be strictly prohibited by the Government through Camp Authorities and LEA. Violations against children perpetrated by armed forces and armed groups must not be tolerated. The Government of Bangladesh is requested to take appropriate measures to **prevent and respond to the serious violations against children including recruitment and use, abduction, sexual violence, killing, and injuring**, with the support of specialized agencies and Ministries.
- Scale up existing life-saving **child protection interventions** by strengthening **case management and GBV services**; expanding family-based prevention and caregiver support; implementing integrated, multi-sectoral approaches to child labour, child marriage, and recruitment; reinforcing community-based protection in hotspot areas; improving access through decentralized service delivery and stronger referrals; and enhancing monitoring, reporting, and accountability to ensure timely, coordinated, and quality responses for at-risk children and adolescents.
- Strengthen access to **formal justice mechanisms**, including the **investigation and prosecution of perpetrators of crimes** in the camps—particularly for serious protection incidents—to reduce impunity and threats to refugees. This should include deterring criminal activities, ensuring protection and assistance for refugee victims and witnesses, and reinforcing mechanisms to prevent and address instances of police misconduct, while promoting a supportive environment for law and order.
- Increase investment in and support for **prevention activities** that address underlying drivers such as harmful GBV norms, unsafe environments for children and adolescents, the expansion of informal economies, exploitation, disputes arising from economic hardship, onward movement, and negative coping mechanisms linked to reduced funding.
- Ensure that **community-led structures** are freely chosen by refugees and have no linkages to organized groups or groups promoting movements of refugees to engage in the armed conflict in Myanmar. Representation and leadership of refugees should be credible and accountable. Selected structures should operate with clearly defined and context-appropriate functions, guided by a consultatively developed Terms of Reference and aligned with established humanitarian principles and operational standards.
- Strengthen measures to ensure respect for the **rule of law** including through the presence of law enforcement authorities inside the camps by means of protection-oriented systems to screen, disarm, remove and intern fighters and other profiles that compromise refugees' safety. This includes improved coordination between district police and APBn, as well as **stronger investigative capacity** and survivor-centered approaches within the APBn.
- Advocate for the **full registration of new arrivals** as well as their full access to individual documentation and all services, especially shelter.
- Continue advocacy efforts with government officials to ensure that **gender-based violence services** for women and girls—including those with disabilities—are dignified, **survivor-centered**, respectful of confidentiality, due processes, and gender-sensitive involvement.
- Expand and diversify **livelihood opportunities, vocational training, and educational opportunities** to mitigate the impacts of budget constraints, foster self-reliance, and reduce protection risks. Expanding opportunities for refugees lessen their dependence on humanitarian assistance and supports their sustainable reintegration when they return to Myanmar. Participation in productive activities also contributes to peaceful co-existence and social cohesion within the refugee community and with the host communities.
- The Forest Department and the Ministry of Land, in coordination with the RRRC, should define private land from public land, and social forestry land including that allocated to host communities from non-allocated forest land in Ukhyia and Teknaf to effectively resolve and address **land claims**. The RRRC should also ensure that informal and illegitimate rent collection, as well as other forms of interference affecting refugees and humanitarian operations, are prevented.
- Call on member states and donors to stay the course with assistance and responsibility sharing, whilst stepping up efforts to effectuate change in Myanmar.