

URGENT ACTION

AID SERVICES SLOWLY RESUME IN NORTH RAKHINE

Despite some continuing restrictions, humanitarian services such as food distribution, nutrition assistance and primary healthcare are slowly resuming in northern Rakhine State. According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), more than 16,000 people in Maungdaw north received food assistance and nutrition support between 13 and 20 January.

The slow resumption of humanitarian services come months after the Myanmar authorities launched a major security operation in response to attacks by suspected armed Rohingya on three border police posts on 9 October 2016. The Myanmar authorities suspended all humanitarian operations in northern Rakhine State, affecting 150,000 people who were previously reliant on the aid. The majority of those affected were from the ethnic Rohingya minority, including thousands of newly displaced people.

UN OCHA estimates that 21,000 people remain displaced in northern Rakhine State, while a further 66,000 people have fled to neighbouring Bangladesh. Amnesty International will continue to monitor the situation closely.

Despite progress in access to humanitarian assistance in northern Rakhine State, human rights violations continue to be documented. For more information, see *Myanmar: Torture fears for hundreds Rohingya detained* (ASA 16/5463/2017) available at: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa16/5463/2017/en/>

Thank you to all those who sent appeals. No further action is requested from the UA network.

This is the second UA update for UA 256/16. Further information: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa16/5341/2016/en/>

Further Information on UA: 256/16 Index: ASA 16/5546/2017 Issue Date: 25 January 2017

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