

Rohingiyas : Can be An Asset

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"Hmm. Assam. Wow, you are from Africa? That is so nice." That was the response I got from a 5 year old living in Delhi when I was asked about my native place. And I honestly do not blame the kid.

After turning a blind eye towards the North East, the mainstream media has finally awoken to acknowledge the pain of the North Eastern people. But who really cares about the flood victims and displaced people. Let us talk about the Rohingyas because clearly they are a threat to the security of the country. No lets rephrase, they are a threat to the leading party's political vote bank; the Hindutva cannot allow the minority vote bank to increase. Let's further paraphrase, they are Muslims, not Tibetians. (See the hypocrisy?)

Let us review some important facts. 1. The CBI has confirmed that there are no terror links associated with the Rohingyas. 2. The Rohingyas have been in India for a decade now, yet there are no evidences of even ONE ROHINGYA indulging in crime. 3. Mr. Arnab Goswami says, "The Nation should stand for their Assamese brothers and sisters". Were we outsiders when our state had drown? (#Assamwantstoknow)

We can help Refugees while raising our GDP, yes it's possible.

Uganda has more than 500,000 refugees, making it the third-biggest host nation in Africa. Uganda is a captivating contextual investigation that reveals insight into what is conceivable when refugees are given essential opportunities. As opposed to other Africa countries, Uganda has adopted a fundamentally unique strategy to its refugees: it permits them the privilege to work and a critical level of flexibility of development. In rustic open settlements, it gives refugees plots of land to develop for subsistence and for business farming; in urban communities, it licenses them to begin organizations and look for work. In the vicinity of 1999

and 2002, the nation formalized its approach in its Self-Reliance Strategy, setting up that all refugees ought to get access to arrive, the privilege to work and flexibility of development. This was later arranged in Uganda's 2006 Refugee Act.

However, given the privilege to work, something entrancing happened. From an underlying clear slate, a working economy started to develop. Few refugees traded maize and nourishment oil given by help offices for nearby harvests like banana and cassava, which they at that point sold in the settlement to get to fire up capital. These business people added to the advancement of an unassuming economy. Little shops were made, and a market showed up. Bit by bit, Ugandans began coming to Rwamwanja and even settled in the encompassing regions.

Rwamwanja delineates that having the privilege to work can significantly change the direction of an exile settlement, in a way that makes open doors for the two refugees and residents of the host nation.

Several changes need to be made if refugees' incomes are to go up and their dependency levels are to go down. Barriers to their participation in the economy should be reduced. Cultures of self-help and mutual support need to be encouraged. Education should be prioritized, all the way through to the university level. Economic diversification and entrepreneurship should be supported through improved access to finance and the reform of business regulations that impede or delay activity. Gender policies for refugees should include a greater focus on socio-economic opportunity. And refugees need to have better access to networks like banking services.

But for these things to happen in Assam - and around the world - will require a radical shift in how we think about and respond to refugees. Host countries need to recognize refugees potential contributors to their national development and offer opportunities for them to participate economically. This means international organizations will have to look beyond providing traditional humanitarian aid and prioritize jobs, education and economic empowerment for refugees. In turn, this will require new forms of partnerships that create incentives for host countries so they'll allow refugees greater autonomy and the right to work.

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