

**Government of India hands over 250 pre-fabricated houses to Rakhine State
Government for use of returnees**



Ambassador of India Mr Saurabh Kumar handed over the 250 pre-fabricated houses for use of returnees from Bangladesh to Rakhine State Government on 9 July 2019.

The event was held in Maungtaw and it was attended by Dr Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, and U Toe Oung, Member of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine State -UEHRD, Director-General of the Disaster Management Department, representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat and AHA Centre.

At the event, Mr Shri Saurabh Kumar explained the purpose of the donation and handed over the documents related to houses to U Aung Kyaw Zan, Joint Chairman of Returnee Resettlement Work Committee, and the Minister for Electricity, Industry and Transportation of Rakhine State.

The Latter presented a certificate of honour to the Ambassador. Then, the Union Minister said according to MoU signed between Myanmar and Indian Governments, for the development and resettlement in Rakhine State, India will support US\$ 5 million 5 consecutive years which is 25 million in total. With this

help , 148 units of pre-fabricated houses in Shwe Zar, 60 units in Kyein Chaung Taung and 42 units in Nant Thar Taung, 250 units in total, were built in year one.

They are working together for 22 collaborative projects to develop Rakhine State in the matters of education, health care, agriculture and livestock, electricity allocation, transportation in rural areas and obtaining clean water, according to MoU.

He expressed thanks to India for helping Rakhine State with resettlement of IDPs and socioeconomic developments.

He added that the long standing bilateral ties between Myanmar and India is valued. ARSEN Emergency Response and Assessment has carried out initial assessments and presented the areas which would collaborate. Assistance from neighboring countries such as India and China, AESEAN countries and Japan has been great help in repatriation and resettlement of displaced people. This process requires houses and basic institutions and assistance with respect to social developments. Water, electricity, health care, education and vocational trainings will be provided to the occupants of these houses. India and other partner countries will collaborate in doing so.

Afterwards, an engineer in-charge presented replica of the house to U Aung Kyaw Zan and a local delivered appreciation speech. Then, Union Minister and Indian Ambassador unveiled the inscription for the houses together and look around them.