

**'How to solve the Boat Crisis?'**

**Aye Maung, Arakan National Party leader, upper house MP**

"The boat people are driven to the sea for security in life and other benefits, and they can have better advantage by using a certain entity than describing themselves as other nationalities."

**Al Haj Aye Lwin, chief convener of Islamic Centre of Myanmar and member of Religions for Peace-Myanmar**

"The boat people are merely victims in the crisis and there are people exploiting their situation behind the curtain. We need a solid, fact-based solution to end the crisis."

**Win Tun Soe, director of Rakhine State Peace and Development Organisation**

"People are migrating on boats because it is difficult for them to access transportation by car, train or flight, and they are being subjected to various suffering in the camps and it is uncertain if they can survive for the rest of the life relying on aid from the government and international community. It is necessary to provide these people livelihood otherwise they will continue to migrate to find greener pastures."

**Maung Maung Ohn, Rakhine state chief minister**

"Not only the Bengalis are suffering – there are also Arakanese people who live in poverty. I just want to say that migrant refugees will be treated as migrant refugees but they will not enjoy citizen rights. And moreover, I do not agree that all of them are poor and suffering. The [international community] should come and look at the situation on the ground and every time they do, they only say bad things but never anything nice."



**Maung Maung Ohn, Rakhine state chief minister**

"The Rakhine state has a strong police presence and also Border Guard Force units and the Burmese Army. I would also like to clear up doubts on the security undertakings by the navy. The migrant boats in the crisis come from Bangladesh and we do not accept saying that they are from Burma just because they are caught in the Burmese waters."

**Nyi Nyi, Rohingya Rights Movement Organisation**

"The boat people are victims of a humanitarian crisis. It is factually true that some of the boat people come from Arakan state, including Arakanese ethnic people."

**Kyaw Kyaw Aung, Rakhine Common Association**

"We also need to factor in the density of the population in Bangladesh and the boat crisis, despite the Burmese immigration's effort to curb illegal migration, makes be suspicious about the international community's involvement with an intention to meddle Burma's political affairs."