
SOUTH KOREAN COUNTY, FEARING EXTINCTION, LOOKING TO ATTRACT MYANMAR REFUGEES

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Yeongyang county in North Gyeongsang province is seeking to attract about 40 Myanmar refugees to live in the community as its population continues to decline, officials said on March 12.

The county government is in discussions with the Justice Ministry on whether refugees under United Nations protection could settle in Yeongyang. It is also reviewing various options for their living arrangements such as converting closed schools into housing. Officials expect the plan to yield results as early as 2025.

If there is any way to prevent population decline, we are considering all possibilities, including attracting refugees, an official said. We are doing our best to ensure the region does not disappear.

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