

# INDIA

March 2024

## Operational Context

India continues to be a generous host to refugees and asylum-seekers from across the region and beyond. UNHCR works in close coordination with the Government of India, NITI Aayog and other UN agencies in fulfilling its mandate of ensuring access to protection, solutions, and humanitarian assistance to persons forced to flee.

Civil society organizations, working in partnership with UNHCR, are at the forefront of the refugee response ensuring that assistance reaches the most vulnerable within the overall objective of “leaving no one behind”. Partnership agreements are in place with eight national NGOs.

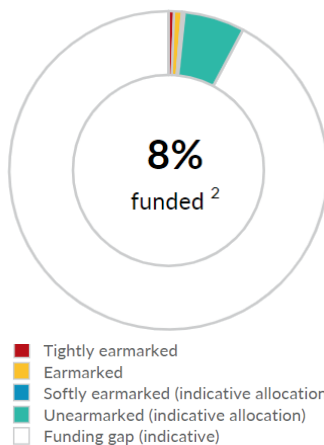
To ensure that refugees are included in the UN's work on Sustainable Development Goals, UNHCR maintains close engagement with the UN Country Teams in India and the Maldives. In 2024, resilience building, and self-reliance remain top priorities in furthering UNHCR's efforts to support refugees and asylum seekers.



## FUNDING AS OF 31 MARCH 2024

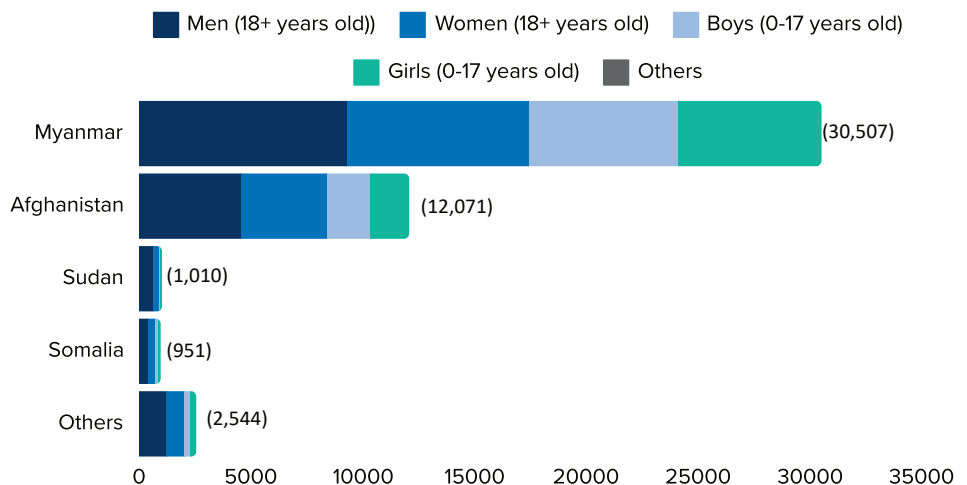
**USD 21.7 million**

Requested for India in 2024



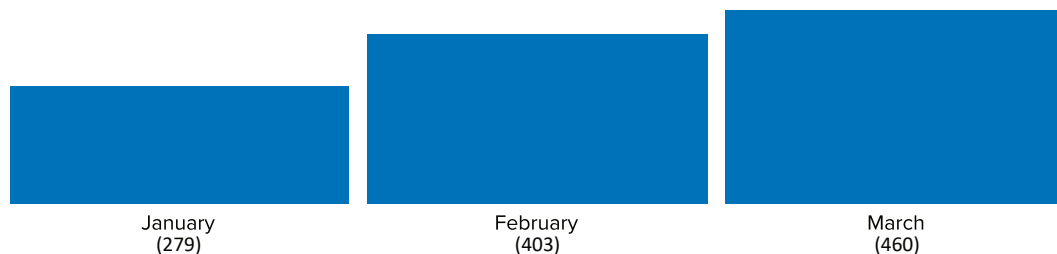
## REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS AS OF 31 MARCH 2024






Country/Territory of Origin



## NEW ASYLUM SEEKER REGISTRATIONS

Month



Sector	Response	Location
 Registration and RSD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>460</b> individuals registered with UNHCR.</li> <li>• <b>157</b> individuals at first instance and <b>23</b> individuals on appeal received RSD decisions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Majority of the individuals registered in the month were from Myanmar, Afghanistan and Sudan.</li> </ul>
 Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1,216</b> students attended accelerated learning programmes such as bridge and tuition classes conducted by UNHCR's partners.</li> <li>• <b>141</b> children at risk received psycho-social counselling support.</li> <li>• <b>292</b> girls and boys reached out through sessions on child protection themes as part of a strategy to prevent gender-based violence and child marriages.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accelerated learning programmes conducted in Mewat, Derabassi, UP, Jammu, Telangana, Jaipur and Delhi.</li> <li>• Awareness and sensitization camps organized in Delhi, Telangana, Mewat, Jammu and Derabassi.</li> </ul>
 Livelihood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>44</b> refugees and asylum-seekers placed in informal jobs in the retail, wellness and hospitality sectors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individuals placed in jobs in Delhi</li> </ul>
 Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>661</b> refugees and asylum seekers benefitted from <b>27</b> Health Awareness Campaigns.</li> <li>• <b>486</b> refugees provided referral services and access to government health facilities.</li> <li>• <b>456</b> participants reached through <b>21</b> sensitization sessions on gender-based violence and <b>54</b> provided with psycho-social counselling support.</li> <li>• <b>728</b> refugee and asylum seeker women and adolescent girls supported with menstrual hygiene kits and dignity kits.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health Awareness Campaigns conducted in Delhi, Mewat and Jammu.</li> <li>• Health referral services provided in Delhi, Hyderabad and Mewat.</li> <li>• Menstrual hygiene and dignity kits distributed in Jaipur, Mewat, UP and Derabassi.</li> </ul>
 Solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>146</b> individuals departed on complementary pathways.</li> <li>• <b>75</b> individuals departed by way of resettlement to third countries.</li> <li>• <b>17</b> individuals returned home through voluntary repatriation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Departure through resettlement and complementary pathways programmes to Canada, Australia, Norway, New Zealand and the USA.</li> <li>• Voluntary repatriation to Sri Lanka, Iraq and Afghanistan.</li> </ul>

\*the report reflects response figures only from the reporting period - March 2024



## Bridging cultures, empowering dreams

Sanlun, a young refugee from Myanmar, has been on a journey of language and cultural discovery. Since her arrival in India in 2021, she has been attending English and Hindi classes conducted by UNHCR's partner, BOSCO.

Currently studying in the 7th grade, Sanlun is determined to excel in her schoolwork and participate in her new community. "Learning both English and Hindi has opened so many doors for me," Sanlun says. "It's not just about the words I speak, it's about connecting with people around me and understanding the world I live in."

For Sanlun, BOSCO's classes are more than just an academic exercise. They are a lifeline that helps her keep pace with her school curriculum and feel part of the local Indian community she lives in. "The Hindi classes help me communicate with my friends and neighbours. I feel more a part of the community now," she shares with a smile.

### UNHCR INDIA WORKS ON THE PROTECTION OF REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

- **The Government of India and relevant public institutions**
- **United Nations (UN):** UNHCR is a member of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and contributes to the India-United Nations Sustainable Development Framework (UNSDF) for 2023-2027.
- **Formal partnership agreements with 8 national NGOs:** ActionAid (AA), Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Bosco Organization for Social Concern and Operation (BOSCO), Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI), Development and Justice Initiative (DAJI), Gandhi National Memorial Society (GNMS), Modern Architects for Rural India (MARI), and Socio-Legal Information Centre (SLIC).



### SUPPORTING THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE IN INDIA

UNHCR is grateful for contributions by:



**Belgium**  
partner in development



In partnership with  
**Canada**



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**European Union**  
Humanitarian Aid



**For more information contact:** Dhruv Vijay Maroo | Communications Associate | [maroo@unhcr.org](mailto:maroo@unhcr.org)

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