

INDIA

September 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.



47,418 refugees and asylum seekers registered with UNHCR India

308 individuals received RSD decisions



94 individuals departed to Canada, Australia, USA through complementary pathways programmes

33 individuals voluntarily repatriated

134 departures to Australia, Canada and the USA



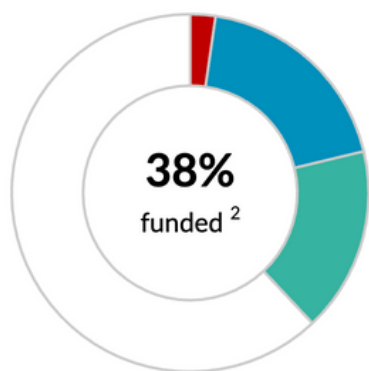
39 individuals placed for work in the hospitality, retail, and IT sectors

2,157 students attended accelerated learning programmes

FUNDING AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

USD 21.7 million

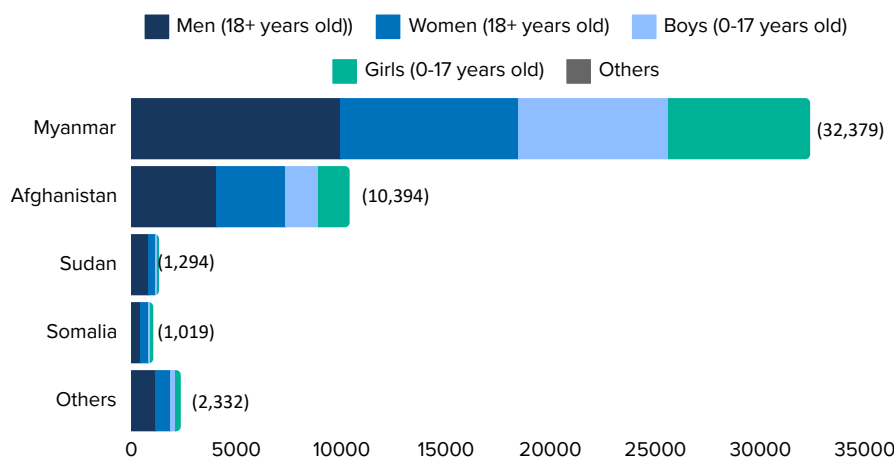
Requested for India in 2024



■ Tightly earmarked
 ■ Earmarked
 ■ Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
 ■ Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
 ■ Funding gap (indicative)

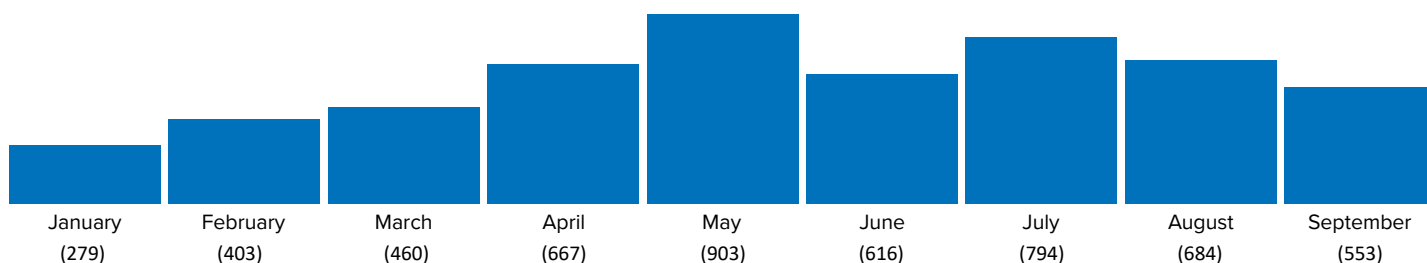
REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2024






Country/Territory of Origin



NEW ASYLUM SEEKER REGISTRATIONS

Month



Sector	Response	Location
 Registration and RSD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 553 individuals registered with UNHCR. • 308 individuals received RSD decisions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New and continuous registrations conducted in New Delhi, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Pune, Bangalore, and Chennai.
 Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,157 students attended accelerated learning programmes such as bridge and tuition classes conducted by UNHCR's partners. • 246 children at risk received psycho-social counselling support. • 530 girls and boys reached out through recreational sessions on various themes as part of a strategy to encourage holistic development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accelerated learning programmes conducted in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Jaipur, Bangalore, Telangana, Jammu, Punjab, Mewat • Recreational sessions organized in Delhi, Jammu and Telangana.
 Livelihood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 39 refugees and asylum-seekers placed in informal jobs in the retail, hospitality, and IT sectors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals placed in Delhi and Mewat.
 Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 801 refugees and asylum seekers benefitted from 33 Health Awareness Campaigns. • 519 refugees provided with referral services and access to government health facilities. • 447 participants reached through 27 sensitization sessions on gender-based violence and 79 provided with psycho-social counselling support. • 596 refugee and asylum seeker women and adolescent girls supported with menstrual hygiene kits and dignity kits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Awareness Campaigns conducted in Delhi, Aligarh, Mathura, Mewat, and Hyderabad. • Gender-based violence sensitization sessions conducted in Delhi, Jaipur, Hyderabad, Jammu, and Bangalore. • Menstrual hygiene and dignity kits distributed in Delhi, Mewat, Aligarh, Mathura, Dera bassi.
 Solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 94 individuals departed on complementary pathways. • 134 individuals departed by way of resettlement to third countries. • 33 individuals returned home through voluntary repatriation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departure through resettlement and complementary pathways programmes to Australia, Canada and the USA. • Voluntary repatriation to Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Yemen, Islamic Republic of Iran, and Ethiopia.

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



Meet Saifullah - the renewable energy advocate

Saifullah, a 32-year-old refugee from Myanmar, has been living in Harmada, India since 2012. After fleeing from the conflict in his home country, he continued to develop his interest in electrical circuitry through his everyday interaction in the recycling yard. His interest in circuitry became pivotal when he was selected for a 15-day solar energy training programme organized by UNHCR's partner. This training aimed to equip the young refugees with skills on climate technology and green entrepreneurship.

With his pragmatic thinking and a better understanding of solar panels' functionality, Saifullah repaired a discarded solar panel and repurposed parts of mobile phones from the recycling yard to build a fully functional solar generator in his aunt's house in Harmada, India. This self-project provided essential light and charging stations, significantly improving the quality of life for his family.

For a self-taught participant like Saifullah, this training imparted advanced working knowledge of solar power. The participants of the training learned about solar panel installation, system maintenance, and energy management. The training also included a field visit to a solar panel manufacturing plant, which gave them a practical understanding of solar power generation.

This training equipped Saifullah and other participants with valuable concepts of solar energy and gave him the confidence to embrace his natural aptitude to make impactful contributions to his community. Saifullah is a representation of how refugees provided with opportunities for education and skills development have the potential to contribute to their host countries.

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:



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