

# INDIA

November 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.



**47,212** refugees and asylum seekers registered with UNHCR India

**223** individuals received RSD decisions



**68** individuals departed to Canada, Australia, USA through complementary pathways programmes

**13** individuals voluntarily repatriated

**129** departures to Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States of America.



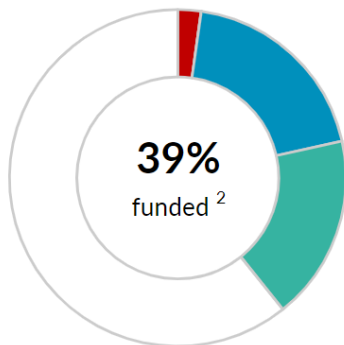
**56** individuals placed for work in the hospitality, retail, and IT sectors

**2,848** students attended accelerated learning programmes

## FUNDING AS OF 30 NOVEMBER 2024

**USD 21.7 million**

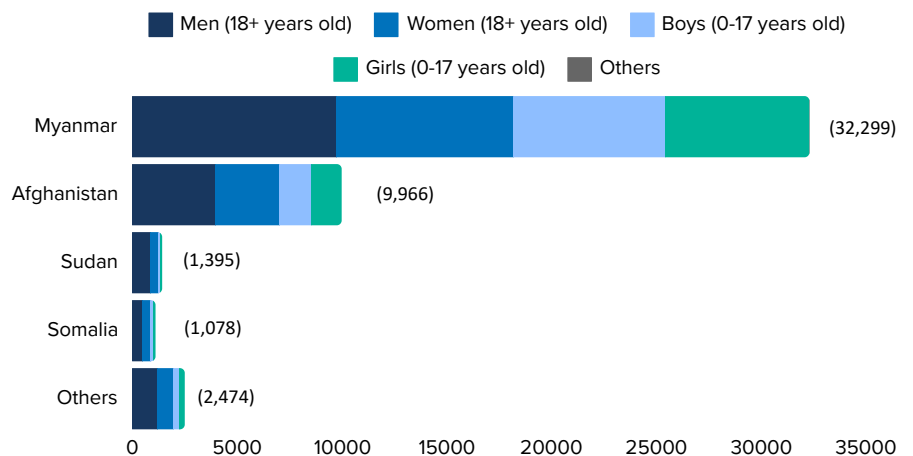
Requested for India in 2024



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

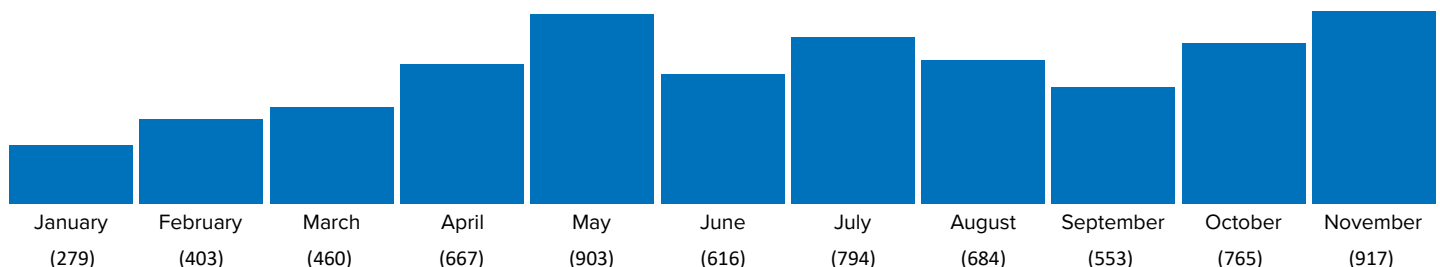
## REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS AS OF 30 NOVEMBER 2024






Country/Territory of Origin



## NEW ASYLUM SEEKER REGISTRATIONS

Month



Sector	Response	Location
 <b>Registration and RSD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>917</b> individuals registered with UNHCR.</li> <li>• <b>223</b> individuals received RSD decisions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New and continuous registrations conducted in New Delhi, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Pune, Bangalore, and Chennai.</li> </ul>
 <b>Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2,848</b> students attended accelerated learning programmes such as bridge and tuition classes conducted by UNHCR's partners.</li> <li>• <b>469</b> children at risk received psycho-social counselling support.</li> <li>• <b>1,448</b> girls and boys reached out through recreational sessions on various themes as part of a strategy to encourage holistic development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accelerated learning programmes conducted in Delhi/NCR, Jaipur, Mewat, Jammu, Hyderabad, Derabassi, Aligarh, Mathura.</li> <li>• Recreational sessions organized in during the UNCRC Week's Children's day celebration.</li> </ul>
 <b>Livelihood</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>56</b> refugees and asylum-seekers placed in informal jobs in the retail, hospitality, and IT sectors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individuals placed in Delhi.</li> </ul>
 <b>Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>643</b> refugees and asylum seekers benefitted from <b>22</b> Health Awareness Campaigns.</li> <li>• <b>576</b> refugees provided with referral services and access to government health facilities.</li> <li>• <b>1,964</b> participants reached through <b>75</b> sensitization sessions on gender-based violence and <b>120</b> provided with psycho-social counselling support.</li> <li>• <b>700</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, Aligarh, Hyderabad.</li> <li>• Gender-based violence sensitization sessions conducted in Delhi, Hyderabad, bangalore, Jammu, Mewat and Derabassi.</li> <li>• Menstrual hygiene and dignity kits distributed in Delhi/NCR, Mewat, Aligarh, Mathura, Dera Bassi.</li> </ul>
 <b>Solutions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>68</b> individuals departed on complementary pathways.</li> <li>• <b>129</b> individuals departed by way of resettlement to third countries.</li> <li>• <b>13</b> individuals returned home through voluntary repatriation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Departure through resettlement and complementary pathways programmes to Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States of America.</li> <li>• Voluntary repatriation to Sri Lanka and , Afghanistan.</li> </ul>

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



## Refugee women take charge of their security

“It’s not necessary that the attacker is from outside; he can be inside our homes as well. Nobody will come to save me—I have to save myself,” said Ruqiya Begum, a refugee woman living in India, who has faced and overcome several situations where she felt unsafe physically.

Across the world, more than 60 million women and girls like herself, who are forcibly displaced or stateless, face high risks of gender-based violence.

Gender-based violence (GBV) remains prevalent among women from refugee communities, Ruqiya, along with 46 other refugee women gathered at UNHCR partner, BOSCO- run centre, women from Afghan, Myanmar, Somali, Congolese, and Ugandan communities came together for a transformative experience where women took control of their security and learned how to protect themselves against violence in an uncertain world.

Through activities like spotting differences in pictures or navigating their surroundings blindfolded, the women realized how a few moments of attentiveness could mean the difference between safety and harm.

“Ruqiya’s courage reminded us that fear can be overcome, and we are stronger than we think,” shared Amy Aung, a participant who firmly believes in women’s independence.

The session also addressed modern threats like cybercrime, which disproportionately affect women and girls. The participants gained insights into how to protect their digital lives and shared tips with one another about staying safe online.

Early and effective GBV prevention and response measures are life-saving and life-changing.

[Click here](#) to read the full story.

### 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



Funded by  
**European Union**  
Humanitarian Aid



**For more information contact:** Rama Dwivedi | Assistant External Relations Officer | [indneer@unhcr.org](mailto:indneer@unhcr.org)

**Connect with us:** [UNHCR India Website](#) | [UNHCR India Help](#)

**To follow UNHCR India publications, please scan the QR code:**

