

# INDIA

February 2025

## 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 2025, resilience building, and self-reliance remain top priorities in furthering UNHCR's efforts to support refugees and asylum seekers.



**47,183** refugees and asylum seekers registered with UNHCR India

**140** individuals received RSD decisions



**25** individuals departed to Canada and Australia, through Complementary Pathway programmes

**12** individuals voluntarily repatriated

**32** departures to third country



**48** individuals supported through placement in the hospitality, retail, and IT sectors

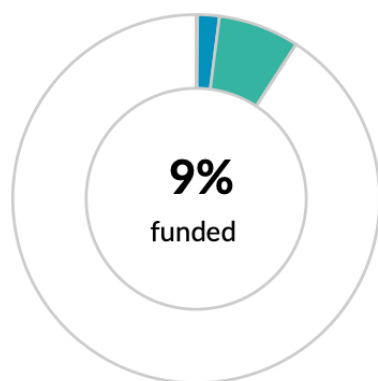


**5,356** benefitted from educational services which includes remedial and bridge classes, support for enrolment in formal education structures

## FUNDING AS OF 28 FEBRUARY 2025

**USD 17.3 million**

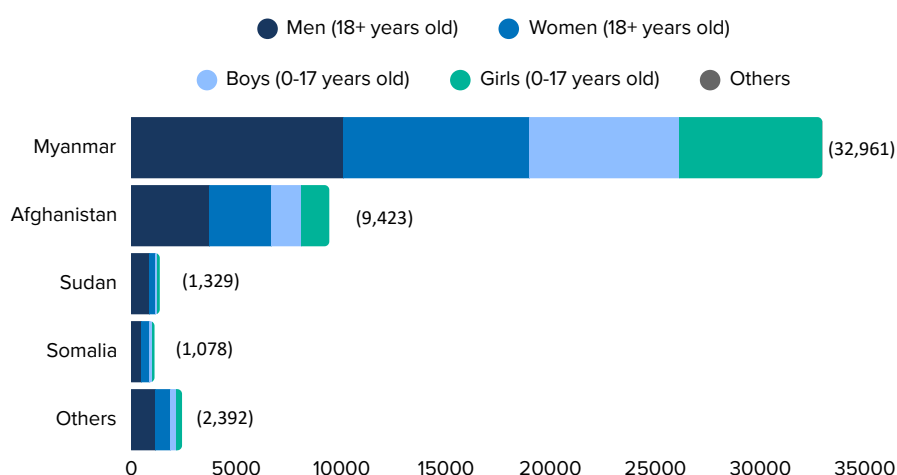
Requested for India in 2025



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

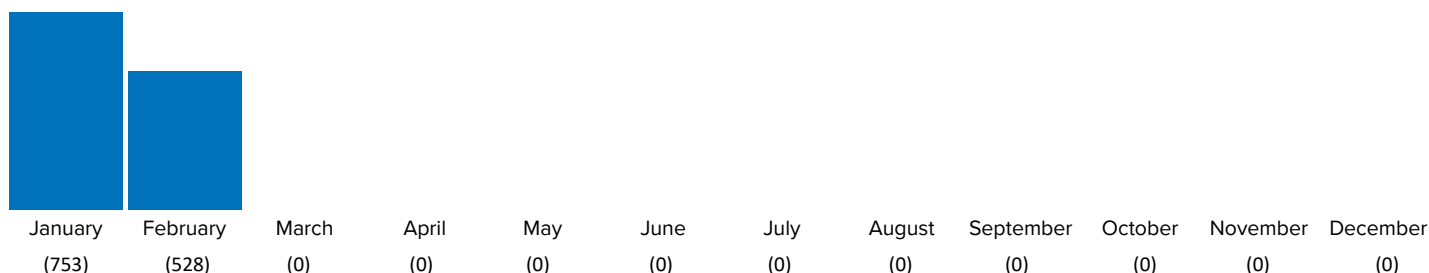
## REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS AS OF 28 FEBRUARY 2025






Country/Territory of Origin



## NEW ASYLUM SEEKER REGISTRATIONS

Month



Sector	Response	Location
 Registration and RSD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>528</b> individuals registered with UNHCR</li> <li>• <b>140</b> individuals received RSD decisions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New and continuous registrations conducted in New Delhi and National Capital Region (NCR), Hyderabad, Jaipur, Pune, Bangalore, and Chennai</li> </ul>
 Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>5,356</b> benefitted from educational services which includes informal structures such as remedial and bridge classes; support for enrolment in formal structures such government school and National Institute of Open Schooling admissions.</li> <li>• <b>414</b> youths participated in <b>18</b> awareness sessions on 'Child rights and child labour'</li> <li>• <b>55</b> individuals benefitted from <b>3</b> life skills sessions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education programmes conducted in Delhi/NCR, Jaipur, Hyderabad, Jammu, Derra Bassi</li> <li>• Youth awareness sessions conducted in Delhi/NCR</li> <li>• Life skill lessons conducted in Delhi and Hyderabad</li> </ul>
 Livelihood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>48</b> refugees and asylum-seekers supported with placements in informal jobs in the retail, hospitality, and IT sectors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Placement drive conducted in Delhi/NCR</li> </ul>
 Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>189</b> refugees and asylum seekers benefitted from <b>2</b> health awareness campaign</li> <li>• <b>322</b> refugees provided with referral services and access to government health facilities</li> <li>• <b>84</b> Gender-based violence survivors supported with psychosocial, legal, security/safety, medical, shelter response.</li> <li>• <b>1,502</b> children and caregivers received child protection services like psychological counselling, legal support and alternative care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health awareness campaign conducted in Dera Bassi</li> <li>• Gender-based violence survivors supported in Mewat, Delhi/NCR, Pune, and Hyderabad</li> <li>• Child protection services for caregivers provided in Jammu, Mewat, Bangalore, Delhi/NCR and Hyderabad</li> </ul>
 Solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>25</b> individuals departed on Complementary Pathways</li> <li>• <b>32</b> individuals departed by way of Resettlement</li> <li>• <b>12</b> individuals were supported with Voluntary Repatriation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Departure through Resettlement and Complementary Pathways programmes to Canada, Australia</li> <li>• Voluntary Repatriation to Sri Lanka, and Afghanistan</li> </ul>

\*the report reflects response figures only from the reporting period - February 2025

## Integrating refugee protection into education

Loyola College and Women's Christian College in Chennai, India, are the first institutions to adopt an academic curriculum on "Refugees, Statelessness, and Mixed Migration" developed jointly by the Loyola Institute of Social Science Training and Research (LISSTAR), Loyola College, the Tamil Nadu Dr Ambedkar Law University (TNDALU), and UNHCR. This aims to deepen students' understanding of the dynamics of forced displacement, the rights of refugees and stateless persons and approaches to empowering refugees and building resilience.

Developed through a consultative process involving over 70 academicians from various state universities in Tamil Nadu, the curriculum is designed for students studying law, political science, international relations, and English literature. It has been presented to arts and science universities and colleges across Tamil Nadu for approval, with Loyola College and Women's Christian College set to implement it in the upcoming academic year.

Dr. Bernard D'Sami, the workshop coordinator and Senior Fellow at LISSTAR, highlighted the curriculum's focus on refugee resilience: "Learners at the UG and PG levels will explore the causes and consequences of forced migration and the legal protections available. Importantly, the curriculum emphasizes the resilience and strength demonstrated by refugees."

This initiative aligns with the Global Compact on Refugees adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2018, promoting multi-stakeholder cooperation and a whole-of-society approach to addressing the needs of displaced communities. The curriculum's introduction in the 2025-2026 academic year marks a significant step in integrating refugee studies into higher education, fostering empathy and understanding among students.

"Specialized courses like these enable students to develop a profound understanding of displacement issues. Education is indeed a powerful tool for social change," said a workshop participant while calling for a better understanding and empathy among students on refugee issues.



### 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



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