

INDIA

September 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.



48,839 refugees and asylum seekers registered with UNHCR India as of 31 September 2025

133 individuals received RSD decisions



88 individuals departed to Canada, USA, Australia and other countries through Complementary Pathway programmes

11 individuals Voluntarily Repatriated

21 individuals departed to third countries on Resettlement



30

individuals supported through placements in the hospitality, retail, and IT sectors

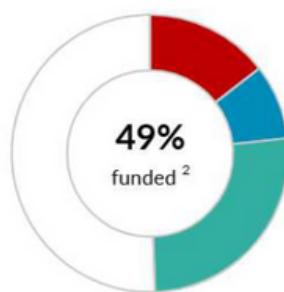
4,226

benefitted from educational services including remedial and bridge classes, support for enrolment in formal education structures

FUNDING AS OF 31 September 2025

USD 17.3 million

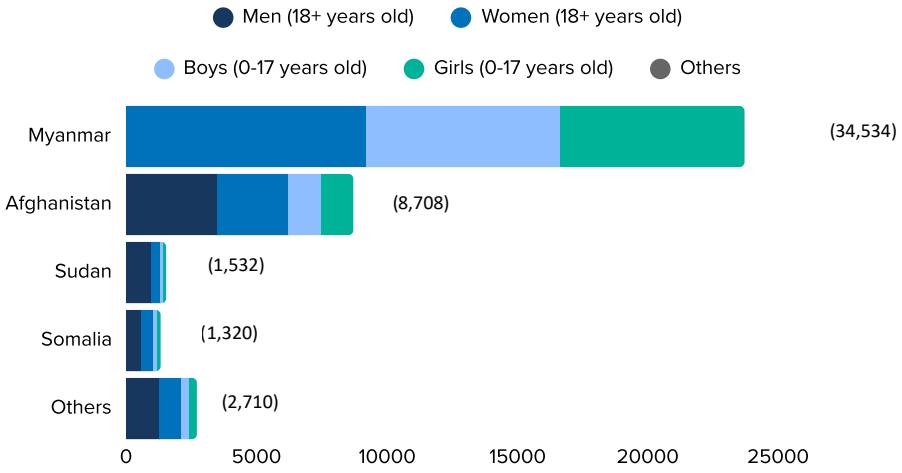
Requested for India in 2025



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

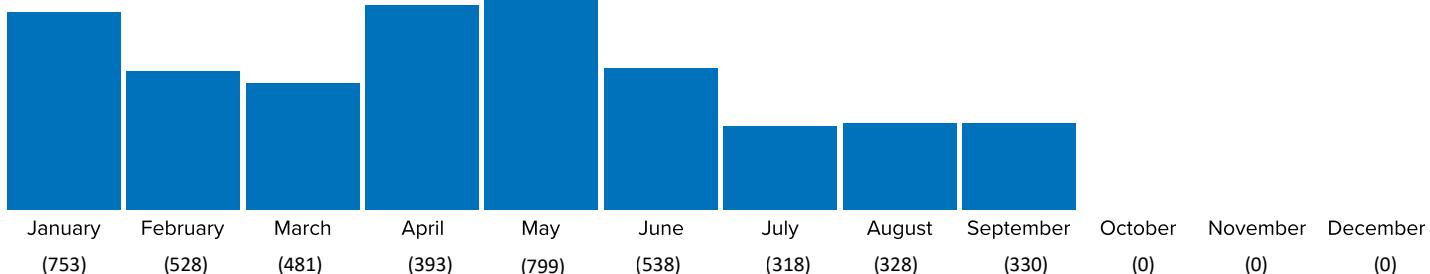
REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS AS OF 31 September 2025

Country/Territory of Origin



NEW ASYLUM SEEKER REGISTRATIONS

Month



Sector	Response	Location
 Registration and RSD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 330 individuals registered with UNHCR • 133 individuals received RSD decisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New and continuous registrations conducted in New Delhi and National Capital Region (NCR), Hyderabad, Jaipur, Pune, Bangalore, and Chennai
 Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,226 individuals benefitted from educational services through informal structures such as remedial and bridge classes; support for enrolment in government schools and through the National Institute of Open Schooling admissions • 1,708 children participated in community-based child protection programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education programmes conducted in Delhi/NCR, Jaipur, Hyderabad, Jammu, Derra Bassi and Mewat • Community-based child protection programmes conducted in Delhi/NCR, Jammu, Jaipur, Mewat, Hyderabad
 Livelihood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 refugees and asylum-seekers supported with placements in informal jobs in the retail, hospitality, and IT sectors • 9 individuals supported with self-reliance activities such as micro grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placements in Mewat in construction, hospitality, service and tailoring sectors • Livelihood skill development trainings conducted across Delhi/NCR, Jammu, Jaipur, Mewat
 Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 671 refugees and asylum seekers benefitted from 17 health awareness campaigns • 387 refugees provided with referral services and access to government health facilities • 95 Gender-based violence survivors supported with psychosocial, legal, security/safety, medical, shelter response. • 1,702 children and caregivers received child protection services like psychological counselling, legal support and alternative care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender-based violence survivors supported in Mewat, Delhi/NCR, Jammu, Pune, Hyderabad and Goa • Child protection services for caregivers provided in Jammu, Mewat, Delhi/NCR, Jaipur, Punjab, Hyderabad and Pune
 Solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 88 individuals departed on Complementary Pathways • 21 individuals departed by way of Resettlement • 11 individuals were supported with Voluntary Repatriation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departure through Resettlement and Complementary Pathways programmes to Canada, USA and Australia • Voluntary Repatriation to Afghanistan, Iraq, Yemen, Cameroon and Syria

A Taste of Hope: Livelihood opportunities are helping Rohingya youth build new futures

A livelihood initiative in Nuh is helping Rohingya refugee youth gain dignity, identity and hope through meaningful work.



Rohingya youth at Sufra are rebuilding their lives with dignity and strengthening the community in the process. September 2025 © UNHCR India

“Cooking gives me identity.” For 24-year-old Abdul Rehman, these words reflect not just his love for preparing food, but the sense of purpose he has discovered at Sufra Restaurant along the Nuh–Alwar highway. Known across the Mewat region for its flavourful dishes and warm service, Sufra is also where young Rohingya refugees are rebuilding their lives through opportunity and trust. Since 2021, 13 refugee youth have been employed here through UNHCR’s livelihood programme in Nuh, facilitated by the implementing partner Action Aid, turning the restaurant into a pathway to dignity.

Abdul arrived in India in 2013 and proudly calls himself a chef — a role that strengthens his confidence and identity. His journey mirrors that of other refugee youth at Sufra. Jahangir, who fled Myanmar at the age of 12, works tirelessly in the kitchen and uses most of his modest income to support his ailing father, despite living with the constant fear of detention. His wife, Zuhara, separated from her family for seven years after arriving as a minor, hopes for safety and continuity for their children.

For Shahid Noor, a father of three, work at Sufra brings stability and pride as his children attend school. With UNHCR’s support, refugee youth at Sufra are gaining skills, confidence and independence — demonstrating that when refugees are given opportunity, they contribute and strengthen the communities around them.

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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