

INDIA

November- December 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.

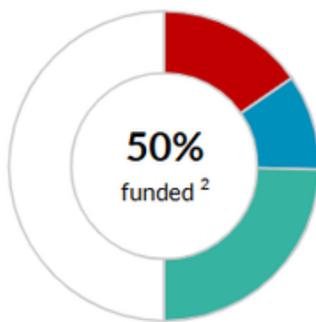
Snapshot for the Year 2025



FUNDING AS OF 31 December 2025

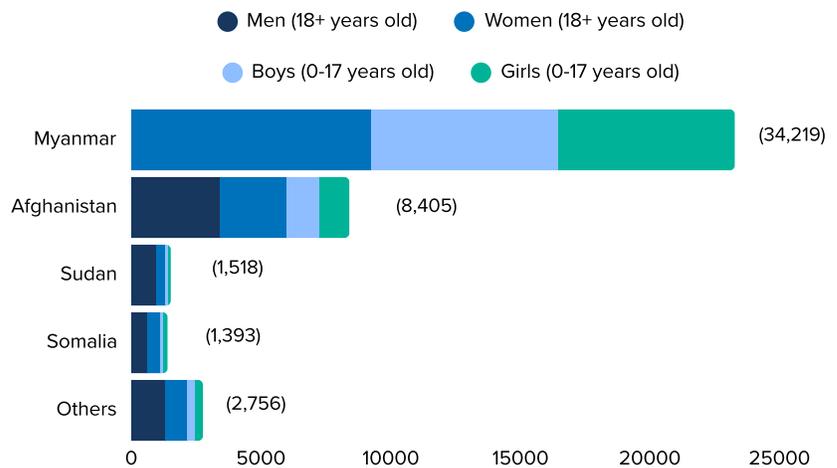
USD 17.3 million

Requested for India in 2025



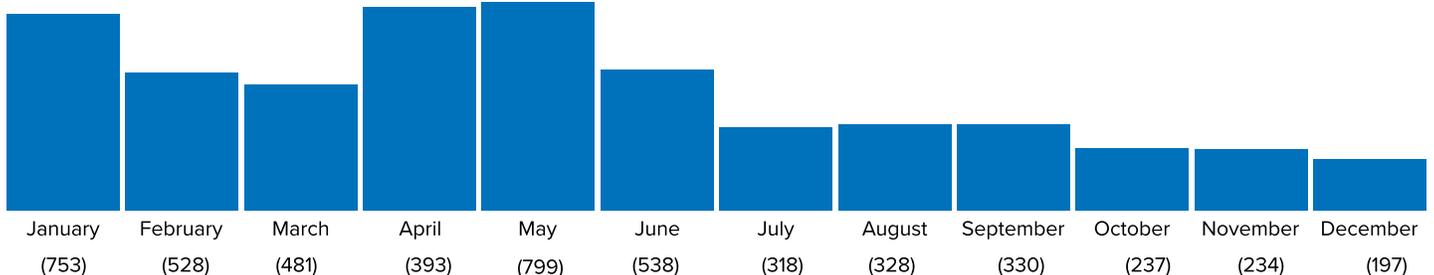
REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS AS OF 31 December 2025

Country/Territory of Origin



NEW ASYLUM SEEKER REGISTRATIONS 2025

Monthly



Key Achievements November- December 2025

Sector	Response	Description
 Registration and RSD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 434 individuals registered with UNHCR • 152 individuals received RSD decisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registrations mainly from Myanmar (35% Rohingya, 21% Chin and 1% from other communities)
 Livelihood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 54 refugees and asylum-seekers supported with placements in informal jobs in the retail, hospitality, and IT sectors • 10 individuals supported with self-reliance activities such as micro grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placements in hospitality, retail, service, manufacturing and food-beverage sectors • Micro grants to refugees in service sector and livestock
 Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3420 people benefitted from specialized GBV programmes focussed on 16 days activism • 106 Gender-based violence survivors supported with psychosocial, legal, securit/safety, medical, shelter response. • 1886 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, Punjab, Hyderabad and Jaipur. • 16 days activism programme on theme “End Digital Violence against All Women and Girls” was conducted by implementing partners. It focused on raising awareness about digital violence, empowering youth and communities with online safety skills, and strengthening collective commitment to creating respectful and secure digital spaces. • Child protection services for children and caregivers provided in Jammu, Mewat, Delhi/NCR, Jaipur, Punjab, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Goa and Pune
 Solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 183 individuals departed on Complementary Pathways • 22 individuals were supported with Voluntary Repatriation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departure through Complementary Pathways programmes to Canada, Australia and USA • Voluntary Repatriation to Afghanistan, Yemen and Cameroon

UNHCR Marks 75 Years of Protection, Solutions and Hope in India



A moment of unity as we came together to commemorate 75 years of UNHCR ©unhcrindia

On 16 December 2025, UNHCR marked its 75th anniversary at UN House in New Delhi through a celebration of art, culture, and community. The event brought together diplomatic representatives, UN agencies, civil society partners, donors, and refugee communities to reflect on decades of protection and solutions for people forced to flee.

Founded in 1950 after World War II, UNHCR's mandate is to safeguard refugees and seek durable solutions to displacement. At the anniversary event, Ms. Areti Sianni, Chief of Mission, UNHCR India, emphasized the enduring relevance of UNHCR's principles—humanity, shared responsibility, and international protection—in a time of record global displacement. She highlighted India's long-standing tradition of offering refuge and the strong partnerships between UNHCR, the Government of India, civil society, host communities, and refugees themselves.

Ms. Cynthia McCaffrey, UN Resident Coordinator a.i. in India, reaffirmed the UN's collective commitment to protecting displaced populations and advancing solutions.

The cultural program featured refugee artists and youth, with performances of traditional dance, music, group singing, and poetry. A moving poem titled Hope by an Afghan refugee poet captured themes of resilience and dignity. A photo exhibition and handicraft stalls showcased refugee journeys and enterprises, including Embroidery Without Borders initiative, a collaboration between Afghan and Indian women artisans fostering sustainable livelihoods and cross-cultural exchange with the support of Indian Institute of Crafts and Design (IICD), Jaipur

The event concluded with networking, allowing participants to engage directly with refugee artists and entrepreneurs. The commemoration highlighted that protection is not only about policies but about people—their stories, cultures, talents, and aspirations—a message central to UNHCR's 75 years of work globally and in India.

Read the full story on our website : [Link](#)

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:



For more information contact: indneer@unhcr.org

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