

Pakistan: PoR Card Registration Update—2017 (Jan-Apr)





Overview

Proof of Registration (PoR) cards are important identity documents that provide temporary legal stay and freedom of movement in Pakistan for the 1.41 million registered Afghan refugees in Pakistan. Currently the PoR cards which have expired at the end of 2015 have been extended through official notification until the end of 2017^{*}.

Five PoR Card Modification centres (PCM) - located in Peshawar, Quetta, Lahore, Karachi and Rawalpindi and four Mobile Registration Vans (MRVs) deployed in KP, Balochistan and Punjab support the modification/replacement of existing cards, registration of new born children up to age five, provision of PoR cards to registered children who have reached five years of age and are now entitled to their own cards as well as the issuance of birth certificates to children under the age of 18.

A major decrease of applicants for PCM centre services was observed during the reporting month compared to March 2017; 25,000 applicants availed registration services (43% decrease compared to March 2017). This was mainly due to the closure of PCM operations at VRC Chamkani.

In 2017, UNHCR's target is for the registration of 60,000 new births, as well as the issuance of approximately 90,000 birth certificates. The target for the issuance of individual PoR cards is 150,000 children who have reached five years of age and are eligible to receive their individual cards from the PCM centres.**

The annual target for birth registration has been surpassed within the first four months of 2017. UNHCR is working on revising this target during the month of May which will be reflected in the next PoR card update.

*The PoR cards have been extended until **the end of 2017** by the Federal Cabinet in its meeting of 7 February 2017, as part of the recommendations for the management policy of Afghans in Pakistan.



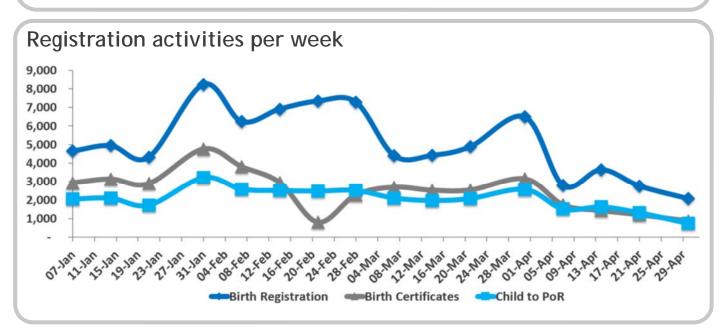
Refugees availed registration services

81,329 *(135.5%) Birth registrations

39,633 *(44.0%) Birth certificates

> 33,032 *(22.0%)

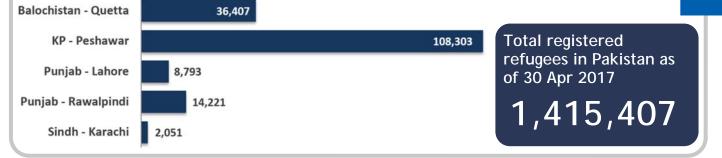
PoR cards for children reaching five years of age



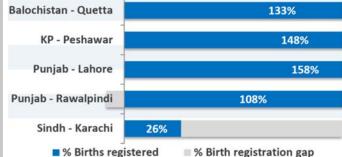
** Percentages are based on estimates of 60,000 new born children requiring registration and 150,000 children who have reached five years of age and are now entitled to their own PoR card (children below 5 are listed on the back of one of their parents' cards). 90,000 children require birth certificates.



Registration activities summary by location - Jan-Feb 2017



Birth registrations

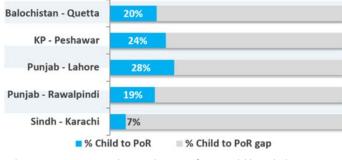


Above percentage presented against the target of 60,000 new births during 2017 Birth certificates

Balochistan - Quetta	9.9%
KP - Peshawar	55.3%
Punjab - Lahore	17.9%
Punjab - Rawalpindi	78.0%
Sindh - Karachi	17.8%

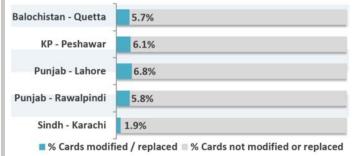
■ % Births Certificate issued ■ % Birth Certificate issuance gap

Above percentage presented against the target of 90,000 birth certificates Provision of PoR cards to registered children that have reached 5 years of age



Above percentage presented against the target of 150,000 children who have reached five years

Card modification / replacement



The following charts summarise the progress towards these targets and the remaining gaps.

The percentages for birth registrations, birth certificate issuance and provision of PoR cards to registered children that have reached five years of age are based on the estimates noted on page 1. These overall targets have been apportioned to each centre based on the size of the Afghan refugee population for which the centre provides services.

During the month of April, the trend in registration activities decreased significantly compared to those in March 2017 at all PCM centres countrywide (around 11,000 children were registered in April 2017 at all the PCM centres and through MRVs countrywide compared to 20,000 in the month of March 2017). This is attributed to the suspension of PCM operational activities at VRC Chamkani as the facility has concluded the PCM operations from 22 March 2018 and has resumed VRC operations from 3 April 2017.

In 2017, based on cost-benefit analysis with PCM centres and discussions on the best interests for persons of concern, UNHCR will continue to deploy 3 Mobile Registration Vans (MRVs) in KP (four months), Balochistan (four months) and in Punjab (four months). The deployment of MRVs has been very successful in 2016. During the reporting month, two MRVs were operational in KP, one in Punjab and one in Balochistan to assist refugees living in far flung areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab and Balochistan.

The only challenge to the MRVs is the fact that birth certificates were not able to be issued due to operational/ technical reasons. NADRA assured UNHCR that all those children who are registered through MRVs will receive their birth certificate when parents collect their modified PoR card from the nearest PCM centre. Efforts are being made by UNHCR and NADRA to minimize these gaps by ensuring the deliverance of the birth certificates to the families visiting the PCM centre.

39,633 birth certificates were issued between January and April 2017. The trend of issuing birth certificates were slightly increase at the Quetta PCM during the reporting period.

From 1 January to 30 April 2017, **2,889** lost or stolen cards were replaced. Deaths of refugees continue to be significantly underreported. Only **157** deaths were registered/ reported between January and April 2017.