



Overview

The Proof of Registration (PoR) card is an important protection tool that is issued by Government of Pakistan and provides temporary legal stay and freedom of movement for the 1.4 million registered Afghan refugees in Pakistan. All the PoR cards that expired at the end of 2015 have been extended through official notification until 30 June 2019*.

The four PoR Card Modification centres (PCM) are located in Peshawar, Quetta, Karachi and Rawalpindi. These centres are used for the modification and replacement of existing cards; the registration of infants and children up to the age of five years; the issuance of new cards for eligible children who are five years and older; and the issuance of birth certificates to children under the age of 18.

In 2019, UNHCR prioritised funds for birth registration and the issuance of birth certificates to 70,000 children. The target for the issuance of individual PoR cards is 170,000 children who have reached five years of age and are eligible to receive their individual cards from the PCM centres.

Registration activities remained slow in February 2019. In February, a slight decrease of applicants for PCM centre services was observed. During the reporting month some 2,413 applicants availed registration services (6 % decrease compared to January 2019). This is attributed to seasonal weather conditions as the majority of individuals are reluctant to travel to process their card for modification during the winter season.

*PoR cards have been extended until the end of June 2019 by the Federal Cabinet in its meeting of 2 October 2018.

** The issuance of birth certificates is temporarily suspended by NADRA HQ. UNHCR is following-up with NADRA HQ to resolve the issue on a priority basis.

Year to date, 2019

6,690

Refugees availed registration services (Cases processed + Birth registration)

1,723
(1.91%)

Birth registrations

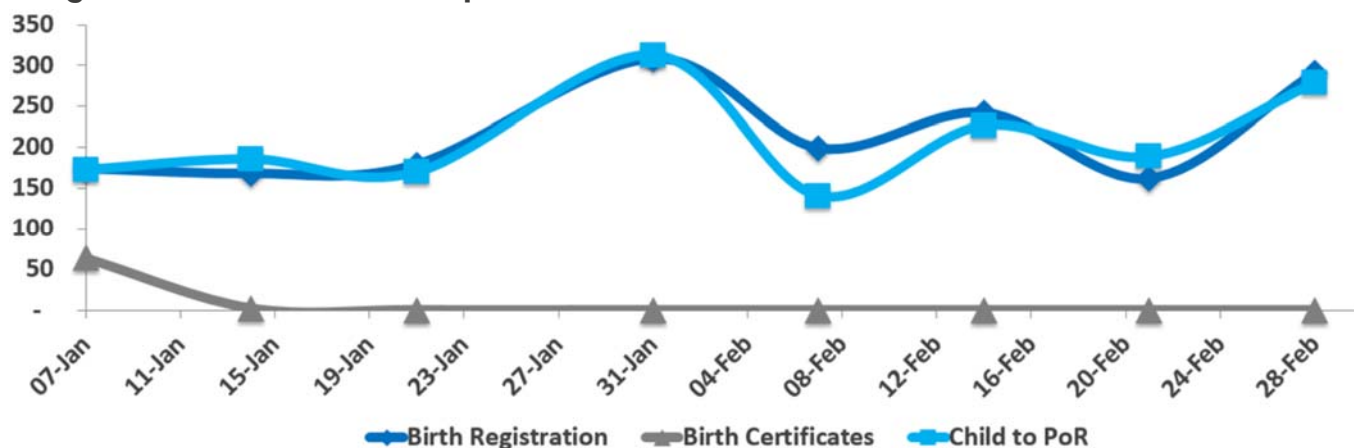
66
(0.09%)

Birth certificates**

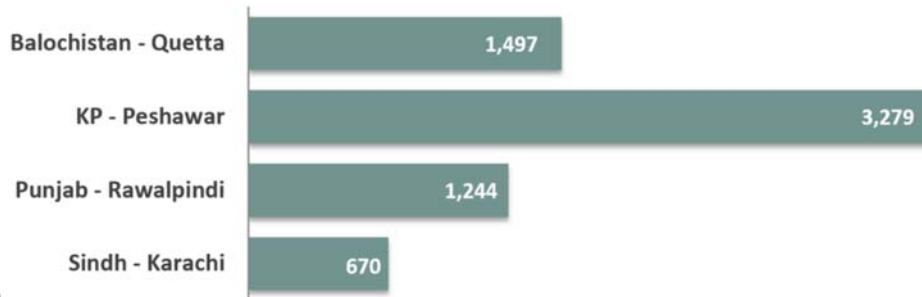
1,678
(1.29%)

PoR cards for children reaching above five years of age

Registration activities per week



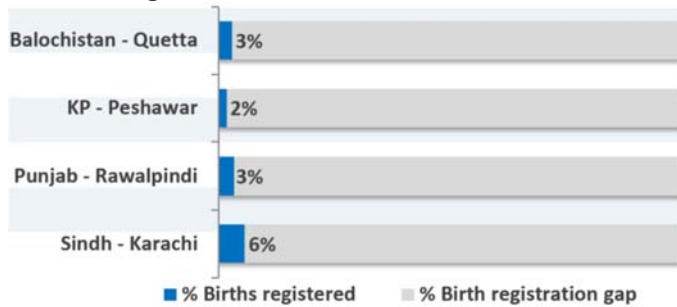
Registration activities summary by location - January–February, 2019



Total registered refugees in Pakistan as of 28 February 2019

1,401,952

Birth registrations



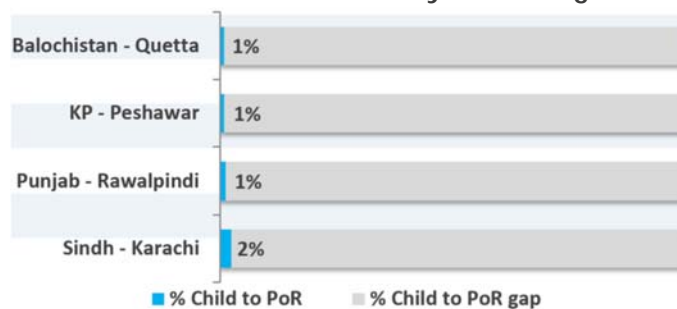
Above percentage presented against the target of 70,000 new births during 2019

Birth certificates



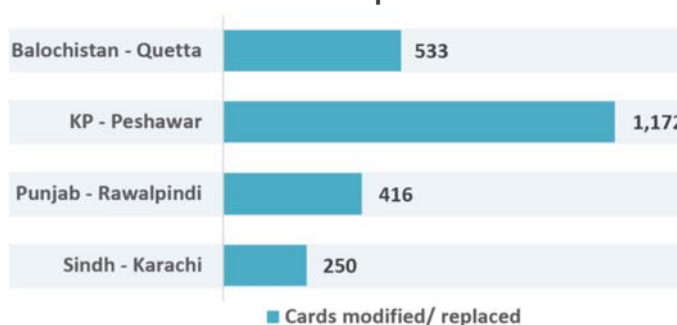
Above percentage presented against the target of 70,000 birth certificates

Provision of PoR cards to registered children that have reached above 5 years of age



Above percentage presented against the target of 170,000 children who have reached five years

Card modification / replacement



Cards modification includes changes to Name, Father Name, Gender and Marital status and it does not entail an annual target.

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 February, the trend in child registration activities increased slightly compared to those in January 2019 at all PCM centres countrywide (a total of 894 children were registered in February 2019 at all the PCM centres countrywide compared to 829 in the month of January 2019).

In 2019, 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, Balochistan and in Punjab (for a period of four months each). The deployment of MRVs was very successful in 2018. Mobile Registration Van provides services for applicants living in remote areas of KP, Punjab and Balochistan, facilitating those who can't afford to travel to PCM centres. In last week of February, Mobile Registration Van operations have commenced in Punjab and Balochistan province.

During February, birth certificate issuance remained suspended. The issuance of birth certificates is temporarily suspended by NADRA HQ. The reason of the suspension is that NADRA HQ has made changes in the template and they are seeking formal endorsement from the Ministry of Interior/CCAR. UNHCR is following-up with NADRA HQ to resolve the issue on a priority basis.

It should be noted that the trend for PoR card modifications will naturally follow that of birth registrations and the provision of PoR cards to children over five. This is because children are added or removed from their parents' cards, and their parents' cards will need to be modified.

From 1 January to 28 February 2019, 912 lost or stolen cards were replaced. Deaths of refugees continue to be significantly underreported. Only 6 deaths were registered/reported between January to February 2019.