Pakistan: Afghan Refugees Registration Update | As 31st of October, 2018









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 1.39 million registered Afghan refugees in Pakistan. The PoR cards 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 (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.

As of 5 March 2018, the Lahore PCM centre suspended its activities and the centre has been closed.

In 2018, the target for UNHCR's prioritized funds for the registration of 90,000 new births has been revised to 50,000 births as fewer Afghan PoR cardholders approached the PCM centre in the first half of the year then was expected. The target for the issuance of birth certificates has also been revised from 90,000 to 50,000 birth certificates whereas the target for the issuance of individuals with PoR cards has been revised from 130,000 children to 90,000 children who have reached five years of age and are eligible to receive their individual cards from the PCM centres.

A total of 6,310 applicants availed themselves of the PCM centre services in October 2018 compared to 5,498 applicants in September 2018, a slight increase (15%) in activities has been observed at all PCM centres countrywide. This is attributed to the ongoing MRV operations in far flung areas of

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



Jan-Oct, 2018

67,041

Refugees availed registration services (Cases processed + Birth registration)

> 22,364 (44.7%)

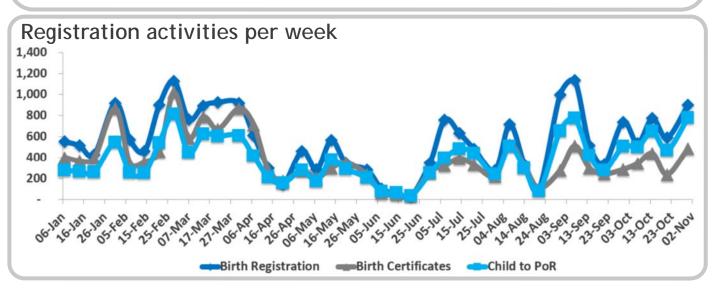
Birth registrations

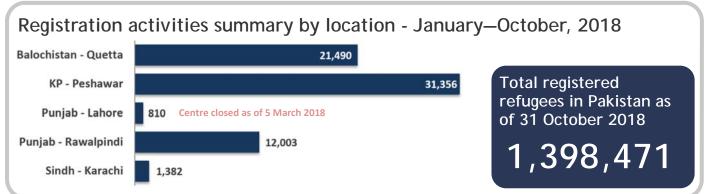
15,429 (30.8%)

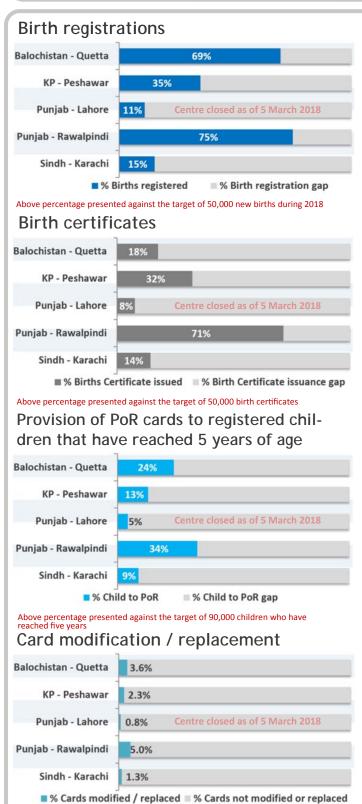
Birth certificates

15,527 (17.2%)

PoR cards for children reaching five years of age







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 October, registration activities increased slightly compared to those in September 2018 at all PCM centres and MRVs countrywide (a total of 2,804 children were registered in October 2018 at all the PCM centres countrywide and three MRVs compared to 2,725 in the month of September 2018).

After the closure of PCM centre Lahore, PCM Rawalpindi is providing services to the applicants residing in Lahore and its surroundings. Access for the applicants residing in these areas will also be facilitated with an MRV deployment for a specific period of time in 2018.

UNHCR will continue to deploy three MRVs countrywide. Each MRV will be deployed for four months in KP, Balochistan and in Punjab.

The four months MRV operations were concluded in KP province successfully in the month of October. During the MRV deployment in KP, a total of 8,043 applicants were processed. MRV operations continued in Balochistan and Punjab province during October and it will remain continue by end of November 2018.

A total of 3,884 applicants were processed from the three MRVs in KP, Balochistan and Punjab during the month of Oc-

In addition, one Mobile Delivery Van (MDV) has been deployed in Punjab province starting from 11 September for the delivery of modified cards which were processed by the MRV in 2018. The deployment of the Mobile Delivery Van was successful and it has distributed a total of 2,279 modified cards in far flung areas of Punjab.

A total of 15,429 birth certificates were issued from 1 January to 31 October 2018 from all PCM centres and MRVs.

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

From 1 January to 31 October 2018, 5,107 lost or stolen cards were replaced. Deaths of refugees continue to be significantly under-reported. Only 25 deaths were registered/ reported between January to October 2018.