## Pakistan: Afghan Refugees Registration Update | As 30<sup>th</sup> of November, 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 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.

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. 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 2,885 applicants availed themselves of the PCM centre services in November 2018 compared to 6,310 applicants in October 2018, a significant decrease (54%) in activities has been observed at all PCM centres countrywide. This is attributed to the closure of MRV operations in far flung areas of Balochistan province.

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



(Å Jan-Nov, 2018

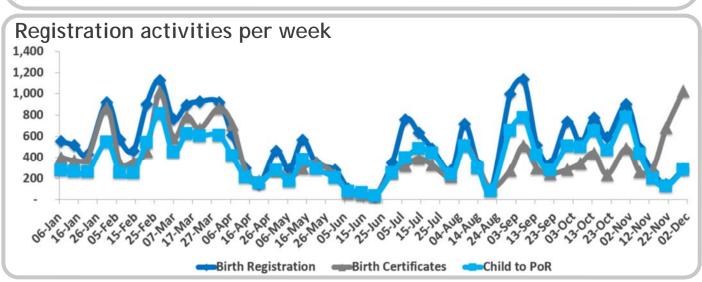
## <u>71,112</u>

Refugees availed registration services (Cases processed + Birth registration)

23,550 (47.1%)Birth registrations

7,701 (35.4%) **Birth certificates** 

16,561 (18.4%)PoR cards for children reaching five years of age



Data Source: Afghan National Registration Database (ANR) - 2018

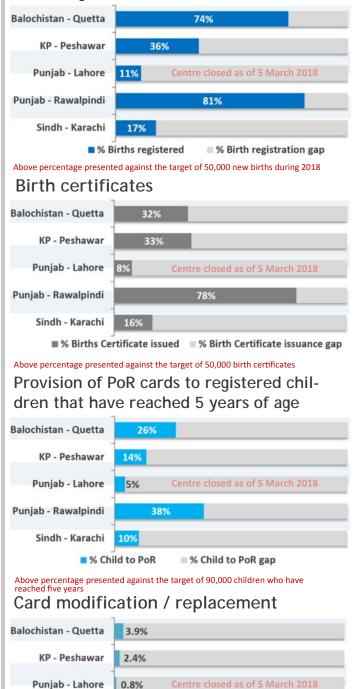
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Registration activities summary by location - January-November, 2018



## **Birth registrations**



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 November, registration activities decreased significantly compared to those in October 2018 at all PCM centres and MRVs countrywide (a total of 1,186 children were registered in November 2018 at all the PCM centres countrywide and by two MRVs. This is compared to 2,804 in the month of October 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.

The four month MRV operation were concluded in Balochistan province successfully in the month of November. During the MRV deployment in Balochistan, a total of 6,410 applicants were processed. MRV operations continued in Punjab province during November and it will remain continue by end of December 2018.

A total of **958** applicants were processed from the two MRVs in Balochistan and Punjab during the month of November.

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 remote areas of Punjab. In addition, MDV operations have also commenced in Balochistan on 20 November 2018 and it will remain operational until 28 December 2018.

A total of **17,701** birth certificates were issued from 1 January to 30 November 2018 from all PCM centres and MRVs.

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 30 November 2018, 5,544 lost or stolen cards were replaced. Deaths of refugees continue to be significantly under-reported. Only 27 deaths were registered/ reported between January to November 2018.

% Cards modified / replaced % Cards not modified or replaced

Data Source: Afghan National Registration Database (ANR) - 2018

5.5%

1.5%

Punjab - Rawalpindi

Sindh - Karachi

For feedback : Čontact Information Management Unit: Jaber@unhcr.org / Zahoor@unhcr.org More information available on UNHCR: data portal, <u>https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/pak</u> | website: <u>http://www.unhcrpk.org</u>