



Overview

Proof of Registration (PoR) cards are important tools of protection that provide temporary legal stay and freedom of movement for the 1.39 million registered Afghan refugees in Pakistan. PoR cards which have expired at the end of 2015 have been extended through official notification until 30 June 2018*.

Four PoR Card Modification (PCM) centres - located in Peshawar, Quetta, Karachi and Rawalpindi support the modification/replacement of existing cards, the registration of new born children up to the age of five, the provision of PoR cards to registered children who have reached five years of age and who are now entitled to their own cards, as well as the issuance of birth certificates to children under the age of 18 years old.

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

In 2018, UNHCR has prioritised funds for the birth registration and the issuance of birth certificates to 90,000 children. The target for the issuance of individual PoR cards is 130,000 children who have reached five years of age and are eligible to receive their individual cards from the PCM centres.**

In March, a slight increase of applicants for PCM centre services was observed during the reporting month compared to those in February 2018; some 6,300 applicants availed registration services (16% increase compared to February 2018). This is attributed to the start of Mobile Registration Van (MRV) operations in Haripur district.

*PoR cards have been extended until the end of June 2018 by the Federal Cabinet in its meeting of 20 February 2018, pending SAFRON submission of a Repatriation plan at which time a further extension will also be considered.



Jan-Mar, 2018

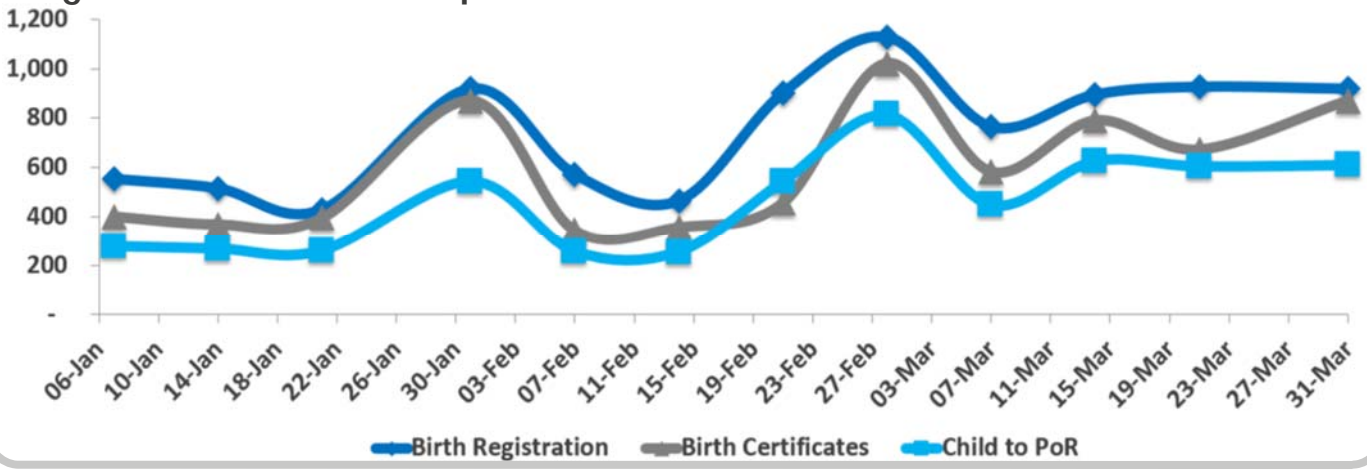
25,190
Refugees availed registration services (Cases processed + Birth registration)

8,987 (9.9%)
Birth registrations

7,128 (7.9%)
Birth certificates

5,503 (4.2%)
PoR cards for children reaching five years of age

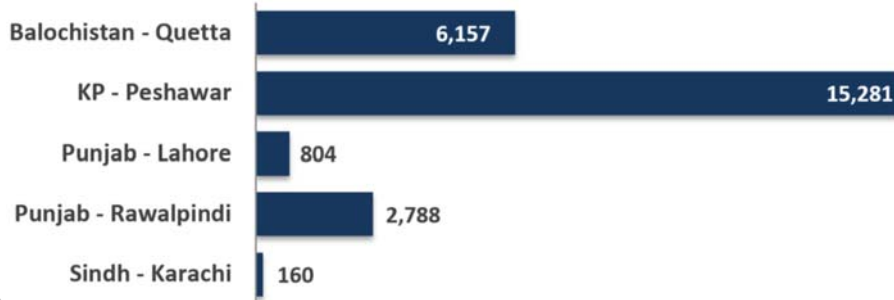
Registration activities per week



** Percentages are based on estimates of 90,000 new born children requiring registration and 130,000 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.



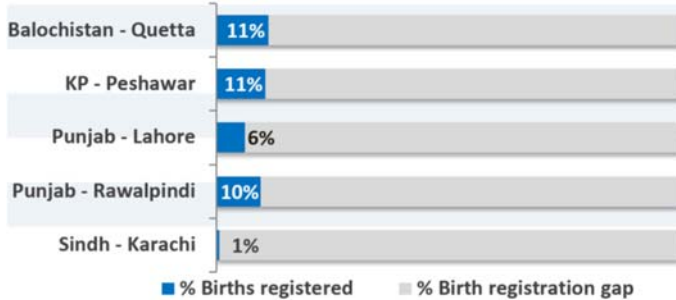
Registration activities summary by location - January–March, 2018



Total registered refugees in Pakistan as of 31 March 2018

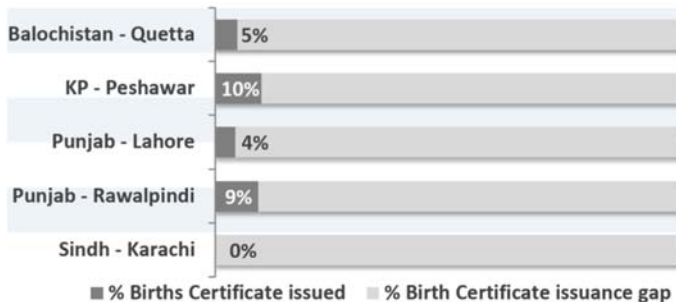
1,396,772

Birth registrations



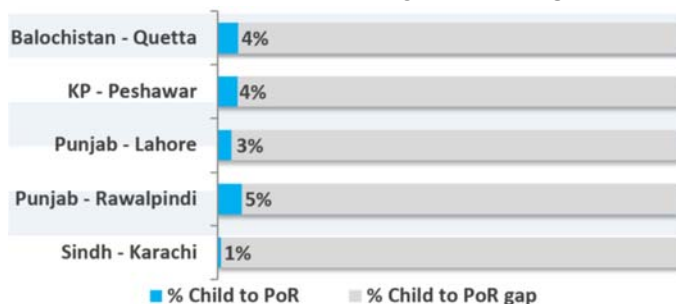
Above percentage presented against the target of 90,000 new births during 2018

Birth certificates



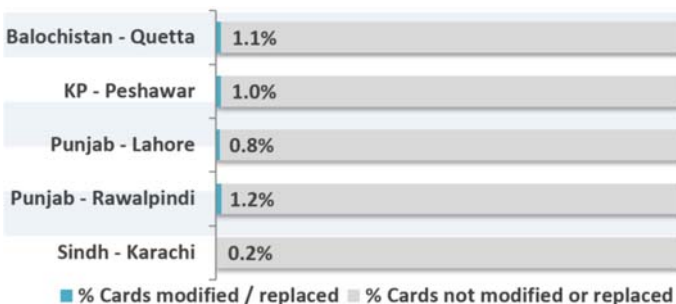
Above percentage presented against the target of 90,000 birth certificates

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



Above percentage presented against the target of 130,000 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 March, the trend in registration activities increased slightly compared to those in February 2018 at all PCM centres countrywide and one MRV deployed in Haripur district (around 3,500 children were registered in March 2018 at all the PCM centres countrywide and one MRV compared to 3,100 in the month of February 2018).

In 2018, based on cost-benefit analysis with PCM centres and discussions on the closure of PCM centre located in Lahore district, it was mutually agreed among all the stakeholders that the Lahore PCM centre will be closed from 5 March 2018 and all those Afghans who want to avail PCM services in the future they will facilitate through the deployment of MRV either PCM centre located in Rawalpindi.

UNHCR will continue to deploy 3 MRVs in KP (four months), Balochistan (four months) and in Punjab (four months).

During the reporting month, MRV operations started in Haripur district for a period of one month after the successful completion of MRV deployment in Mansehra district. MRV deployed in Haripur district also had the provision of issuing birth certificates at the time of registration. In Haripur district MRV was managed to process a total of 2,257 applicants and 1,195 birth certificates was also issued through the MRV.

7,128 birth certificates were issued during the reporting period from all PCM centres and one MRV.

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. Therefore, their parents' cards will also need to be modified.

From 1 January to 31 March 2018, 1,883 lost or stolen cards were replaced. Deaths of refugees continue to be significantly under-reported. Only 18 deaths were registered/reported between January to March 2018.