



Overview

Proof of Registration (PoR) card is an important protection tool that provides 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 September 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 has suspended its activities and the centre has been closed effective from 5 March 2018.

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 a low trend of Afghan approaching PCM centre was observed during first half of the year. This may be attributed to the improved protection space for Afghan refugees in Pakistan. 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 4,360 applicants availed themselves of the PCM centre services in July 2018 compared to 1,436 applicants in June 2018, a sudden increase (2 times) in activities has been observed at all PCM centres countrywide. This is attributed to the launch of MRV operations in far flung areas of Pakistan as well as MRV deployment in Hazara Town, Quetta as due to the security situation in Quetta, they prefer to be processed through MRVs.

**PoR cards have been extended until the end of September 2018 by the Federal Cabinet in its meeting of 30 June 2018, pending SAFRON submission of a Repatriation plan at which time a further extension will also be considered.*



Jan–Jul, 2018

43,091

Refugees availed registration services (Cases processed + Birth registration)

**14,682
(29.3%)**

Birth registrations

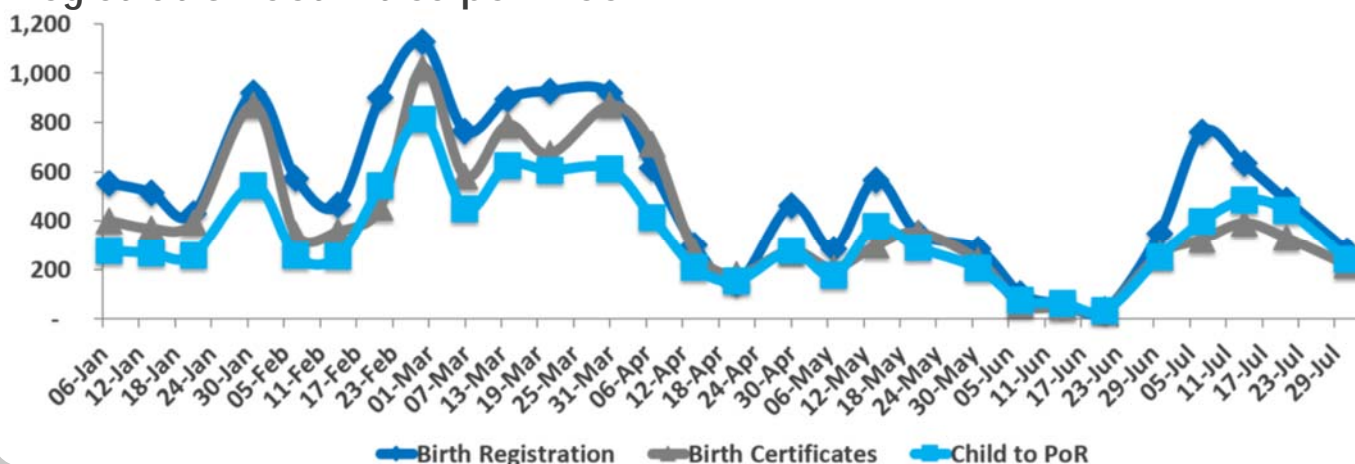
**11,345
(22.6%)**

Birth certificates

**9,596
(10.6%)**

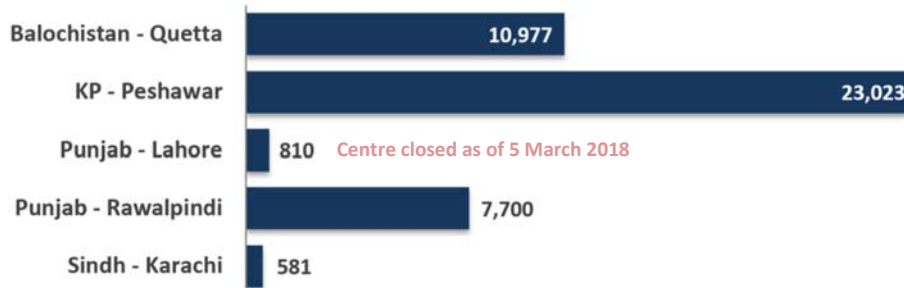
PoR cards for children reaching five years of age

Registration activities per week



** While UNHCR prioritized funds for the registration of 90,000 children, the target has been decreased to 50,000 (originally envisioned at the beginning of the year) was approximately only 12,528 birth have been registered at PCM centres and MRVs as of the end of June. The target for the issuance of birth certificates is also decreased from 90,000 to 50,000 as only 10,080 birth certificates have been issued from the PCM centres and MRVs as of the end of June.

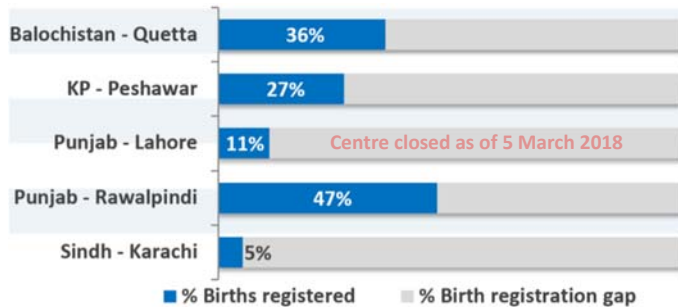
Registration activities summary by location - January–July, 2018



Total registered refugees in Pakistan as of 31 July 2018

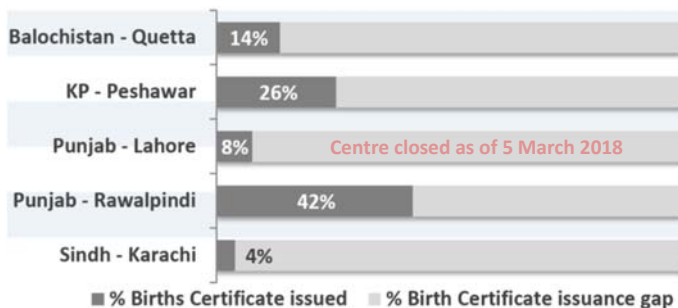
1,394,367

Birth registrations



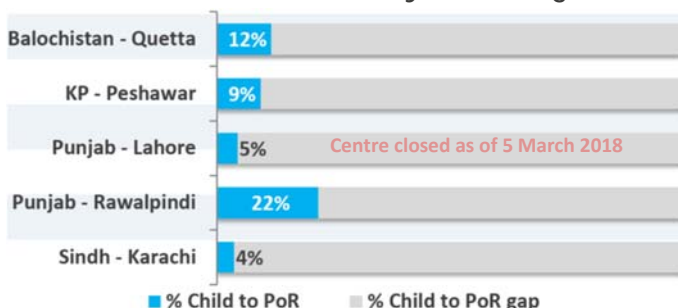
Above percentage presented against the target of 50,000 new births during 2018

Birth certificates



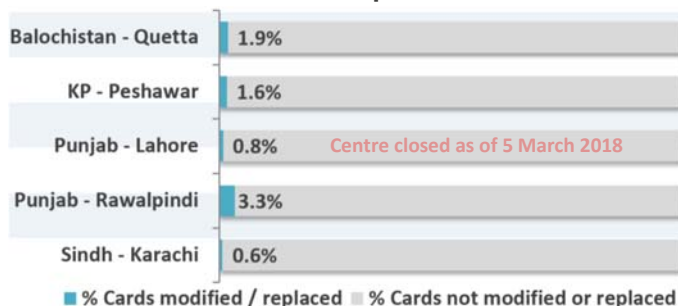
Above percentage presented against the target of 50,000 birth certificates

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



Above percentage presented against the target of 90,000 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 July, the trend in registration activities increased significantly compared to those in June 2018 at all PCM centres and MRVs countrywide (a total of 2,127 children were registered in July 2018 at all the PCM centres countrywide and two MRVs compared to 539 in the month of June 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 3 MRVs countrywide. Each MRV will be deployed for four months in KP, Balochistan and in Punjab.

During the reporting month, MRV operations continued in KP (Kohat), Balochistan (Hazara Town Quetta) and Punjab (Lahore) province. The three MRVs in KP, Balochistan and Punjab were managed to process a total of 2,217 applicants during the month of July. A total of 668 birth certificates were also issued through the MRVs. MRV operations was suspended for one week during July due to the countrywide National Electoral process.

A total of 11,345 birth certificates were issued from 1 January to 31 July 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. Therefore, their parents' cards will also need to be modified.

From 1 January to 31 July 2018, 3,576 lost or stolen cards were replaced. Deaths of refugees continue to be significantly under-reported. Only 22 deaths were registered/ reported between January to July 2018.