



Overview



From Jan–Aug 2017

Proof of Registration (PoR) cards are important identity documents that provide temporary legal stay and freedom of movement in Pakistan for the 1.39 million registered Afghan refugees in Pakistan. Currently the PoR cards which have expired at the end of 2015 have been extended through official notification until the end of 2017*.

Five PoR Card Modification (PCM) centres - located in Peshawar, Quetta, Lahore, Karachi and Rawalpindi and four Mobile Registration Vans (MRVs) deployed in KP, Balochistan and Punjab support the modification/replacement of existing cards, the registration of new born children up to age five, the provision of PoR cards to registered children who have reached five years of age and are now entitled to their own cards as well as the issuance of birth certificates to children under the age of 18.

A slight decrease in applicants for PCM centre services has been observed with 2,700 applicants availing themselves of registration services during the reporting period (representing a 31% decrease compared to July 2017). This is attributed to Eid preparation during the month.

In 2017, UNHCR prioritized funds for the registration of 60,000 children. The target has been increased to 120,000 as approximately 84,000 births had been registered at PCM centres and MRVs at the end of April. The target for the issuance of birth certificates is 90,000 birth certificates. The target for the issuance of individual PoR cards is 150,000 children who have reached five years of age and are eligible to receive their individual cards from the PCM centres.**

There is a significant gap between number of birth registered and issuance of birth certificates which is mainly due to the limited resources available at PCM centre in Quetta. It also relates to the child registration through MRVs which do not have facilities to issue birth certificate at the time of registration. UNHCR is in continuous follow-up with NADRA to minimize this gap.

During the reporting period, NADRA has completed the backlog of printing of modified cards. All printed cards have been made available at all the PCM centres for the onward delivery to the applicants. UNHCR has requested NADRA to deploy the Mobile Delivery Van (MDV) facility for the delivery of the cards to the applicants living in far flung areas of KP and Balochistan. Many applicants are not showing-up at the centres to collect their cards as majority of them have to travel long distance for which the deployment of MDV will be beneficial for the delivery of all the pending cards at their door step.

*The PoR cards have been extended until the end of 2017 by the Federal Cabinet in its meeting of 7 February 2017, as part of the recommendations of the comprehensive policy for Afghans in Pakistan.

Please note that the infographic only reports on birth registration and birth certificates issuance activities at PCM centres and MRVs.

198,555

Refugees availed registration services

93,134

*(77.6%)

Birth registrations

50,748

*(56.3%)

Birth certificates

39,206

*(26.1%)

PoR cards for children reaching five years of age

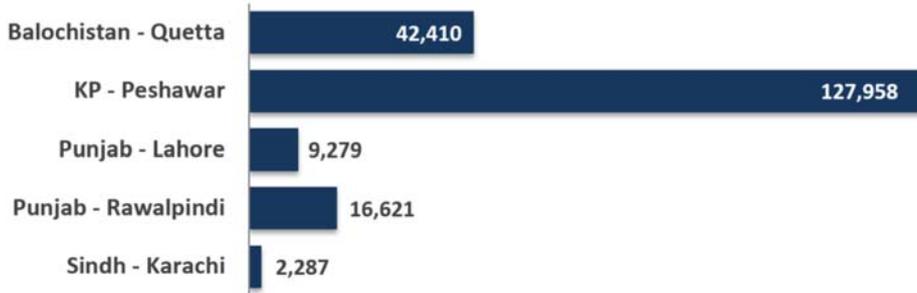
Registration activities per week



** Percentages are based on estimates of 120,000 new born children requiring registration and 150,000 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.



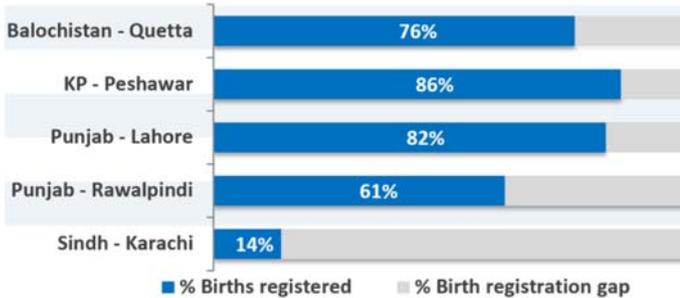
Registration activities summary by location - Jan–August 2017



Total registered refugees in Pakistan as of 31 August 2017

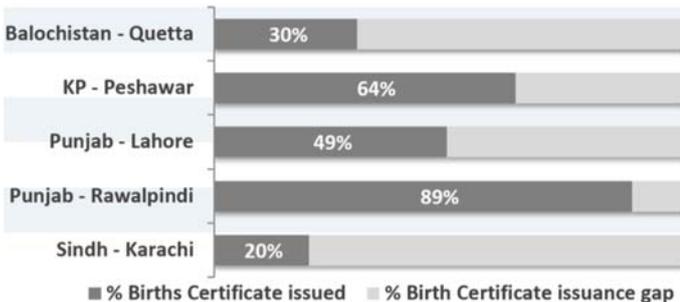
1,392,234

Birth registrations



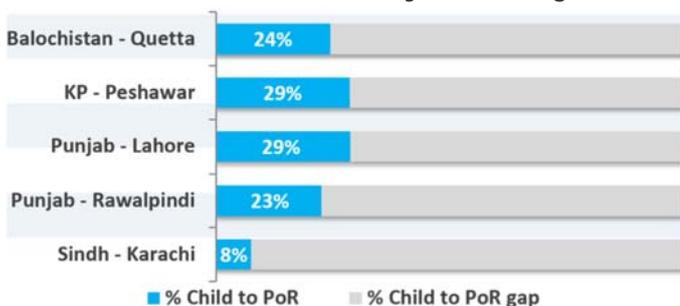
Above percentage presented against the target of 120,000 new births during 2017

Birth certificates



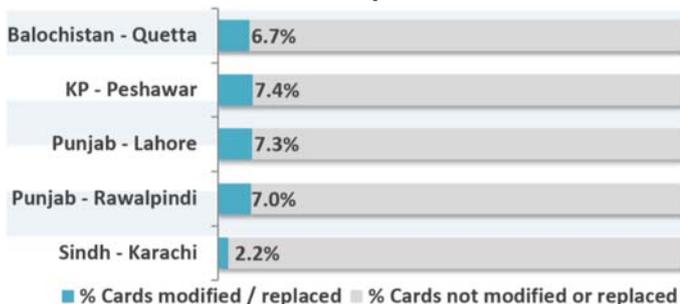
Above percentage presented against the target of 90,000 birth certificates

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



Above percentage presented against the target of 150,000 children who have reached five years

Card modification / replacement



The following charts summarises the progress towards these targets and the remaining gaps.

UNHCR Pakistan's overall country outputs against the targets of birth registration, birth certificate issuance and provision of PoR cards to registered children that have reached five years of age are going smoothly and will be fully achieved by the end of the year. 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 the month of August, the trend in registration activities decreased slightly compared to those in July 2017 at all PCM centres countrywide (around 1,600 children were registered in August 2017 at all the PCM centres countrywide compared to 2,300 in the month of July 2017). This is attributed to the Eid preparation during the month.

50,748 birth certificates were issued between January and August 2017. UNHCR Sub Office Quetta has taken initiative to issue the birth certificates to all the registered children who did not collect their birth certificate at the time of registering their child. Due to this the trend of issuing birth certificates is continuous to be increased at the Quetta PCM during the reporting period.

In 2017 MRV operations were conducted for six months in KP, Balochistan and Punjab province.

The only challenge to the MRVs is the fact that birth certificates were not able to be issued due to operational/technical reasons. NADRA assured UNHCR that all those children who are registered through MRVs will receive their birth certificate when their parents collect their modified PoR cards from the nearest PCM centre. Efforts are being made by UNHCR and NADRA to minimize these gaps by ensuring the deliverance of the birth certificates to the families visiting the PCM centres.

From 1 January to 31 August 2017, 4,726 lost or stolen cards were replaced. Deaths of refugees continue to be significantly underreported. Only 179 deaths were registered/ reported between January and August 2017.