

National Data Based & Registration Authority (NADRA)

History:-

The National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), commonly called NADRA is an independent and autonomous agency under the control of the interior secretary of Pakistan that regulates government database and statistically manages the sensitive registration database of all the national citizens of Pakistan.

National Database Organization (NDO) was established under ministry of interior as an attached department to undertake the function of handing the data being collected through national data. Forms during the population census 1998, which was conducted from 2nd to 18th march 1998. National Data Forms (NDFS) were designed by a committee of expert encompassing maximum social and facial indicators as implements for future planning, documentation of economy and for creation of a comprehensive Citizens, Database. To cater for a cohesive and unified approach in both registration and social fields NADRA was created on **10th march 2000** by emerging the national database organization (NDO) and Directorate General of Registration. NADRA is an independent corporate body with requisite autonomy to remain free of political pressure and intervention for all times to come.

Objectives

- To develop a national data warehouse scalable enough to grow systematically with newly interfaced database of user/ feeder agencies.
- To develop a national information infrastructure for online and country-wide access national data warehouse in the shape of Pakistan intranet
- To develop a national spatial data warehouse infrastructure to facilities establishment of a comprehensive geographic and land information system in Pakistan.
- To prepare national identity document for all persons including citizen foreigners, immigration, etc. as fellows.
- To prepare new computerized national identity cards for all citizens of Pakistan.
- To prepare national identity cards for all overseas Pakistanis include Pakistanis with dual national or Pakistan origin national living abroad.
- To prepare card for all those Pakistanis working abroad.
- To prepare identity cards for the employed foreigners living in, Pakistan, refugees, and Alien registration cards for a aliens residing in a waiting decision on their legal status, under the supervisor of NADRA (National Alien Registration Authority).
- To register and issue certificate of all births and death at national level.
- Register within its preview all persons and things, wherever and whatever they may be, to the extent and in the manner laid down in NADRA Ordinance 2000 (thing or things means and include all animates or inanimate things plants, animals, substance, items, concepts, ideas, laws, customs, qualities, signs, symbols, circumstances, affairs, events,

acts, deeds, works, transactions, documents, pieces of movable or immovable property, tangible or intangible property, rights, privilege, duties, entities, living or non-living beings other than a human being and anything that can be processed, or owned, or explained, whether known or unknown).

- The development and establishment of an improved and modernized system of registration in the country through appropriate means including technologically advanced, effective and efficient means like computerized automation, creation database, data warehousing, networking, interfacing of database and related facilities and services.
- Each entity is registered independently.

Responsibility

NADRA is responsible for preparation of population register. Prior to the establishment of NADRA the director of registration was responsible for those works under the national registration Act, 1973. In 1997 an organization was established for preparation of national data base called National Database Authority (NDA) who collected first time field based information about all individuals living in Pakistan as on 5th March 1998 that is the census date. Later on in 2000 those two agencies were merged to form a new organization known as National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA).

NADRA is basically responsible for registering every citizen in or out of Pakistan who has attained the age of eighteen years and a parent or guardian of every citizen who has not attained of eighteen years (clause 4 of the act).

It is the responsibility of individual concerned to report to the authority for immediate registration of event just after its occurrence but in case of death no later than sixty days (clause 7 of the act).

For implementation of the scheme National Registration Rules were introduced and notified in 1975 where in detailed procedures are given.

Data Collection Methodology

Every citizen of Pakistan who has attained the age of 18 years is required to report to the district registration authority for registering him/herself and get National Registration Cards and belong that the age citizens it is the duty of his/her parent or guardian to register his/her name and registration form.

As part of this arrangement they have mobile squads that are helping people living in remote and inaccessible areas of the country for registration.

Legal position

NADRA is empowered under president's Ordinance no .VIII of 2000 to established the national database & registration authority so as the facilities the registration of all person in establishment and maintained of multipurpose database, Data Warehouse, networking interfacing of databases and related facilities.

Under the ordinance NADRA must esurience provide for the due security, secrecy and necessary safeguard for the protection of database information and shall perform and exercise any other power as may be by entrusted to or vestiges in the Authority by Federal Government? NADRA is authorized to seek advice for carrying its work.

It is further authorized to charge fees, and other sums for its services to cause residence studies, survey, experiments and other investigation.

Scope and Limitations of NADRA

Like HMIS (Health Management Information System) National Database & Registration Authority is an integrated system of mutual data transmission among the coordinating organization. There is symbiotic relationship between NADRA and government, NGO,s and privatize organizations.

One organization acts as source of data and its benefitted from it at the same time. The data available at NADRA terminals would insurance smooth planning, and meaningful implementation of all governmental policies and projects, leading to good governance, a cherished dream of every Pakistani.

Data assured developmental projects would future ensure economy and optimum utilization of funds. The major advantage of computerized data may be the elimination of bogus entries and duplication of records. Bogus and duplicate registration is one of the major causes of wide spread corruption in both government and private transactions.

The centralized issuance of identity cards based on authentic citizens data available at a centralized database, will encounter corruption, terrorism, and narcotics problems. It may also help in automated generation of authentic voter's lists, essential to conducting transparent and faire election.

Population demographics available at the National Data Warehouse may help in perspective planning and monitoring of medical and educations centers, water supply, utilities, and sanitation facilities, etc., throughout the country.

National Data Warehouse may be able to provide updated statistics to the planning commission and other provincial and federal ministries and department, and authorized development agencies.

Data on population demographics will facilitate effective resources allocation of the development budget of federal, provincial and local governments. The National Database may be helpful in controlling the illegal immigration and related social problem and will also enhance the authenticity of Pakistani passports.

Illegal immigration has led to numerous social problems including those of unemployment and increased crime time. These problems as well as illegal immigration can be effectively controlled if authenticated computerized citizen data are available.

1. The goals set by the NADRA seem to be more idealistic. The sophisticated integrated coordination will be at the mercy of number of factors including the infrastructures and internal managerial capabilities of all the feeder and user agencies.

NADRA itself is in a stage of infancy and it is struggling for survival.

2. From 2000 to the end of 2003 NADRA is still not able to cater for the registration of already registered population by Directorate General of Registration.

NADRA has to pass through following phases of its establishment.

- Phase of population registration
- Phase of maintaining high level of coverage's for utility
- Phase of coordination with user and federal agencies
- Phase of maintenance of coordination of user and feeder agencies

To achieve the true benefits of National Data Warehouse will be only possible if the information based planning and management culture is established in all the user and feeder agencies. As matter of facts presently all the user and feeder agencies are lacking far behind in information based management and administration.

Many government departments and sectors are in transient phase of shifting over to devolution and from devolution to privatization therefore they are in severe managerial complication and collapses.

It is difficult to predict the fate NADRA as an ideal integrated coordination agency for mutual data transfer at this point of time one should not be totally pessimistic for it.

The other major factors, which influences the data coverage, is border security situation to prevent the cross border migration.

Pakistan has severe threat of demographic instability due to number of contributing factors that include.

- Long borders, which are difficult rather impossible to secure for, cross border migration

- The continuous war and instability in Afghanistan and Kashmir leads to undocumented migration to Pakistan and there is fluctuating load of refugees in areas near to Afghanistan border.
- A large of un-registered Afghans are permanently settle in all big cities of Pakistan including Karachi and Lahore.
- The unemployment and financial pressure leads to illegal out-migration and human smuggling via Iran and Turkey to many other countries.
- In spite of all measures Pakistan security and intelligence agencies fail to control the illegal migration through bogus document.

In spite of all above threats if NADRA is able to establish effective coordination with users and feeder agencies the data from National Data Warehouse can be utilize both for demography and administrative purposes in many department .

For demography point of view the data can be retrieved at any time between the inter-censal periods.

National data warehouses

The authority shall be responsible for

1. Development and establishment, or causing the development and establishment of a central database by collection and collation of multi-faceted data regarding citizens there by establishing a database or multi-purpose information relating to citizens to be known as citizen Database.
2. Maintenance, or causing the maintenance, of citizen Database by all possible means including enhancement and updating of data by among other things.
 - Necessary liaison with different entities, agencies, bodies, commission, boarder, departments, offices or other formation established, funded, controlled, or administered by the federal government, or any provincial government or local authority
 - By continuous stream of inputs from systems of registration of birth, death, marriage, divorce and any other system of registration or database, data warehouses, networking, interfacing and related facilities and services established or maintained by it
 - Development, establishment and maintenance, or causing the development, establishment and maintenance, of a central data warehouse, to be known as national data warehouse, based on the data and information extracted from the citizen database as its first and foremost basic input and any or all other data or information contained in the systems of registration or database, data warehouse, networking, interfacing and related facilities and services established or maintaining by it
 - Identification of users and feeder agencies from private and public sector, including all private persons or entities, agencies, bodies, , commission, boards, departments, officers or other formation established, funded, controlled, or administered by the federal government or any as “users or feeder agencies” and individually as “user or feeder agency”.

- Establishment and maintenance, or causing the establishment and maintenance, of interfacing of user or feeder agencies and their respective database with the National Data Warehouse
 - Ensuring of due security, secrecy and necessary safeguards for protection and confidentiality of data and information contained in or deal with by the national data warehouse at individual as well as collective level.
3. The authority shall take such measure, exercise such powers and performs such function as it consider necessary, expedient, incidental or consequential for or to the performance of its aforesaid function and responsibility. In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing powers and functions, the authority shall have all cabling powers in this behalf as laid down in section IV.
 4. All user or feeder agencies shall be responsible for the continuous, timely and effective updating of their respective database for the purposes of national data warehouse and shall further be responsible for maintenance of their respective link with the national data warehouse strictly in accordance with as per the standards and other details as the authority may, by regulations, prescribe.

Registration of persons

1. The federal government may be rules provide for the registration of different persons or classes there of wherever they may be including citizens, foreigners and emigrants, and for different things or classes thereof whatever they may be and along there with provide for the method of such registration, manners and form of application to be made therefor, fee or other sum to be charged therefor.
2. Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force th federal government may, by rules, for the purpose of incentivizing registration of a particular class of persons under this ordinance, provide for any right, interest, privilege benefit, reward or other advantage, tangible or intangible, available under Pakistan law, to be extended to, or made available to or with draw from such class of persons privilege to be registered under this ordinance and such right , interest, privilege benefit , reward or other advantage shall according become extended or available to or withdraw from, as the class may be , to such class of persons.

Registration of citizens

1. Every citizen in or out of Pakistan who has attained the age of eighteen years shall get himself and a parent or guardian of every citizen who has not attained the age shall, or not later than one month after the birth of such citizen, get such as citizen registered in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance. Provide that the authority may, on case to case basic, extend the period for registration of a citizen who has not attained the age of eighteen years.
2. At any time before the expiry of two years from the dare of commencements law immediately before the commencement of this ordinance or such period as may be notified under the registration Act, 1973, the parents or guardians of such citizens, in case of those

who have not attained the age of eighteen years, shall get themselves or them, as applicable registered afresh under sub section.

3. An application for registration shall be made in such form and to such person or forum as the authority may, by regulation prescribe

Provide that any application competently and validly made pursuant to subsection

4. Any person having competently and validly applied or opted for obtaining a computerized identity card by means of national data form shall be deemed to have applied under this
5. To Authority may issue to a citizen was who has not attained the age of eighteen years but is registered under subsection such certificate of registration in such form and manner and containing such information relating to such registered citizen as may be prescribed
6. A certificate issued under subsection shall be admissible in evidence for the purpose of proving the identity of, and other information or particular contained in such certificate relation to a citizens to whom such certificate relates.

National identity cards

1. The authority shall issue or renew or cause to be issued or renewed. In such manner and on terms and conditions, subjects to every citizen who has attained the age of eighteen years and got himself registered under section IX, a card to be called national identity card in such form, with such form , with such period of validity upon payment of such fee in such form and manner as may be prescribed.
2. Provide further has before issuing or renewing a card under this section, the authority may require a person to surrender a national identity card earlier issued to him under this ordinance or the national registration Act, 1973, or otherwise satisfy the authority as to the factum of his having totally abandoned the use of any such earlier card and, till such time as he surrenders such earlier card or otherwise satisfies the authority as aforesaid, the authority may not issue or renew a card.

Pakistan origin cards

The authority shall issue or renew, or cause to be issued or renew, in the prescribed manner and on prescribed criteria, terms and conditions, cards to such prescribed class of foreigners and such prescribed registered in the prescribed manner, in such form and manner as may be prescribed, to be called Pakistan origin cards and receive applications for registration therefor in the prescribed form.

Overseas identity cards

The authority shall issue or renew, or cause to be issued or renew, in the prescribed manner and on prescribed criteria, terms and conditions, cards to such prescribed class of foreigners and such prescribed registered in the prescribed manner, in such form and manner as may be prescribed, to be called overseas identity cards and receive applications for registration therefor in the prescribed form.

Alien registration cards

The authority shall issue or renew, or cause to be issued or renew, in the prescribed manner and on prescribed criteria, terms and conditions, cards to such prescribed class of foreigners and such prescribed registered in the prescribed manner, in such form and manner as may be prescribed, to be called Pakistan origin cards and receive applications for registration therefor in the prescribed form.

Reports to government

1. The authority shall submit at the end of every calendar year, but not later than 31st of juncary of the following year
 - a. A report to the federal government on the performance of its function and exercise of its power and the carrying out of its purpose and objects during the year so ending and the anticipated development for the following year, and
 - b. A report on the state of development establishment and, maintenance of registration and database systems in the country and all related matter identifying the problems, prospects and other necessary areas government or local authority's consideration and action, if any suggested in the report.
2. Copies of the report or relevant portions thereof, mentioned in clause identify problems, prospects and other necessary areas and matters for a particular provincial governments or local authority consideration or action shall also be furnished simultaneously is the concerned provincial government or local authority.

Indemnity

No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against the federal government or any provincial government or local authority, any registration officer or any other persons excessing any powers or performing any function under this ordinance, for anything which is in good faith done or purporting or intended to be done under this ordinance or any rule.

Transfer of employees and assets

Notwithstanding anything contained in any law, rules, contract, agreement, or in the terms and conditions of their service or in the provision of the national registration Act, 1973, the civil servants act 1973on the establishment of the authority, all persons appointed or employed in the national database organization and the registration organization, immediately before the establishment of the authority, in particular, all registration and other officers and employees, whether restricted initially or absorbed or inducted subsequently

Authority to be deemed to be local authority

The authority shall be deemed to be a local authority loans Act, 1993 for the purpose of borrowing money under the said act, and the making and execution of any scheme,

proposal or plan are the performance of any of its function laid down in this ordinance shall be deemed to be work which such authority is legally authorized to carry out.

Budget

The authority shall, in respect of each financial year submit for the approval of federal government a statement showing the estimated receipts and current and development expenditure and the sums which are likely to be required from the federal government during the next financial year.

Accounts and audit

1. The authority shall maintain complete and accurate books of account of its actual expenses and receipts.
2. The authority shall causes to be carried out audit of its accounts by one or more auditors who are chartered accountant within the meaning of the chartered accountants ordinance, 1996 appointed by the federal government in consultation with the auditor general of Pakistan from a panel of chartered accentuation proposed by the authority on such remuneration as the federal government may determine.

Information not to be divulged

Any person who.....

Being a person employed for the purpose of this ordinance, publishes or communicate to any persons, otherwise than in the ordinary course of such employment, any information acquired by him in the on course of the employments

OR

Having possession any information which to his knowledge has been disclosed in contravention of this ordinance, publishes or communicate that information to any other persons.

Provide that nothing in this section shall apply to any publication of communication of information made.

- For the purpose of any criminal proceeding or
- To any gazette officer authorized by the Authority

Transfer of assets and liabilities of alien registration

1. On transfer of the alien registration authority (NADRA) under section17 of the foreigners Act, 1946, all employees of the NARA shall, subject to the following provisions, cease to be civil servants within the meaning of the civil servants Act, 1973 and shall be deemed to have always been appointed on comparable posts of the authority, except for the purposes of financial benefits which shall not be admissible to them prior to the date of their transfer to the authority.

2. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this section, any person referred to in sub section (1) may, within three months of the transfer, exercise irrevocable option either to remain civil servant or, as the case may be, become employee to the authority.
3. Any person who opts under sub section (2) to remain civil servant shall be provided with a comparable posting elsewhere within three months of the exercise of option and till such posting remain on surplus pool of the federal government .
4. On transfer as aforesaid a person, until his employment in the authority is terminated in accordance with his terms and conditions of service of his terms and condition as altered by regulations which shall not be less favorable than those by which he was governed immediately before his transfer, shall continue to be governed accordingly.
5. No person who stands transferred to the authority by virtue of sub section (2) shall, notwithstanding anything contained in any law for the time being in force, not enticed to any compensation because of such transfers.
6. True federal government shall pay to the authority capitalized value of persons and gratuity in respect of employees, transferred to the authority under sub-section (1) to which they have become entitled to or have been craned by them or have accumulated their transfer to the authority.
7. At assets and liabilities of the NADRA including its counters and other formation shall, on commencement of the foreigners (Amendment) Act, 2016 (XX of 2016) stand transferred to and vested in the authority.
8. All debts and liabilities incurred, contracts entered into or right acquired and all matters and thing done, engaged or to be done by or for the NADRA immediately before commencements of the foreigners (Amendment) Act, 2016 (XX of 2016) shall be deemed on such commencement to have been incurred, entered into, acquired done, engaged or, as the case may be, to be done by or for the Authority.

NADRA and its important services



