

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

**Issuance of Prohibited/ Non-Prohibited
Arms Policy, 2012**

Objectives

After the 18th amendment in the Constitution of Pakistan, work relating to issuance of arms licenses has been devolved to the provinces. In order to meet the requirements for issuance of arms licenses within the jurisdiction of ICT, AJ&K & Gilgit-Baltistan, the following SOP has been formulated.

Classification of Weapons

2. Weapons for which licenses are permissible have been categorized as Prohibited Bore (PB) and Non-Prohibited Bore (NPB), detail of which are as under.

a. **NPB Weapons**

- i. Shot gun Non-automatic or Semi-Automatic including Pump-action
- ii. Revolver or Pistol other than Prohibited Bore
- iii. Rifle other than Prohibited Bore
- iv. Sword

b. **PB Weapons**

- i. Revolver or Pistol over .46 inches bore
- ii. Rifle 303 and all automatic/semi-automatic Rifles
- iii. Rifle G-III
- iv. Stengun
- v. Carbine

This list is not exhaustive and Notifications in this regard issued from time to time may be referred from a complete list.

Licenses for PB Weapons

3. In order to keep the issuance of PB licenses to a minimum, strict criteria has been devised. Authority to issue licenses for PB weapons would be the Prime Minister.

Licences for NPB Weapons

4. Licenses for NPB weapons would be issued with the approval of the Minister for Interior / Secretary or officers authorized by the authority.

5. Licenses would be issued after verification of the antecedents of the applicant through local police unless specifically exempted by Minister Interior/Secretary Interior. This shall not be applicable to licenses issued on Prime Minister's Directives or to Government servants.

6. Licences issued by the Ministry of Interior would be valid for whole of Pakistan.

Number of Cartridges

7. Five hundred (500) cartridges shall be allowed on each licence of PB and NPB.

Gratis Licenses

8. (i) Eligible Categories.

- Recipients of Civil/Military awards.
- Weapon gifted by the President/Services Chiefs to the retiring General Officers.
- Persons entitled under Schedule-I of Arms Rules, 1924

(ii) Serving and retired gazetted officers of the Federal Government would be entitled to one NPB licence on gratis basis. Regular employees of the Ministry of Interior will also be entitled to one NPB arms licence on gratis basis.

Issuance of Gratis Private Licenses to Serving / Retired Army Personnel

9. Authorization of licenses against fee and gratis arms licences for NPB private weapons for all ranks of Pakistan Army is regulated under 'Army Regulations (Instructions), 2000' (clauses 475 to 494). Relevant provisions are as under:

a. **Serving Army Personnel.** As per Army Rules (Instruction) 490, serving officers, junior commissioned officer and soldiers are authorized to apply for arms license for NPB private arms as under:-

- i. **Officers:** May apply for fee paying license for revolver or pistol.
- ii. **Junior Commissioned Officers:** Are authorized to hold 1x pistol / 1x revolver / 7 mm on gratis arms licence.
- iii. **Soldiers:** Are authorized to hold 1x pistol / 1x revolver / Shot Gun on gratis arm licence.

b. **Retired Army Personnel:** As per Army Rules (I) 475 and 493 f & g:

- i. Retired officers are authorized gratis arms license for NPB Arms (1x pistol and 1x revolver or 2 x pistols or 2 x revolvers).

- ii. Retired Junior Commissioned officers are authorized gratis arms license for NPB Arms (1x pistol or 1x revolver / 7mm).
- c. **Gift to General Officers on Retirement:** As per Army Rules (I) 493 a, all retiring general officers will be issued with gratis arms license for the gifted weapon.
- d. **Issuance of Gratis Arms License to Awardee Officers / JCOs / Soldiers:**

In accordance with the latest policy all recipients of military awards are authorized to possess gratis arms licenses of following weapons:

Type of Awards		Entitlement on Gratis Arms License
NH, NI (M), HJ, HI (M), SJ, SI (M) and S Bt	a.	One Pistol or Revolver of NPB
	b.	One Rifle of NPB
	c.	One .22 bore Rifle
	d.	Two Shot Guns
TI (M)	a.	One Pistol or Revolver of NPB
	b.	One Shot Gun of NPB
	c.	One .22 bore Rifle
TJ and T. Bt	a.	One Pistol or Revolver of NPB
	b.	One Shot Guns
Imitazi Sanad		One Shot Gun of NPB

Issuance of Licenses to Security Companies

10. Security companies having valid NOCs may be issued NPB licenses to enable them to perform their functions. Number of such licences will be determined as per the requirement in each case on the recommendation of a Committee headed by Additional Secretary-I and including concerned Inspector General of Police and representatives of ISI and IB.

Issuance of licenses to Institutions / Enterprises

11. Following additional terms and conditions shall apply to arms licenses issued to institutions / enterprises:

- a. The Chief Executive of the institution/enterprise as well as the Head of Administration/Security whatever be his designation shall be jointly and severally responsible for the proper custody and use of the weapons for which licenses are issued. The use shall be limited to the security of the lives of the functionaries and the premises and property of the institution/enterprise.
- b. Without prejudice to the generality of the above condition, it shall be their duty to ensure that weapons are entrusted to personnel duly recruited for the purpose and of sound physical and mental health. Such individuals shall be employed following a proper process of recruitment and contract for their employment shall be executed. They shall be adequately compensated and the institution/enterprise shall ensure their welfare which shall at least be at par with that of the other employees of the institution/enterprise.
- c. A proper system of issuance of weapons to the employees shall be adopted which shall provide for the time, duration and place of duty.
- d. The institution/enterprise shall issue its own identity cards to such security personnel, which shall be displayed by them.
- e. In case of any improper use of the weapons procured against the licenses issued to an institution/enterprise, in addition to any other action entailed under the law, licenses shall be liable to immediate cancellation without any notice.

Retainer-ship

12. A maximum of two retainer-ships of the arms licenses will be granted on application. Only father, brother spouse, son and daughter will be eligible, subject to provision of authentic documents/affidavit certifying that the person concerned is not involved in any criminal activity.

Transfer of License on Inheritance Basis

13. Transfer of licenses on inheritance basis will be permissible to one or more legal heirs of the deceased licence holder subject to acquiescence of others.

Issuance of Duplicate Arms Licenses

14. Duplicate of NPB/PB arms licenses lost, destroyed or damaged would be issued on presentation of the following documents:

- a. Affidavit in the specified form
- b. Copy of CNIC
- c. Copy of Police Report duly countersigned by the Sub Divisional Police Officer.
- d. Proof of renewal
- e. Proof of entry in the record of the concerned DC/DCO.

Fee Structure

15. Fees payable for initial grant of license and its subsequent renewal shall be the following:

Types of Licenses	Prohibited Bore			Non -Prohibited Bore		
	Govt. Fee	NADRA Fee	Total Fee	Govt. Fee	NADRA Fee	Total Fee
Issuance Fee for New Arms License for 5 Years	Rs.7,500	Rs. 3000	Rs.10,500	Rs.5,000	Rs.1,500	Rs.6,500
Renewal Fee for 5 Years	Rs.5,000	Rs.3,000	Rs.8,000	Rs.2,500	Rs.1,500	Rs.4,000
Duplicate Fee	Rs.1,000	Rs.3,000	Rs.4,000	Rs.1,000	Rs.1,500	Rs.2,500
Transfer Fee in Inheritance cases	Rs.2,500	Rs.3,000	Rs.5,500	Rs.2,500	Rs.1,500	Rs.4,000
Gratis License Fee	Nil	Rs.3,000	Rs.3,000	Nil	Rs.1,500	Rs.1500

16. Renewal of Licenses

- a. License would be granted for a period of five years ending on 31st December.
- b. License may be renewed within a period of one month of its expiry (that is by 31st January) hereinafter referred to as the grace period without the payment of any late fee.
- c. After the expiry of the grace period but before the lapse of twelve months of the date of expiry of the license (that is by 31st December), license may be renewed on payment of penalty of Rs.100/- for every month or part of the month that intervenes between the expiry of the grace period and the date of renewal of the license.
- d. Gratis Arms licenses will be renewed for five years.

- e. The license may be renewed after (12) twelve months but before the lapse of two years of the date of expiry thereof under the orders of the licensing authority on the payment of double the penalty i.e. Rs.200/- per month.
- f. If a license is not renewed within the period specified in clause (d), the license shall, on the expiry of the said period, stand cancelled.

Disqualification

17. The following categories of persons are debarred from acquiring any kind of arms license:

- a. All convicted persons except those convicted for minor offences or traffic violations.
- b. Persons found guilty of possessing more than one CNIC or passport.
- c. Insane persons
- d. Minors

Provision of PB Weapons to the Licensees

18. Except for Pakistan Ordnance Factory Wah, no other business entrepreneur in the country is legally authorized to manufacture / sell PB weapons. Therefore, many of the PB licenses holders resort to the unauthorized practice of getting PB weapon in the form of gift from tribal people / authorities. Ministry of Commerce and Trade may take necessary steps to ensure provision of prescribed PB weapons to the licensees.

19. For the maintenance of a data bank regarding the licensees and weapons, NADRA has been tasked to make computerized arms licences (CALs). As per the SOP in this regard, NADRA will issue 'Weapon Authorization Form Demand Note' after approval of the competent authority and subsequently CAL to the applicant.

20. Police verification before issuance of Arms license is mandatory, except for gazette officers of the Government/Parliamentarians.

21. Processing of cases for the issuance of arms licenses through professional agents/intermediaries is prohibited and such professional agents/intermediaries shall be proceeded against under the law.

22. All cases pending in the Ministry of Interior have been transferred to NADRA for making CALs. NADRA has started producing CALs w.e.f. 1st January, 2011.

23. Periodic audit of all cases of arms licenses shall be conducted to ascertain that licences have been issued on valid authority and the prescribed license fee including fee for renewal/issuance of duplicate licences/extension of licenses to all Pakistan has been credited into the relevant head of Government account.

24. NADRA will prepare procedure for monitoring of ammunition issued to licensees and cases of amendments in particulars of licensees.

25. Following recommendations of the Committee under the chairmanship of Syed Nayyer Hussain Bukhairi, Leader of the House on 17-02-2012 has been made part of this policy with the directions of the Prime Minister:-

- i. Federal Government will issue arms licenses on all Pakistan basis for resident of Islamabad Capital Territory, Azad Kashmir, Federal Administration Tribal Area (FATA) and Gilgit Baltistan.
- ii. Prohibited Bore arms licenses within the jurisdiction of the Federal Government will be issue with the approval of the Prime Minister.
- iii. Non-Prohibited bore Arms license within the Jurisdiction of the Federal Government will be issued with the approval of the Minister/Secretary Interior/Chief Commissioner, ICT/Home Secretary, Gilgit Baltistan/Home Secretary, AJK and Secretary FATA.
- iv. Ministry of Interior be permitted to invite expression of interest in consultation with Ministry of Commerce from authorized representative of arms manufacturers to set up their sales/spares and service facilities in major cities of Pakistan. This will check illegal sale/purchase of PB weapons and enable arms license to purchase weapon in the legal manner from authorized dealers.
- v. NADRA will prepares database of arms licenses issued within the Federal Jurisdiction provinces will be urged to prepare similar databases either through NADRA or on their own.
- vi. Ministry of Interior will issue in accordance with the annexed procedure.

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