

No.2/2/2021-Visa
Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Interior

SUMMARY FOR THE CABINET

Subject: **AMNESTY SCHEME FOR OVERSTAYING FOREIGNERS TO EXIT PAKISTAN**

Ministry of Interior issues exit permits to foreigners who have overstayed in Pakistan after expiry of their visas. Exit permits through Pakistan Online Visa System (POVS) are issued to the foreigners who have overstayed up to one year and manual exit permits are issued to the foreigners who have overstayed beyond one year, on payment of penalty.

2. During the first Apex Committee Meeting of the Afghan Inter-Ministerial Coordination Cell (AICC) held on 23rd November 2021, it was decided that Ministry of Interior will deliberate with all stakeholders and recommend policy decision on the issue of overstaying foreigners / Afghans in Pakistan (**Annex-I**). The matter was discussed again in the 2nd Apex Committee Meeting of the Afghan Inter-Ministerial Coordination Cell (AICC) (**Annex-II**). A meeting with relevant stakeholders was held on 24th November, 2021. Minutes of the meeting are placed at **Annex-III**.

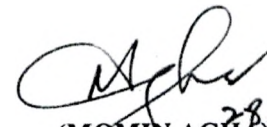
3. As per IBMS record approximately 400,000 foreigners are residing in Pakistan despite expiry of their visas.

4. In the light of the recommendation of AICC and stakeholders consultation, it is proposed as under:

S.No.	Proposal	Action by
i.	Media campaign be launched to inform the foreigners about the amnesty.	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
ii.	A general amnesty may be given to overstaying foreigners to exit Pakistan with a cutoff date of 31 st December 2022.	Ministry of Interior
iii.	After expiry of the deadline, action be initiated against the foreigners who do not avail this amnesty as per law / rules.	Ministry of Interior and Provincial Governments.

5. Approval of the Cabinet is solicited to the proposal contained in para 4 above.

6. Minister for Interior has seen and authorized submission of this Summary to the Cabinet.


(MOMIN AGHA) 28/6/22
Additional Secretary

Islamabad, the June, 2022

AMENESTY SCHEMEM FOR OVERSTAYING FOREIGNERS
IN PAKSITAN

- i. *Ministry of Interior issues exit permits to foreigners who have overstayed in Pakistan after expiry of their visas. Exit permits through Pakistan Online Visa System (POVS) are issued to the foreigners who have overstayed up to one year and manual exit permits are issued to the foreigners who have overstayed beyond one year, on payment of penalty.*
- ii. *A general amnesty has been approved for overstaying foreigners to exit Pakistan without paying overstay charges with a cut-off date of 31st December 2022.*
- iii. *Overstaying Foreigners shall apply for exit permit on POVS and can leave Pakistan after obtaining the exit permit.*
- iv. *Overstaying foreigners of India and Somalia shall apply for exit permit manually in concerned Section of Ministry of Interior.*
- v. *No legal action will be taken against the foreigners who will avail this amnesty scheme.*
- vi. *As per foreigners Act 1946, three year sentence can be awarded to overstaying foreigners.*
- vii. *After 31st December 2022, action will be initiated against overstaying foreigners who are overstaying more than a year. Moreover, they will be black listed for further entry into Pakistan.*
