

*Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance  
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# **Issues and Challenges of managing country code top level domain names in South Asia – *The Case of Pakistan***

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# Agenda

- History of (.PK) ccTLD
- Name, Nature of the Provider
- Cost of the registration or renewal (of .pk domain name)
- Number of ccTLDs (.pk) registered
- Law and policy related to ccTLD
- ccTLD disputes (.pk)

## Name of the Operator -History of (.pk) ccTLD

- .pk registry is being operated by PKNIC.
- PKNIC was established in 1992 to allow Internet addressing for the Top-Level domain .PK, reserved for Pakistan. Since then, it has managed and maintained the Root-Servers for .PK domain.
- PKNIC is responsible for the administration of the .PK domain name space, including the operation of the DNS for the Root-Servers for .PK domains, and registration and maintenance of all .PK domain names.
- PKNIC is operated as a self-supporting organization owned by an individual (private).

## Cost of the registration or renewal of ccTLD (.pk)

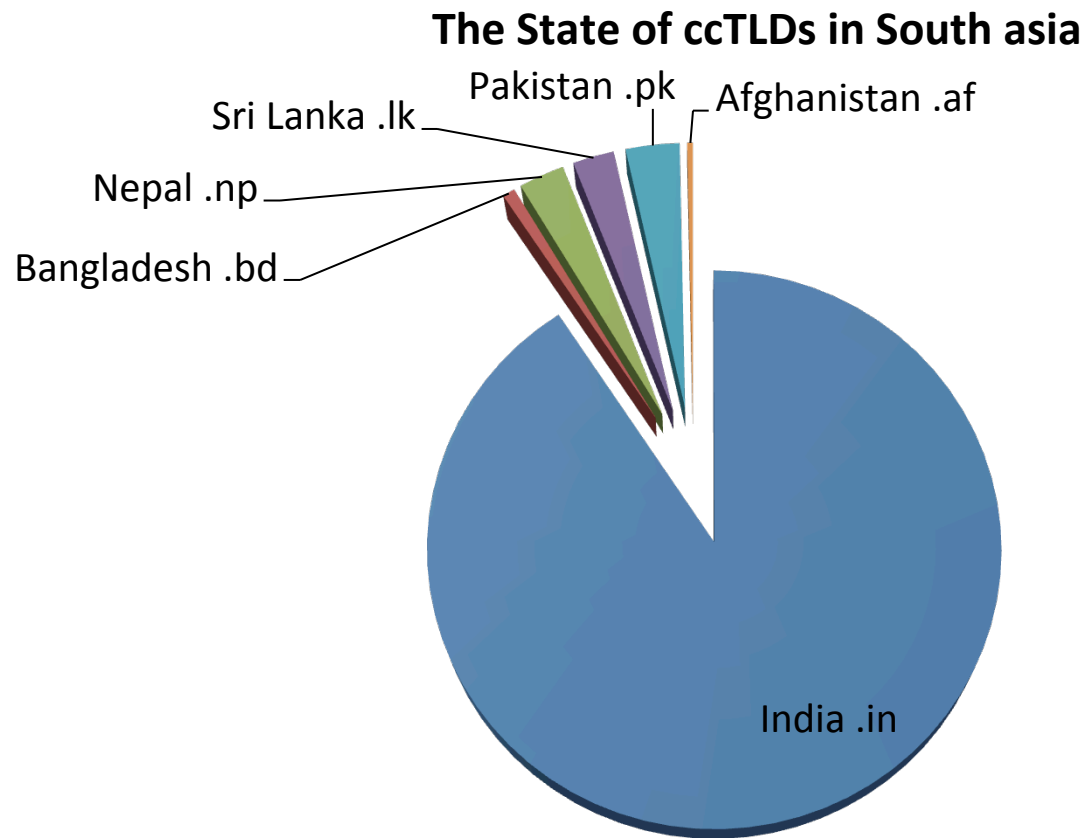
- .pk domain name costs US\$ 10 for Local/Pakistani registrants and US\$ 24 for registrants located outside Pakistan
- The fee is charged on a biennial basis (two year period) and can be paid up to a maximum of ten years.
- Payment methods supported by PKNIC include:
  - Credit Card
  - Pre-paid Card
  - Cheque/Bank Drafts

## Number of ccTLDs (.pk) registered

Country	ccTLD	ccTLDs Registered
India	.in	1455704
Bangladesh	.bd	11,811
Nepal	.np	43,087
Sri Lanka	.lk	38,924
<b>Pakistan</b>	<b>.pk</b>	<b>50,525</b>
Afghanistan	.af	5,249

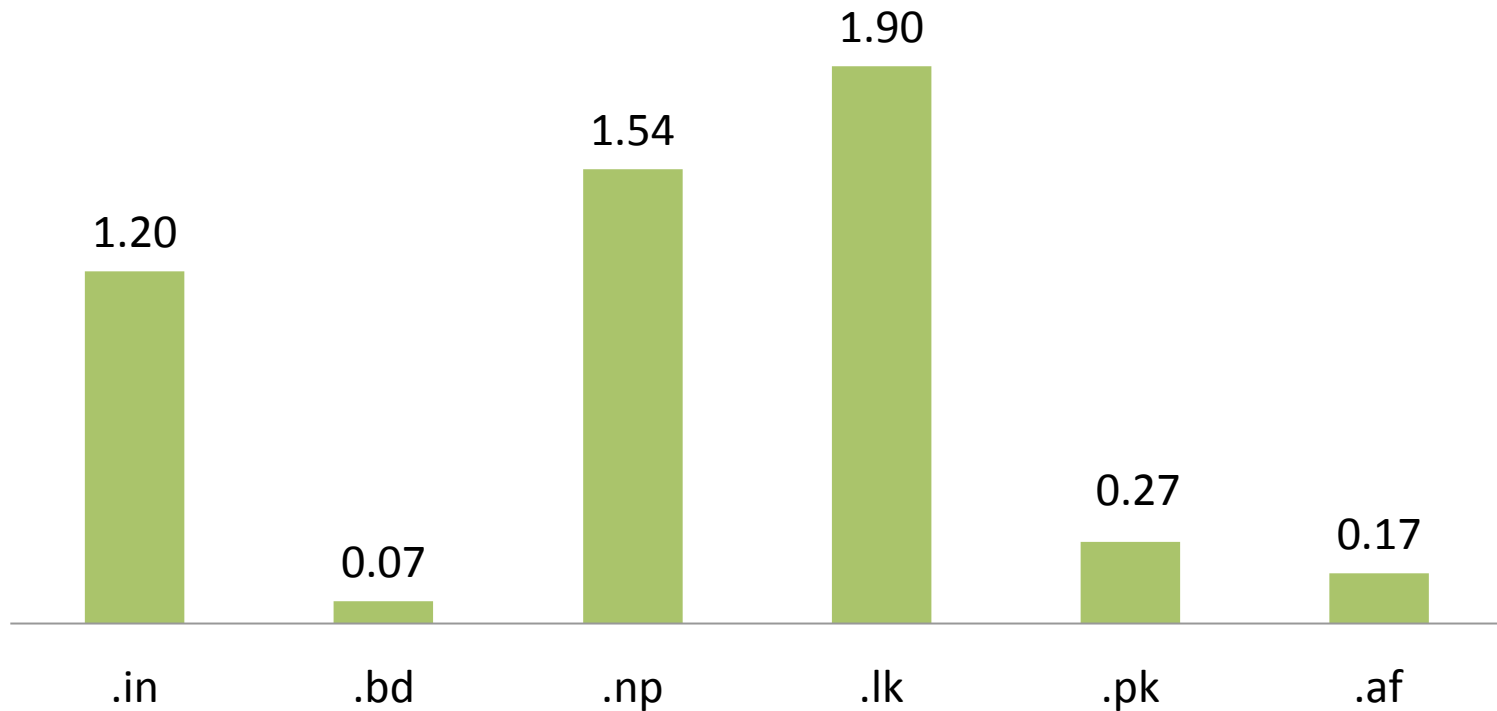
Data Source: DomainTools.com

# Number of ccTLDs (.pk) registered



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## ccTLD Penetration in South Asia (Per 1000)



# Law and policy related to ccTLD (.pk)

- PKNIC has adopted, with amendments, the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP), established and adopted by the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) on October 24, 1999.
- PKNIC's amendment take precedent if there is a conflict between the ICANN UDRP policy and PKNIC's amendments to it.
- Domain Name Dispute Resolution Center is appointed by PKNIC to help resolve all the disputes the may arise.
- In most cases, the preferred Local Domain Name Dispute Resolution Centre [www.dndrc.com](http://www.dndrc.com) shall be used in lieu of the providers listed by ICANN. In some cases, as determined by PKNIC, other dispute resolution providers may be used.



## ccTLD disputes (.pk)

- Apparently all the cases are dealt with by the DNDRC appointed by PKNIC for domain name dispute resolution. There however have been concerns by the community about the dispute resolution mechanism.
- Apparently, the cases have not been taken to the court and resolved (or at least a decision made) by the DNDRC and the domains transferred to complainants most of the times.
- Some of the disputes include but are not limited to facebook.pk, telenor.pk, dejuice.pk, redbull.pk, youtube.pk, linkedin.pk, etc etc

## Some of the Major Issues and Challenge

- Security of the DNS
- Dispute Resolution Mechanism
- Customer Care & Support
- Registration Mechanism and Portal
- The State of Internet and Broadband in the Country
- Localized Content

# Thank you.

## Q & A

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