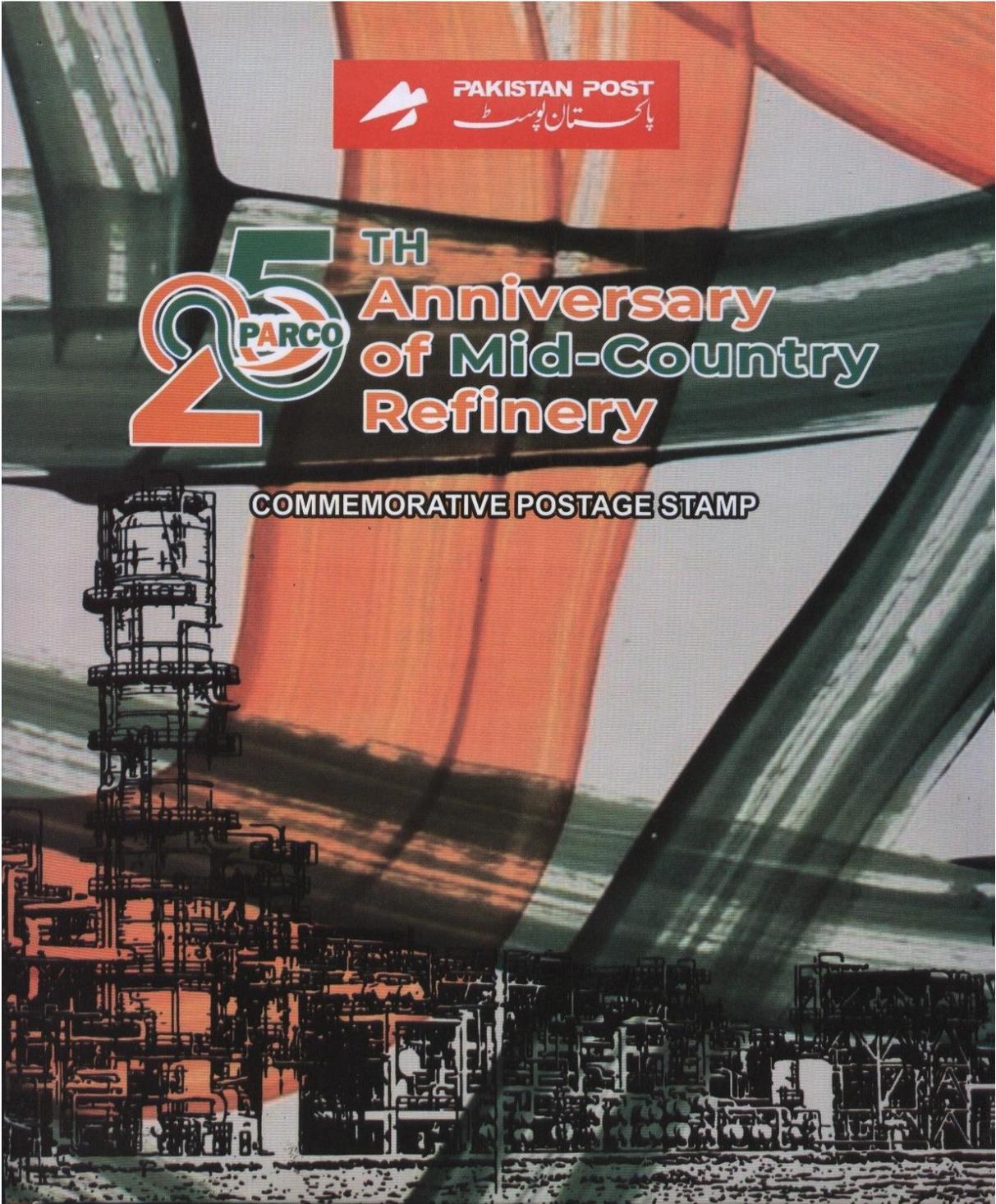


PAKISTAN POST
پاکستان پوسٹ

25 TH Anniversary
of Mid-Country
Refinery

COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP



2026-01



25TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PARCO MID-COUNTRY
REFINERY
COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP
JANUARY 28, 2026



**25TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PARCO MID-COUNTRY REFINERY
COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP
JANUARY 28, 2026**

SALIENT FEATURES

Size of Stamp : 81 x 40.5 mm

Size of Print : 81 x 40.5 mm

Number of Stamps in a Sheet : 5 Stamps

Perforation : 13 C

Denomination : Rs.30/-

Colours : CMYK

Printing Technology : Lithography Offset

Paper : 100 GSM Water Mark

Gummed Paper

Gum : PVA

Quantity Stamp : 0.05 Million (50 Thousand)

Designer : Abu Obaidah Ayyaz and
Hasnain Mahmud

Printer : Pakistan Security Printing
Corporation, Karachi

**25TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PARCO MID-COUNTRY REFINERY
COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP
JANUARY 28, 2026**

The year 2025 marked the 25th anniversary of the commissioning of Pak-Arab Refinery Limited's (PARCO) Mid-Country Refinery (MCR) - a milestone in Pakistan's journey towards energy self-reliance and industrial modernization.

The Foundation of Mid-Country Refinery

In the early 1990s, Pakistan faced growing energy demand, a widening gap between domestic refining capacity and consumption, and heavy dependence on imported refined petroleum products. Recognizing the strategic necessity of expanding local refining infrastructure, PARCO - a joint venture between the Government of Pakistan and the Emirate of Abu Dhabi undertook the visionary project of establishing a state-of-the-art refinery at Mahmoodkot, District Muzaffargarh.

Commissioned in 2000, the Mid-Country Refinery (MCR) was designed with an initial capacity of 100,000 barrels per day (bpd), making it the largest and most modern refinery in the country at the time. Its location was strategically selected at the crossroads of Pakistan's north-south energy corridors, connecting PARCO's White Oil Pipeline System (WOP) and ensuring efficient supply of refined petroleum products to major consumption centers.

Technological Milestones and Upgradation

Over its 25-year journey, MCR has evolved from being a national refining asset to a benchmark of operational excellence in South Asia. The refinery's commitment to modernization was reaffirmed in 2020, when its refining capacity was enhanced to 120,000 bpd, alongside the

upgrade of fuel specifications to meet international environmental standards.

A defining feature of MCR's operations has been its focus on cleaner fuels and sustainable refining. It was the first refinery in Pakistan to install a Diesel Hydro Desulphurization (DHDS) Plant - a facility with a maximum capacity of 26,000 bpd, enabling production of Euro III compliant, low-sulphur diesel. This milestone not only aligned Pakistan's fuel standards with global environmental benchmarks but also contributed to cleaner air and reduced vehicular emissions across the country.

In addition to producing high-quality Diesel, Petrol, Jet Fuel, LPG, Kerosene, Furnace Oil, Sulphur, and Asphalt, the refinery houses an Asphalt Air Blowing Unit (AABU) that manufactures road and industrial grade Asphalt meeting international specifications. The AABU's output has supported national infrastructure development, from highways to industrial zones, embodying MCR's role in "fueling progress" both literally and figuratively.

Economic and Strategic Significance

MCR's contribution to Pakistan's economy and energy security has been profound. As a backbone of the country's refining infrastructure, it plays a vital role in reducing dependence on imported refined fuels by processing mainly light and medium crude oils sourced through both domestic and international channels. The refinery's output caters to a substantial share of the national fuel demand, supplying energy to power industries, transportation networks, and households across the nation.

Moreover, MCR's integration with PARCO's pipeline and storage network has brought unprecedented efficiency and safety to the national oil supply chain. Its operations have reduced road transport of petroleum

products, lowering logistics costs and mitigating environmental and safety risks associated with conventional fuel transportation.

The refinery has also been a catalyst for regional development in southern Punjab. Its establishment brought modern infrastructure, employment opportunities, and community development programs to Mahmoodkot and adjoining areas - transforming the region into a hub of industrial activity and contributing to Pakistan's socioeconomic progress.

Conclusion

As Pakistan stands at the threshold of new energy challenges and opportunities, the 25th anniversary of the Mid-Country Refinery is a moment of pride and reflection. From its commissioning in 2000 to its ongoing modernization, MCR has embodied the nation's quest for self-reliance, innovation, and excellence in the energy sector.

On the eve of 25 Years of PARCO Mid-Country Refinery, Pakistan Post is issuing a Commemorative Postage Stamp of Rs.30/- each denomination on January 28th, 2026.

TERMS OF SALE

This Commemorative Postage Stamp will be available for sale from January 28th, 2026 at all important post offices in the country.

Overseas orders for Postage Stamp, First Day Issue Covers and Leaflets should be addressed to the Manager, Philatelic Bureau Karachi, GPO or Manager National Philatelic Bureau, Islamabad GPO, accompanied by a Bank Draft or Crossed Cheque encashable in Pakistan.



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