

Punjab's AI Facial-Recognition 'Face Trace System' for Police Suspect Identification

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · Pakistan

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Punjab Police's AI Face Trace System matches CCTV images against an 18M-record biometric database from driving licences, crime files and prison photos. PSCA cites falling Lahore crime, but reporters found a third of cameras broken and the drop confounded with a policing surge.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	1/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	0/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability beyond pilot	2/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-30

[Punjab Safe Cities Authority, Punjab Police IT Wing & Punjab Information Technology Board](#) — accessed 2026-07-30

[Dawn — Face Trace System launch](#) — accessed 2026-07-30

[Dawn — PSCA crime statistics](#) — accessed 2026-07-30

[Biometric Update — camera reliability](#) — accessed 2026-07-30

[Pakistan Observer](#) — accessed 2026-07-30

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