

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) for the year, 2001-2002 provides data on (i) age, sex, marital status, literacy, level of education and migration of the population, (ii) dimensions of country's labour force, (iii) employed labour force classified by industry, formal & informal sectors, occupation, employment status, hours worked and level of education, (iv) occupational safety and health information of the employed persons and (v) unemployed labour by level of education and previous experience. Some of the main findings are outlined as under:

- i) Literacy rate has improved from 46.5% in 1999-2000 to 50% in 2001-2002. Improvement in females literacy is relatively more compared to males population and more in rural areas. Educational level shows that males are more educated compared to females.
- ii) In Pakistan participation rate in economic activities has increased from 29% in 1999-2000 to 29.6% in 2001-2002. The increase has been noted for males and females separately and relatively more in urban areas. Among the provinces, Punjab has the highest participation rate.
- iii) An analysis of the structure of employment by industry shows that the share of agriculture sector has decreased from 48.4% in 1999-2000 to 42.1% in 2001-2002. This decline is noted for both males and females. The non-agriculture sector such as manufacturing, trade services and transport has created relatively more employment opportunities during 2001-2002. The decline in agriculture may be attributed to the drought during this period, which has reduced the employability of this sector. During this period the GDP growth has significantly declined from 6.1% in 1999-2000 to -2.7% in 2000-2001 and -0.1% in 2001-2002 in agriculture sector. Whereas indicates increase in manufacturing, trade and services sectors which reflects increase in employment opportunities in these sectors.
- iv) Parallel to the decrease in agriculture sector, farming activities have also shown a down ward trend from 40% in 1999-2000 to 34.7% in 2001-2002. Reasons specified for decline in agriculture sector are also applicable here.
- v) The employment status indicates that self-employed and unpaid family helper has decreased from 42.2% & 21.4% in 1999-2000 to 38.5% & 20.8% respectively in 2001-2002 and may be due to squeezing of farming activities. However, employees have experienced an increase during the period from 35.6% in 1999-2000 to 39.9 in 2001-2002.

- vi) Working hours of the employed persons shows that a large proportion of employed persons (29.6%) did work for a substantial number of hours i.e. 56 hours or more each week. Urban workers are relatively more over burden compared to rural workers.
- vii) Within the non-agriculture sector, major portion i.e. two-third (64.6%) of the employed persons was engaged in informal sector. Informal sector in rural areas has accommodated relatively more employed persons (68.3%) compared to urban areas (61.1%). This shows that the formal sector, required education, training and skill are unable to create enough jobs consistent with the labour supply. About one-third of the informal sector workers (34%) are engaged in trade sector and have performed craft and related trade activities. The employment status shows that they are mostly employees (44.5%) and self-employed (43.6%).
- viii) Occupational safety & health information collected for the first time through Labour Force Survey shows that 3.6% of the total employed persons suffered from occupational injuries/diseases. Majority of the suffered workers are engaged in agriculture sector (42.9%) and performing skilled agriculture activities (37.6%). Employed workers suffered occupational injuries/diseases are mostly concentrated in the two categories of the employment status i.e. self-employed (45.9%) and employees (41%).
- ix) Looking into the treatment received by the employed persons suffered from occupational injuries/diseases, it is observed that majority of them (48.8%) have consulted a doctor or other medical professionals. About 17% could not get any kind of treatment. Majority of the workers were suffered from general injuries (52.3%), multiple locations (12.4%), lower limb (12.6%) and upper limb (11.7). The head injuries reported by 7.9% of the suffered workers should be noted with concern, as it can cause death, partial or complete disablement and loss of intellectual abilities.
- x) The unemployment rate has shown an increase from 7.8% in 1999-2000 to 8.3% in 2001-2002. This increase has been observed for males only. Females are highly unemployed (16.5%) compared to males (6.7%). In case, the employed persons who worked less than 15 hours during the reference week are treated as unemployed, the unemployment rate jumps to 9.7%.