

## Government of Pakistan Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiatives



## **Pakistan Bureau of Statistics**

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

Chief Secretary Baluchistan and Chief Census Commissioner Jointly Chaired a high-level meeting that was held on 6th May, 2023 to ensure the completion of Verification/ Enumeration process for 7th Population and Housing Census-2023 in Baluchistan by 15th May, 2023

- A comprehensive strategy was devised jointly to ensure complete enumeration/verification in Baluchistan till 15th May, 2023.
- Muhammad Sarwar Gondal (Member PBS) gave a detailed presentation on under/over enumeration observed in some districts mined through Digital System.
- List of blocks with under / over enumeration was shared with the Baluchistan Provincial Government for a targeted approach to ensure accurate statistics.
- Chief Census Commissioner, Dr. Naeem uz Zafar assured full support of PBS in provision of desired information to pinpoint over-coverage.
- Chief Secretary Baluchistan appreciated the presentation shared by PBS and assured his full cooperation in completing the important National task of Census with accuracy within the stipulated timelines.
- All Commissioners shared the updates on Population Census in their respective divisions and ensure completion of work by 15th May, 2023.
- Deputy Commissioners (DCs) and Assistant Commissioners (ACs) will fulfill their roles, by ensuring Field visits for effective vigilance and monitoring.
- Strict action will be taken in case of misreporting by Field staff.
- On completion of work Deputy Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners will share completion Certificate, in case of any substantial departure in Population trends reasons and justifications may be recorded in Completion Certificate.
- Pakistan Bureau of Statistics deputed additional staff of PBS having experience of Survey to assist provincial governments in monitoring.
- The complaints numbers were repeatedly advertised through mainstream and social media.
- 90% of the Complaints received through SMS Gateway and Call Centre have been resolved to date.

- Overall, to date, 24 crores, 18 lakhs, 31 thousand and 19 population has been counted across Pakistan.
- To date 2 crores 3 lakhs 94 thousand and 327 individuals have been counted in Baluchistan.
- So far 23 lakhs, 30 thousand, with 3 hundred and 29 individuals in Quetta alone.

A high level meeting between Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) higher management and Baluchistan Provincial Government, under the joint chair of Chief Secretary Baluchistan and Chief Census Commissioner was held on 6th May, 2023, which was attended by Senior management of PBS and all Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners of Baluchistan.

Mr. Sarwar Gondal, Member (SS/RM), PBS delivered a detailed presentation on abnormal trends observed in the population of Baluchistan to Baluchistan Provincial Government. As Provincial Government is fully responsible for completion of Field work in province. The main reason of under / over enumeration were also identified. He also stressed on regular field visits of DCs and ACs for effective monitoring. He also emphasized on daily progress sharing and conclusion of the exercise on 15th May, 2023.

It was mutually agreed that all efforts will be made to reduce the issues identified by PBS. Baluchistan Provincial Government was fully agreed with the concept of targeted approach. Chief Secretary Baluchistan directed all DCs and ACs to undertake field visit to ensure complete coverage and plug in the gaps identified by PBS. He also directed for provision of one to one security to Field Enumerators. Further, progress of verification will be monitored and shared regularly with Chief Secretary and Chief Census Commissioner. Chief Secretary directed Commissioners and DCs to make utmost efforts to complete verification task within stipulated time.

It was apprised by DCs and ACs that majority of the work is completed in Baluchistan with complete devotion and remaining will be complete by 15th May, 2023.

Chief Census Commissioner, Dr. Naeem uz Zafar, anticipated that with cooperation of Chief Secretary, Baluchistan and PBS and by taking remedial measures, the exercise will be completed successfully on 15th May, 2023.

(Muhammad Sarwar Gondal) Member (Support Services) official spokesperson





