

PREFACE

In a country like Pakistan which is predominantly agricultural, the development of this important sector of economy encompasses among other things the socio-economic development of rural community. Therefore, the data concerning socio-economic development of rural areas is of special interest for decentralized planning, formulation of policies / programmes and examining of the infrastructure and services available to agricultural holdings. The importance of such statistics was first realized during early seventies and Agricultural Census Organization (ACO) was entrusted to expose prevailing characteristics of the rural Pakistan. Since then the Organization had conducted eight such exercises including the present Mouza Census 2008 with various periodicity.

Mouza Census 2008 is an improvement over the previous such censuses with its extended scope covering almost the entire septum of the rural economy.

Firstly, significant data regarding availability of socio-economic facilities and indicators depicting various activity on gender basis in the villages was included. For the first time an Advisory Committee comprising all the stakeholders including Government as well as Non-government Organizations was constituted to assist in developing the questionnaire. National Re-construction Bureau was also on board.

Secondly, the data collection effort was strengthened through a comprehensive training programme of the enumerators employed from the provincial revenue departments, backed by effective supervision and monitoring of the entire field operation.

Thirdly, the data have been presented in separate reports to the users of all three administrative tiers of the Government, namely the District Governments, Provincial Governments and Federal Government. The Provincial Reports present aggregated data for all districts and tehsils of the province and also the province. The Country Report comprises of aggregated data for all the provinces and, obviously, the country as well.

The services of the staff of provincial revenue departments were utilized for conducting this census at the enumeration and supervision stages. Agricultural Census Organization acknowledges and appreciates their active participation and cooperation in under going this exercise. Similarly, the services performed by the officers and staff of Data Processing Centre (FBS) for computer related processing of data are appreciated for timely completion of the report.

Last but not the least, the hardwork and dedication of the officers and staff of Agricultural Census Organization is worth mentioning from beginning to the end of this census.

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Lahore
December, 2008