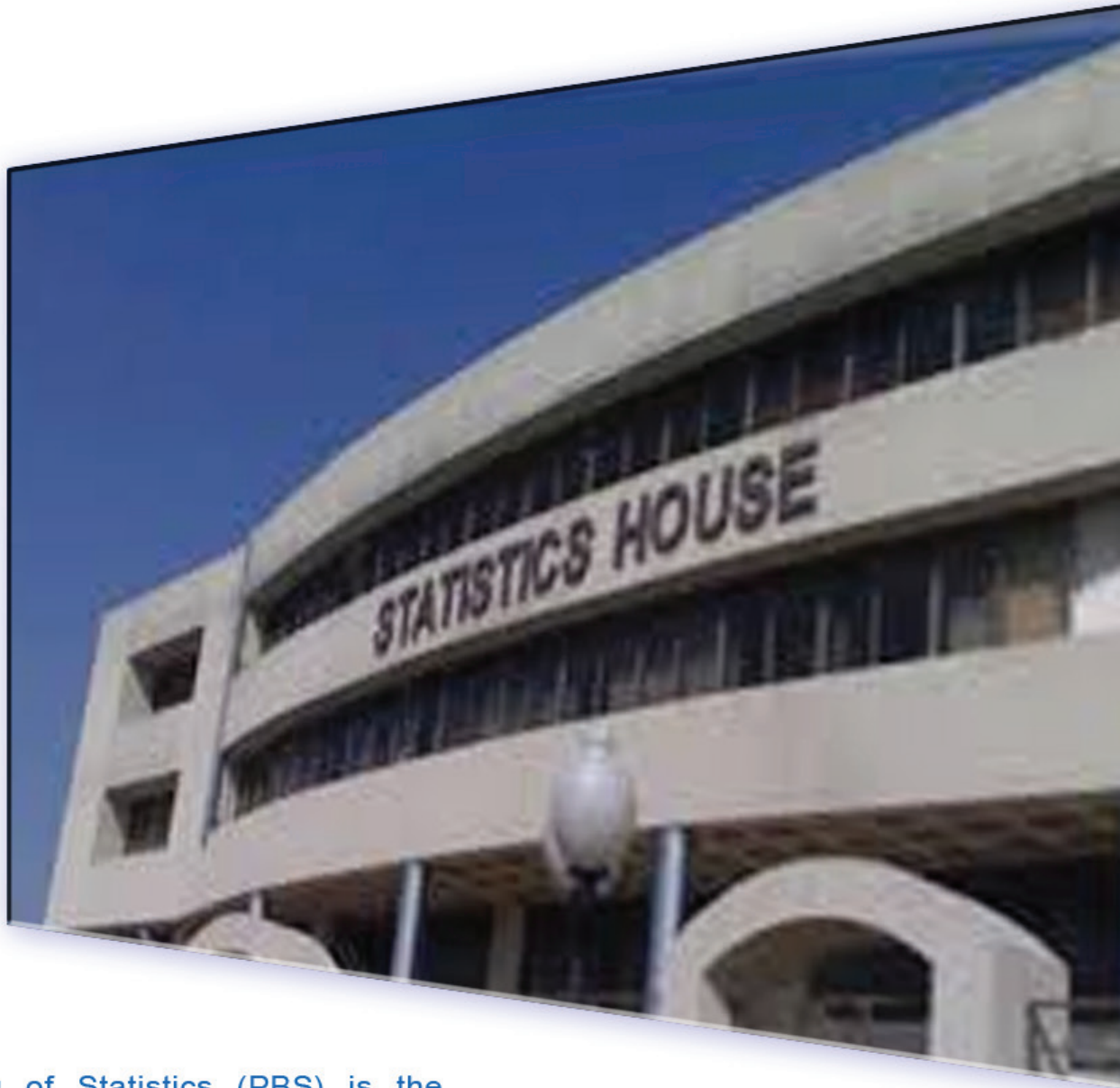




PBS NEWS BULLETIN

January - March, 2024

21st
ISSUE



About PBS

Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) is the prime statistical organization of Pakistan, responsible for collection, compilation and timely dissemination of reliable statistical information to the policy makers, planners and researchers. PBS publishes variety of reports relating to social and economic areas of the country based on primary and secondary data collected from credible resources.

FEDERAL MINISTER OF PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND SPECIAL INITIATIVES PROFESSOR AHSAN IQBAL VISIT TO PAKISTAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS (PBS) ON 15TH MARCH, 2024

Prof. Ahsan Iqbal anticipated that it is the time to get the benefits from the digital Population Census that was conducted in 2023 and was approved unanimously.



Professor Ahsan Iqbal announced to conduct First Data Fest of Pakistan in 2024, the initiative of First Data Fest will be a great step towards extending the benefits of data and bridging gap between data producers and users. It will inform Government and Private Sectors, Academia, business communities how to get benefit from Data.



"The population Growth Rate of Pakistan is 2.55% which is alarming and indicative of decline in proper allocation of resources", Prof. Ahsan Iqbal.

"Efforts should be made to work in collaboration with universities to share practical knowledge with students of Statistics and relevant Field", Prof. Ahsan Iqbal.



For Price Governance and controlling inflation, PBS has developed Decision Support System for Inflation (DSSI). live demonstration of system was presented by Mr. Muhammad Sarwar Gondal, Member (Support Services).

Chief Statistician, Dr. Naeem uz Zafar, Member (Support Services), Mr. Muhammad Sarwar Gondal and Member (Census and Surveys) along with senior officers of PBS extended a warm welcome to the Minister and congratulated him on assuming his responsibilities. The purpose of visit was to have an overview of the latest developments and initiative taken by PBS to generate reliable data for Policy Making and Development Projects.





Dr. Naeem uz Zafar, Chief Statistician informed that PBS has taken initiative to adopt "Three in one" approach to implement the "Integrated Digital Count" Strategy i.e., Integration of Agriculture, Mouza and Agricultural Machinery counts into one Census i.e., 7th Agricultural Census (Integrated and Digital count). The field work will be carried out in 2024. Further, PBS is going to launch the results of 7th Population and Housing Census after which the First Data Festival will be conducted. PBS has completed Re-basing of National Accounts that is a great step towards improving GDP. Mr. Muhammad Sarwar Gondal presented live demonstration of Decision Support System for Inflation (DSSI) which can be effectively utilized for controlling inflation. Implementation of Decision support system will provide data for PSDP baseline monitoring.

The Minister showed satisfaction over all the initiatives and innovations and anticipated that these initiatives will provide reliable grounds for informed decision making. Further, he emphasized that correct utilization of Census data will lead the country towards Development and approved the conduct of first Data Fest. While talking on results of 7th Population and Housing Census he said that Population of Pakistan showed a decreasing trend in 2017 Population and Housing Census, but the trend is again increasing in 2023 Census, which is alarming. There is need to work on Population Development Projects at Provincial level. The implementation of these projects is essential for improving the standard of living.



INTEGRATED 7TH AGRICULTURAL CENSUS 2024 WORKSHOP.

FIRST WORKSHOP

After the successful conduct of 7th Population and Housing Census, which was the biggest digital data collection exercise of South Asia, 7th Agricultural Census will be the biggest exercise. Considering the Best Practices and recommendations of World Census of Agriculture (WCA) Programme by the UNFAO, PBS decided to collect data of agricultural lands, crops, orchards, irrigation, livestock population, modern farming practices in one go through Integrated Digital Count in 7th Agricultural Census 2024. Therefore, Governing Council of PBS decided in 2015 to merge the three past agriculture related censuses to save the time, cost, and resources.



The first provincial meeting was convened on 1st February, 2024 at Provincial Census Coordination Center (P3C), Sindh, PBS, Karachi under the chair of Dr. Naeem-uz-Zafar (S.I), Chief Census Commissioner, Pakistan, Muhammad Sarwar Gondal (S.I), Member (SS/RM), Director, Livestock Department, Dr. Ali Nawaz Channar, Director, Agriculture Extension, from Government of Sindh, Izat Ali Chachar, Sindh Bureau of Statistics, attended the meeting. After welcome remarks by the chair, Dr. Naeem-uz-Zafar (S.I), Chief Census Commissioner, Pakistan, Member (SS/RM), Mr. Muhammad Sarwar Gondal (SI) delivered a presentation and shared complete framework of the census. It has been highlighted that the agriculture sector contributes 23% share in GDP and updated data on agriculture is need of the nation to plan and identify the resources that will further contribute to the maximization



of the production. He said that the digitalization of all the leading censuses and surveys will ensure the transparency, accountability, and efficiency in data collection and its further dissemination for end users.

SECOND WORKSHOP

The Second provincial meeting was convened on 15th February, 2024 at P3C, PBS, Provincial Office, Punjab, Lahore under the chair of Dr. Naeem uz Zafar, Chief Census Commissioner. Muhammad Sarwar Gondal, Member (SS/RM), senior officers from PBS HQ Islamabad, Lahore



and senior officers from Provincial departments also attended the meeting. The main purpose of the second provincial meeting was to coordinate and prepare for the 7th Agricultural Census 2024.

The meeting covered the significance of updated agricultural data for policy planning, the methodology, field operation plan and the integration

vided about Census Support Centers, the deployment of coordinators and training plans for field staff. The meeting aimed to ensure a coordinated effort for accurate and timely data collection to support informed decision-making.

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THIRD WORKSHOP

Third provincial meeting of this sequel held on 20th February, 2024 at Peshawar under the chair of Muhammad Sarwar Gondal, Member (SS/RM), senior officers from PBS HQ Islamabad, provincial office Peshawar, and senior officers from Provincial departments of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa also attended the meeting. Mr. M. Sarwar Gondal, Member (SS/RM), PBS high-



of digital technology for data collection Provincial stakeholders' cooperation was emphasized for the success of the census and details were pro-



lighted the importance of Agricultural census . Details were provided on the digital aspects of data collection and the establishment of support and training infrastructure to ensure smooth and efficient field operations. The meeting aimed to guarantee a cohesive endeavor towards precise and punctual data collection to facilitate informed



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policy formulation.

HR Module training was held on February 21, 2024, in Peshawar, to equip Census Divisional and District coordinators with proficiency in the digital tools essential for the 7th Agricultural Census. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa 42 participants were trained for the upcoming digital census. The purpose of the training was to include comprehensive instructions on software modules for effective human resource management, staff allocation, and block management, ensuring efficient and seamless execution of the integrated digital census scheduled for September-October 2024.

FOURTH WORKSHOP

Fourth Provincial meeting of the series was held on 28th February, 2024 at Quetta Balochistan, the provincial headquarters. Senior officers from PBS HQ Islamabad, provincial office Quetta, and Provincial departments of Balochistan also attended the meeting. Mr. Muhammad Sarwar Gondal, Member (Support Services/IT), apprised the forum regarding methodology, field operation plan, Media Strategy, and Budget requirements.

get requirements, and the use of digital technology for data collection, such as tablet-based collection, digitized maps, SMS Gateway, and Call Center. Training session on the Supervisor and Enumerator Management System' for 40 Census Divisional and District coordinators in Quetta on February 29, 2024, as part of preparations for the 7th Agricultural Census.



The meeting highlighted the necessity of up-to-date agricultural data for evidence-based policy planning and stressed the cooperation of provincial stakeholders for successful field operations. Key points included the methodology, field operation plan, media strategy, bud-

MEETING WITH VITAL STAKEHOLDERS OF AGRICULTURAL CENSUS FROM AZAD STATE OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR (AJ&K)

A meeting chaired by Chief Census Commissioner, Dr. Naeem Uz Zafar (SI) was held at PBS Regional Office AJK, Muzaffarabad to engage the stakeholders in planning of 7th Agricultural Census. Mr. Muhammad Sarwar Gondal (SI), Member (Support Services/IT), Dr. Amjad Javed Sandhu, DG (Admin) and other senior officers of PBS attended the meeting. Secretary BoR AJK focal person for 7th Agricultural Census along other senior officers from AJK Government were also present at the occasion.

Three in One" approach to implement the "Integrated Digital Count" strategy for 7th Agricultural Census of Pakistan has been adopted in 2024. The field operation will be conducted in September-October 2024. Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) has planned mix approach of complete and sample enumeration for 7th Agricultural Census as per best international practices and guidelines of UNFAO. Total 10 Census Support Centres have been established throughout the region.

The field operation will be conducted in September-October 2024. A meeting chaired by Chief Census Commissioner, Dr. Naeem Uz Zafar (SI) was held at PBS Regional Office AJK, Muzaffarabad to engage the stakeholders in planning of 7th Agricultural Census. Mr. Muhammad Sarwar Gondal (SI), Member (Support Services/IT), Dr. Amjad Javed Sandhu, DG (Admin) and other senior officers of PBS attended the meeting. Secretary BoR AJ&K focal person for 7th Agricultural Census along other senior officers from AJ&K Government were also present at the occasion.

Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS), considering International best practices under the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UNFAO) guidelines, has decided to integrate Agricultural, Livestock, and Agricultural Machinery Censuses, to cover all three as 7th Agricultural Census. Information that will be collected through Agricultural Census will be utilized for evidence-based policy making there-

fore, efficient and effective management of human and financial resources are crucial for 7th Agricultural Census. PBS has established 157 Agricultural Census Support Centers for seamless execution and management of field operations throughout the country. Provincial Stakeholders Viz. Board of Revenue, Agricultural (Extension), Livestock, AJ&K, Muzaffarabad Bureau of Statistics, Crop Reporting Services, Education departments will support for Field Operation, Supervision and Monitoring. Budget of Rs. 650 million has been released for 7th Agricultural Census this year.



The 7th Agricultural Census will provide benchmark data for policy planning to fulfil the food and fiber needs of more than 241 million population of the country. For broader involvement and wider acceptability, PBS has initiated engagements with Partner Organizations and Provincial Stakeholders Viz. Board of Revenue, Agriculture (Extension), Livestock, Provincial Bureau of Statistics, Crop Reporting Services, Education departments etc. The participation of stakeholders helped in diversified perspectives, identifying needs, and addressing the shortcomings and potential issues for provision of reliable data in agriculture as per requirements through avoiding any inconvenience during field operation of the Agricultural Census. Initially, Meeting of all Provincial Focal Persons was held on 20th December 2023 at PBS HQ Islamabad. Afterwards, series of Provincial meetings started, second provincial meeting was held at Provincial Census Coordination Center (P3C), PBS, Karachi, Sindh on 1st February, 2024. The Third provincial meeting was held on 15th February, 2024 at P3C,



PBS, Provincial Office, Punjab, Lahore. Fourth provincial meeting of this sequel was held on 20th February, 2024 at Peshawar. Fifth Provincial meeting of the series was held on 28th February, 2024 at Quetta Balochistan, the provincial headquarters. Sixth meeting of the series was held on 07th March, 2024 at AJK, Muzaffarabad under the chair of Chief Census Commissioner, Dr. Naeem Uz Zafar (SI), Stakeholders organizations of Muzaffarabad also attended the meeting. Chief Census Commissioner, Dr. Naeem Uz Zafar (SI) informed the participants that the economy of Pakistan depends upon agriculture as it has 23% shares in the GDP, and is providing employment to the 37% of the labor force. The

Livestock share in the agriculture is 64%, while independently Livestock is contributing 14% in the GDP. The latest data on agriculture sector is required for evidence-based policy planning while Agricultural Census 2024 will be an authentic source in this regard. The participation and cooperation of provincial stakeholders, for successful completion of the field operation for the 7th Agricultural Census, was also emphasized.



Mr. Muhammad Sarwar Gondal, Member (Support Services/IT) (SI), apprised the forum regarding methodology, Field operation plan, Media Strategy, and Budget requirements. He



informed that PBS is using newly developed sampling design, that is also vetted by UNFAO. He informed that it will be the Integrated Digital exercise in the field of agriculture for data collection in Pakistan through optimum utilization of available resources to cover the agricultural, Livestock, and Machinery Censuses in one go through their integration. The Digital aspects like Tablet based data collection, use of digitized

maps of Mouzas/Blocks, SMS Gateway (9727), Call Center, were elaborated in detail. It was informed that for smooth and efficient field operations, Various Working Groups for Complaint Management and provision of information have been constituted. The divisional and district census coordinators have already been deployed by PBS at each Agricultural CSC for technical guidance, facilitation, and operational management. Similarly, 157 Training Venues hav-

ing facilities of multimedia, internet, sound system, laptops, printers have been shortlisted out of which 34 in Balochistan. Training will be imparted using ICT materials with interactive videos/audios by the expert trainers to ensure standardization of the census concepts. PBS has also planned for process re-engineering to enumerate the big holdings (NCH) throughout the country.



7TH AGRICULTURAL CENSUS

- Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) is planning to integrate the Agricultural, Livestock, and Agricultural Machinery Censuses into one by conducting the 7th Agricultural Census from 1st June, 2024.
- Provincial administration will be engaged in field operations, monitoring, and supervision of the Census.
- The model and resources of last Population Census will be utilized to minimize the cost.
- Two-tier training model has been devised for field staff.



- Mouzas and Blocks for the census have been identified with the cooperation of Provincial administration.

After the successful completion of 7th Population & Housing Census (1st Ever Digital Census), Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) is in the process to conduct the 7th Agricultural Census throughout the country. PBS has decided to integrate the Agricultural, Livestock, and Agricultural Machinery Censuses into one according to the best international practices and guidelines of the FAO. To initiate the process, PBS has started meetings with Partner Organizations and Provincial Stakeholders. The participation of stakeholders helped in diversified perspectives, identifying needs, and addressing the issues that may occur during the field operation of the Agricultural Census. The first provincial meeting was convened on 1st February, 2024 at Provincial Census Coordination Center (P3C), Sindh, PBS, Karachi under the chair of Dr. Naeem-uz-Zafar, Chief Census Commissioner, Pakistan, Muhammad Sarwar Gondal, Member (SS/RM), Dr. Naveed Iqbal, JACC PBS,



Dr. Hizbullah Bhutto, Director, Livestock Department, Dr. Ali Nawaz Channar, Director, Agriculture Extension, from Government of Sindh, Izat Ali Chachar, Sindh Bureau of Statistics, Mr. Munwar Ali Ghanghro, Director (Incharge) PBS, Provincial Office, Karachi, Mr. Azizullah Bhatti, Director (DP), and Mr. Shakeel Qadeer Director (CPMU), PBS, Karachi, attended the meeting. After welcome remarks by the chair, Mr. Muhammad Sarwas delivered a presentation and shared complete framework of the census. It has been highlighted that the agriculture sector contributes 23 % share in GDP and updated data on agriculture is need of the nation to plan and identify the resources that will further contribute to the maximization of the production. PBS has planned to conduct the 7th Agricultural census with close cooperation of Provincial & District Administration by engaging the staff and using the resources of last Population Census. Two-tier training has been scheduled for the supervisors and enumerators. The plan for training and resources allocation has already been devised and shared with the house. By using the Tablets of last Population Census and by capitalizing the infrastructure, the utilization of resources will be optimized.



He said that the digitalization of all the leading censuses and surveys will ensure the transparency, accountability, and efficiency in data collection and its further dissemination for end users. All the participants from partner organizations have lauded the efforts of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics for such a great initiative of conducting the Agricultural Census after a lapse of thirteen years and have extended their full support to the national cause which will have far reaching impacts on the national economy.

CONSULTATION WITH DATA PRODUCERS AND DATA USERS FOR EFFECTIVE USAGE OF POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS ALONG WITH OTHER PBS PRODUCED DATA

Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) organized a meeting on 01-03-2024 to engage the data producers and users for optimal utilization of data in various sectors of the economy at, Provincial Census Coordination Center, PBS, Provincial Office, Karachi under the chair of Dr. Naeem uz Zafar, Chief Statistician. Key stakeholders from industrial sector, banking sector, chamber of commerce, SECP, pharmaceutical industries and senior officers of PBS from Islamabad and Karachi attended the meeting. The chair welcomed the participant and discussed the objec-



tives of the meeting. Mr. Sarwar Gondal, Member (SS/RM) presented about the ongoing process of digital dissemination of data and briefed that how the PBS is working day and night in collecting, analyzing and arranging the data for data users and data producers being benefitted from PBS products. Pakistan Bureau of Statistics has taken initiative to launch a portal for SPI and other vital indicators of the economy which is already shared with the administrative authorities at district level throughout Pakistan. PBS is

also developing dashboards for Population Census and other surveys to provide data insights for planners, researchers and other data users. PBS has developed dashboard for Mouza Census 2020 showing rural development indicators along with rural statistics which can be used for development plans in rural areas and planners may get this facility from PBS for future policy planning. This dash board will provide rich information about rural areas community level development situation and may be used as baseline for rural development plans. Dr. Naeem uz

involve various segments of life in future plans of PBS.

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Zafar persistently mentioned that PBS is working on digital dissemination of data. The Chief Statistician also informed that PBS has planned to conduct the 7th Agricultural Census during 2024 throughout the country for which preparations are in full swing. The Agricultural census will be of significant importance in shaping the economy of Pakistan through planning in agriculture sector for producing food requirements of more than 241 million population of the country. PBS is also in the process of renovating its website to make it user friendly and soon all the data will be accessible by the data user and producers on their fingertips. All questions and queries were addressed by the chair and assured that suggestions of the participants will be implemented in future surveys and census. Dr. Naeem uz Zafar and Muhammad Sarwar Gondal invited all the participants in future activities of PBS for their suggestions to fill the data gaps according to new requirements. The participants appreciated PBS for openness and out of the box plans to

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DR. NAEEM-UZ-ZAFAR, CHIEF STATISTICIAN & MR. MUHAMMAD SARWAR GONDAL, MEMBER (SUPPORT SERVICES & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT) PAKISTAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS (PBS) AWARDED WITH SITARA-E-IMTIAZ.

Mr. Muhammad Sarwar Gondal Member Support Services, (SI) PBS has been conferred with the prestigious Sitara-e-Imtiaz, the civil award by the President of Pakistan for his exceptional contribution to the nation particularly in the realm of information technology for his remarkable leadership played a pivotal role in the triumph of the historic 7th Population and Housing Census 2023, the largest digitization exercise of South Asia. Furthermore, he has played a major role in shifting from paper base survey to Digital collection of all regular survey i.e. **PSLM, HIES, LFS, PDS, BR, Economic Census & integrated Agricultural Census.**

We extend our heartfelt congratulations and profound admiration for this remarkable achievement.

Pakistan Bureau Of Statistics has been awarded of Pakistan's most prestigious civilian awards the sitara -e- imtiaz by the Government of Pakistan on **23rd March 2024** for successful conduct of 7th Population & Housing Census -2023 (First ever Digital Census).

Dr. Naeem uz Zafar, the Chief Statistician (SI) PBS, has been honored with the Sitara -e- imtiaz on **his recognition bestowed and acknowledgment** of his outstanding professional dedication and significant contributions to the public and education sector, particularly for his leadership, which marked Pakistan's digital census endeavor. **We extend our sincere congratulations and deep admiration for this extraordinary accomplishment.**



"CONCEPT AND COMPILATION OF KEY DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS THROUGH PAKISTAN DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY 2020"

A five-day training program on "Concept and Compilation of key Demographic Indicators through Pakistan Demographic Survey 2020" was held at PBS, Training wing from 11th to 15th March, 2024. The inaugural session was chaired by Chief Statistician Dr. Naeem uz Zafar who

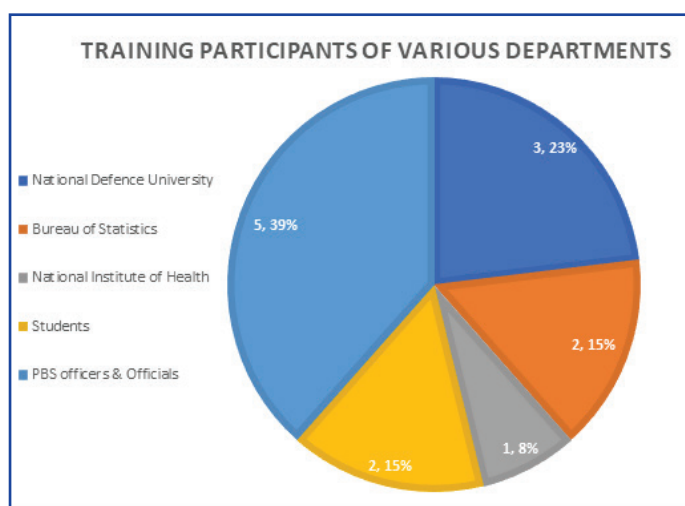
the field of statistics, whose main responsibilities include data analysis. PBS Officers and Officials, University Students (Interns) and Statistical Officers from National Institute of Health and Bureau of Statistics Punjab and Assistant Professors from National Defence University participated in

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welcomed all training participants. Member Census & Survey Ayazuddin while talking to trainees highlighted the core purpose of the training. DG Admin, Dr. Amjad Javed Sandhu and DDG, Ms. Rabia Awan were also in attendance. Training was imparted by Ms. Ayesha Sajid (Instructor). The training focused on main indicators of Pakistan Demographic Survey using SPSS. The course was designed for personnel working in



WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION (08.03.2024)

PBS pays tribute to "Workplace Warrior" women who are not afraid of facing challenges. They navigate storms gracefully with their will, determination and hard work. Chief Statistician PBS, Dr Naeem uz Zafar said that supporting women's economic empowerment paves the way for achieving gender equality, poverty, and fastening inclusive economic growth.



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Member Support Services, PBS said that Women play significant roles in economics whether through entrepreneurship, employment, Agricultural work, business ownership, or unpaid caregiving responsibilities within households. Therefore, Gender equality and women's well being are important steps towards developed economies".



HOUSEHOLD INTEGRATED ECONOMIC SURVEY (HIES), 2024-2025

PBS is planning to launch first ever digital Provincial level Household Integrated Economic Survey (HIES), 2024-25 in July, 2024. HIES collects information on household income, savings, liabilities and consumption expenditure and consumption patterns at national and provincial level with urban/rural breakdown. The survey also provides requisite data for the estimation of consumption-based Poverty. It is worth mentioning here that out of 62 SDG indicators reported by PBS, 27 SDG indicators (in total) are being covered/monitored through HIES Surveys.

The launching of HIES (2024-25), the HIES Questionnaire has been reviewed internally by the PBS under the chairmanship of Chief Statistician, PBS as well as by the Technical Committee reconstituted by including key stakeholders from Education, Health, Water & Sanitation and representatives from Provincial Planning & Development Department & Bureau of Statistics, Academia, Researchers and International donors. Preparatory work for HIES 2024-25 including Questionnaire Review & Finalization in consultation with the members of Technical Committee and Preparation of Edit Checks have been completed. Moreover, work on the Urdu translation of HIES 2024-25 (Male & Female) Questionnaire and Preparation of Manual of Instructions for HIES, 2024-25, remained in progress. The final questionnaire was forwarded to DP Centre for the de-

velopment of related Software Applications.



FAREWELL PARTY

A farewell party in favour of retirements of Qazi Ismatullah, Joint Census Commissioner (G), Mr. Tahir Khattak, Director (Budget & Accounts) and Mr. Riazuddin PBS Security Incharge was organized at Tahir Khan Restaurnet Islamabad, A large number of PBS officers/official participated to pay homage to the the officers. In this regard, shield/ souvenirs were also awarded to the reitring officers as acknowledgment of their outstanding services for the department.



INFLATION SITUATION DURING (JANUARY-MARCH,2024)

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Pakistan Bureau of Statistics is the National Statistical Office, responsible for collection, compilation and dissemination of Wholesale & Retail prices and indices to measure inflation in the country. National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), Urban Consumer Price Index (UCPI), Rural Consumer Price Index (RPI) and Wholesale Price Index (WPI) are computed regularly on monthly and Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI) on weekly basis. The monthly review on price indices and report on weekly SPI are also published on PBS official website <http://www.pbs.gov.pk>. The monthly inflationary situation in Pakistan during Jan-March, 2024 is given in Table-1, the Core Inflation in Table-2, quarterly inflationary situation in Table-3 and cumulative indices are given in Table-3 below. Table-1 gives the snapshot of year on year (YoY) and month on month (MoM) inflation rate of General, Food and Non-Food Groups for National, Urban & Rural CPI, SPI and WPI.

Table-1: Average General Inflation (%) (Base 2015-16)

| TABLE 1.A GENERAL INFLATION (%) (BASE 2015-16) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|----------|-----|-------|-----|------|------|------|-----|
| PERIOD | CPI | | | | | | | | | | | | | | SPI | | WPI | |
| | GENERAL | | | | | | FOOD | | | | NON-FOOD | | | | | | | |
| | NATIONAL | | URBAN | | RURAL | | URBAN | | RURAL | | URBAN | | RURAL | | | | | |
| | YoY | MoM | YoY | MoM | YoY | MoM | YoY | MoM | YoY | MoM | YoY | MoM | YoY | MoM | YoY | MoM | YoY | MoM |
| JAN-24 | 28.3 | 1.83 | 30.2 | 1.81 | 25.7 | 1.9 | 27.4 | 2.8 | 25.1 | 2.3 | 32.3 | 1.1 | 26.3 | 1.2 | 36.2 | 2.0 | 27.0 | 1.5 |
| FEB-24 | 23.1 | 0.03 | 24.9 | 0.24 | 20.5 | -0.3 | 20.2 | -1.5 | 19.0 | -1.1 | 28.2 | 1.5 | 22.1 | 0.4 | 30.4 | -0.8 | 18.7 | 1.1 |
| MAR-24 | 20.7 | 1.71 | 21.9 | 1.43 | 19.0 | 2.1 | 16.6 | 2.4 | 17.1 | 2.8 | 25.8 | 0.7 | 21.0 | 0.8 | 25.9 | -2.1 | 14.8 | 1.3 |
| JAN- MAR 24 | 24.0 | 3.9 | 25.7 | 4.4 | 21.7 | 3.2 | 21.4 | 2.3 | 20.4 | 2.9 | 28.8 | 5.9 | 23.1 | 3.5 | 30.8 | 5.8 | 20.1 | 3.1 |

Table-2 gives the snapshot of yearly (YoY) and monthly (MoM) Core Inflation rates of Urban & Rural domains.

Table-2: Average Core Inflation (%) (Base 2015-16)

| Monthly | YoY | MoM | YoY | MoM |
|-------------|------|-----|------|-----|
| Jan-24 | 17.8 | 1.1 | 26.3 | 1.2 |
| Feb-24 | 15.5 | 0.3 | 22.1 | 0.4 |
| Mar-24 | 12.8 | 0.1 | 21.0 | 0.8 |
| Quarterly | YoY | QoQ | YoY | QoQ |
| Jan- Mar 24 | 15.4 | 0.5 | 23.1 | 0.8 |

Table-3 indicates the cumulative indices along with percentage change for the Twelve (12) major groups at National, Urban and Rural level.

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Table-3: Cumulative Indices and Inflation rates (%) [Jul-Mar, 2024] (Base 2015-16)

| Group | NATIONAL | | | | URBAN | | | | RURAL | | | |
|--|------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|
| | Weight (%) | INDICES | | Change (%) | Weight (%) | INDICES | | Change (%) | Weight (%) | INDICES | | Change (%) |
| | | Jul-Mar 2023-24 | Jul-Mar 2022-23 | | | Jul-Mar 2023-24 | Jul-Mar 2022-23 | | | Jul-Mar 2023-24 | Jul-Mar 2022-23 | |
| General | 100.00 | 250.87 | 197.44 | 27.06 | 100.00 | 245.02 | 192.74 | 27.13 | 100.00 | 259.70 | 204.54 | 26.97 |
| Food and non-alcoholic Beverages | 34.58 | 281.98 | 220.96 | 27.62 | 30.42 | 276.77 | 216.76 | 27.69 | 40.87 | 287.84 | 225.69 | 27.54 |
| Non-perishable food items | 29.60 | 284.29 | 219.67 | 29.42 | 25.97 | 279.12 | 215.47 | 29.54 | 35.08 | 290.07 | 224.37 | 29.28 |
| Perishable food items | 4.99 | 268.28 | 228.63 | 17.34 | 4.46 | 263.06 | 224.30 | 17.28 | 5.79 | 274.35 | 233.66 | 17.41 |
| Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco | 1.02 | 362.80 | 213.17 | 70.19 | 0.85 | 383.36 | 227.98 | 68.16 | 1.28 | 342.07 | 198.25 | 72.54 |
| Clothing and footwear | 8.60 | 217.92 | 181.82 | 19.85 | 8.01 | 209.39 | 179.18 | 16.86 | 9.48 | 228.79 | 185.20 | 23.54 |
| Housing, water, Elec., Gas and other fuels | 23.63 | 217.31 | 170.38 | 27.55 | 27.03 | 218.17 | 166.36 | 31.14 | 18.49 | 215.43 | 179.26 | 20.18 |
| Furnishing and household equipment maintenance | 4.10 | 256.54 | 192.47 | 33.28 | 4.09 | 249.19 | 189.77 | 31.31 | 4.10 | 267.60 | 196.55 | 36.15 |
| Health | 2.79 | 227.22 | 185.45 | 22.52 | 2.31 | 227.63 | 183.42 | 24.10 | 3.51 | 226.82 | 187.47 | 20.99 |
| Transport | 5.91 | 308.74 | 251.93 | 22.55 | 6.14 | 303.00 | 252.44 | 20.03 | 5.56 | 318.31 | 251.08 | 26.78 |
| Communication | 2.21 | 124.71 | 112.62 | 10.73 | 2.35 | 129.22 | 115.39 | 11.99 | 1.99 | 116.67 | 107.70 | 8.33 |
| Recreation and culture | 1.59 | 254.62 | 175.56 | 45.03 | 1.73 | 244.77 | 169.82 | 44.14 | 1.38 | 273.30 | 186.47 | 46.57 |
| Education | 3.79 | 182.77 | 163.12 | 12.04 | 4.88 | 183.26 | 165.46 | 10.76 | 2.13 | 181.07 | 155.06 | 16.77 |
| Restaurants and hotels | 6.92 | 256.69 | 198.35 | 29.41 | 7.41 | 256.54 | 198.75 | 29.08 | 6.19 | 256.96 | 197.65 | 30.01 |
| Misc. goods and services | 4.87 | 266.67 | 201.92 | 32.06 | 4.77 | 262.48 | 200.78 | 30.73 | 5.02 | 272.68 | 203.56 | 33.95 |

Figure 1: Urban Inflation - YoY, Special Indices

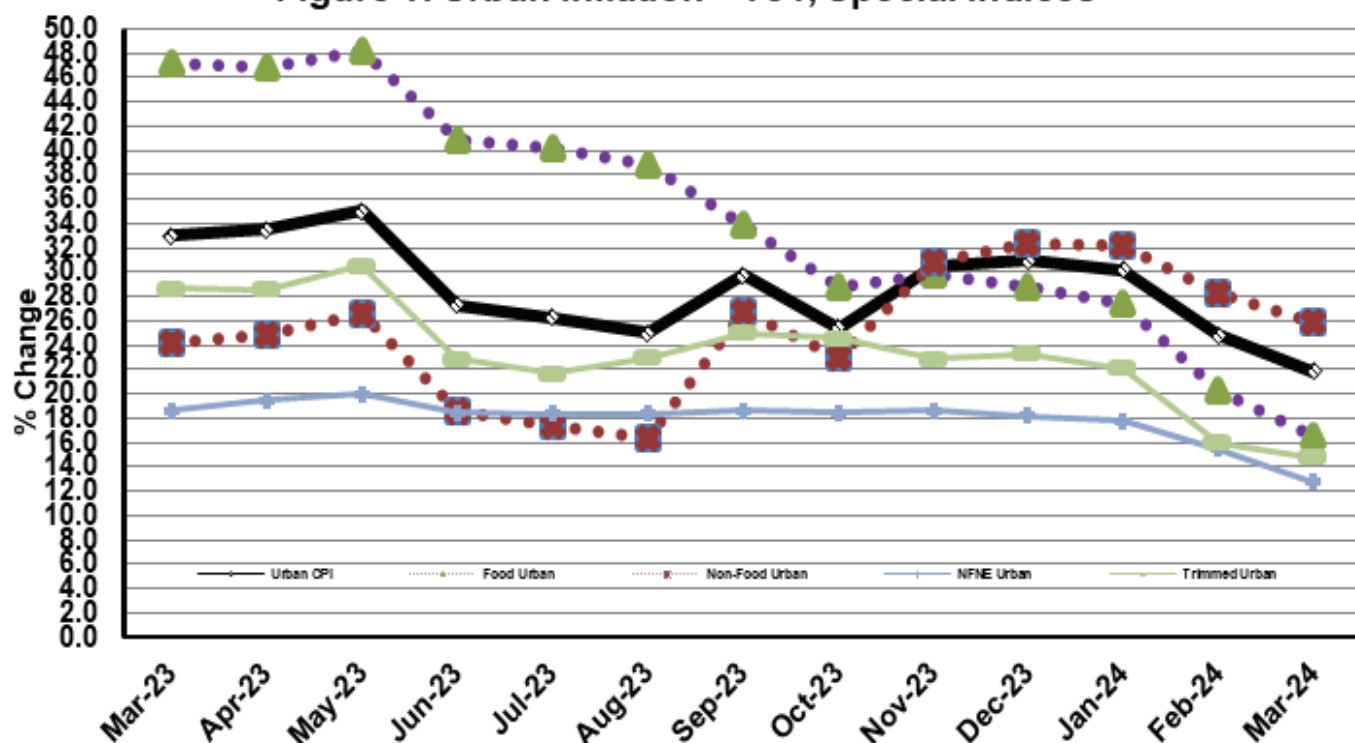


Figure 2: Rural Inflation - YoY, Special Indices

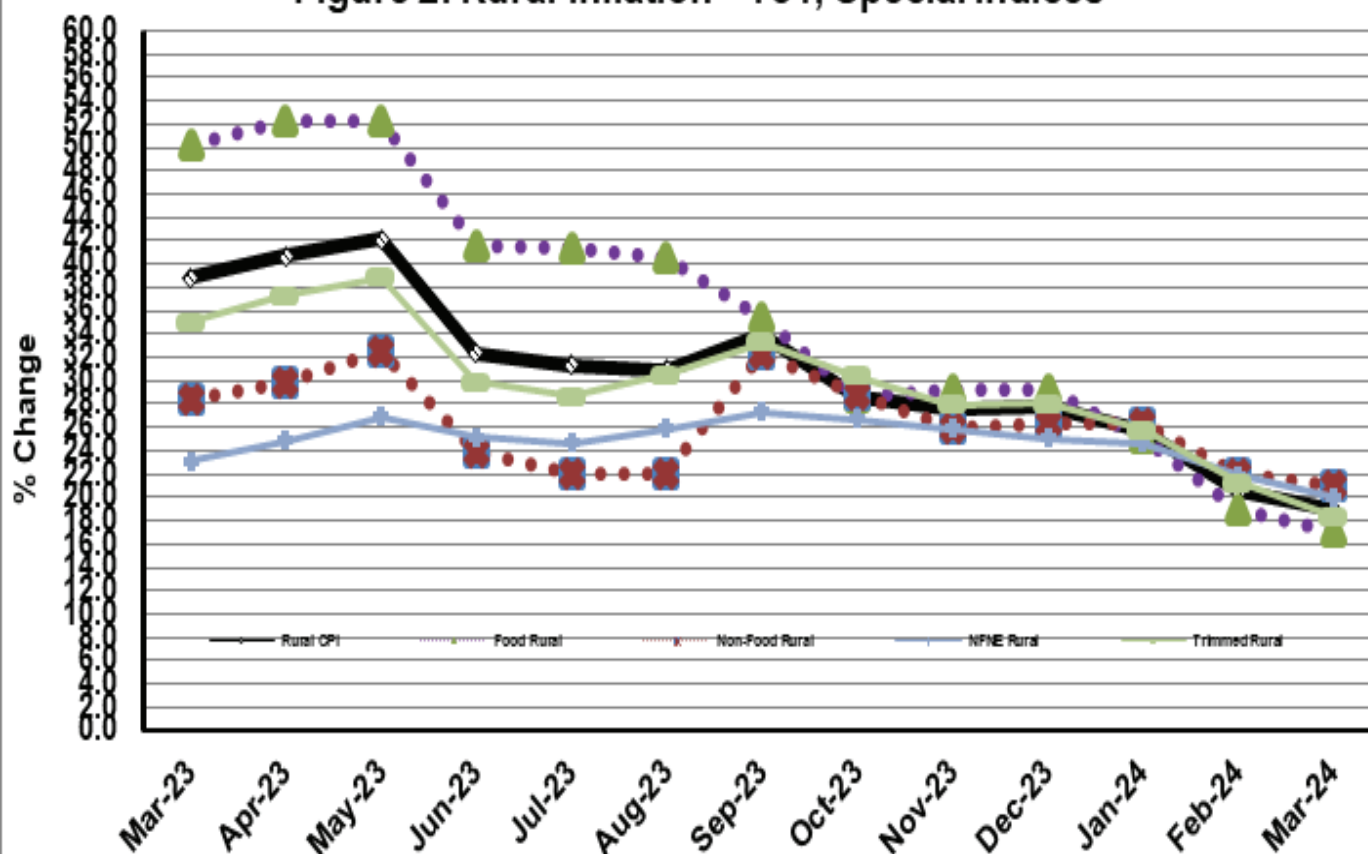


Figure 3: Urban Inflation - MoM, Special Indices

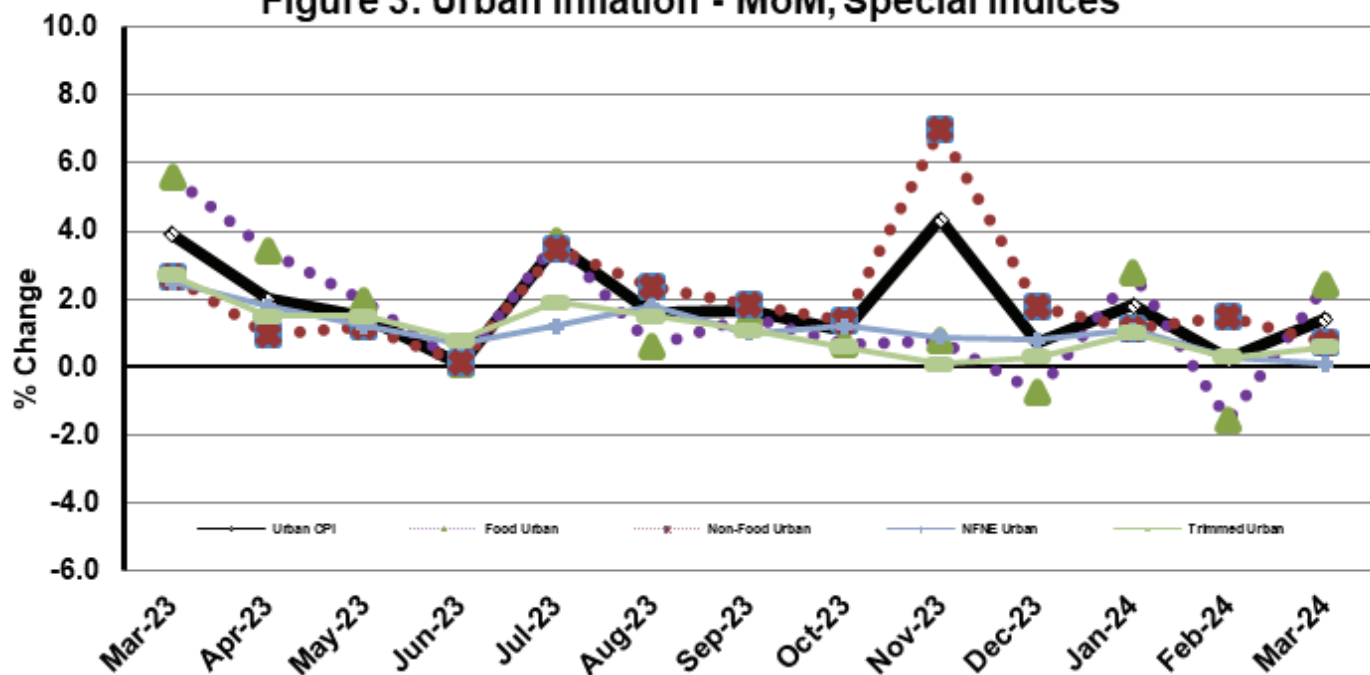


Figure 4: Rural Inflation - MoM, Special Indices

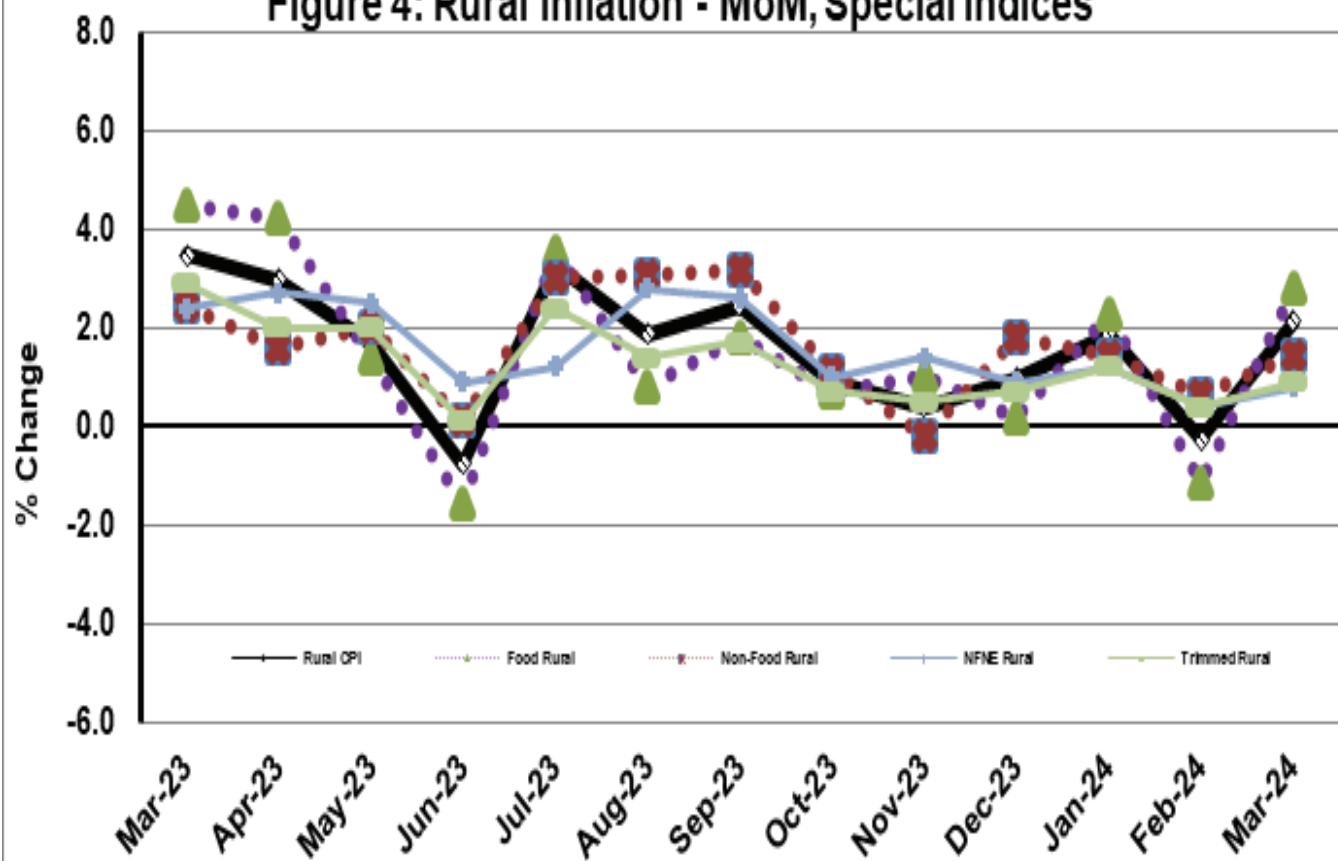


Figure 5: CPI YoY (National, Urban, Rural)

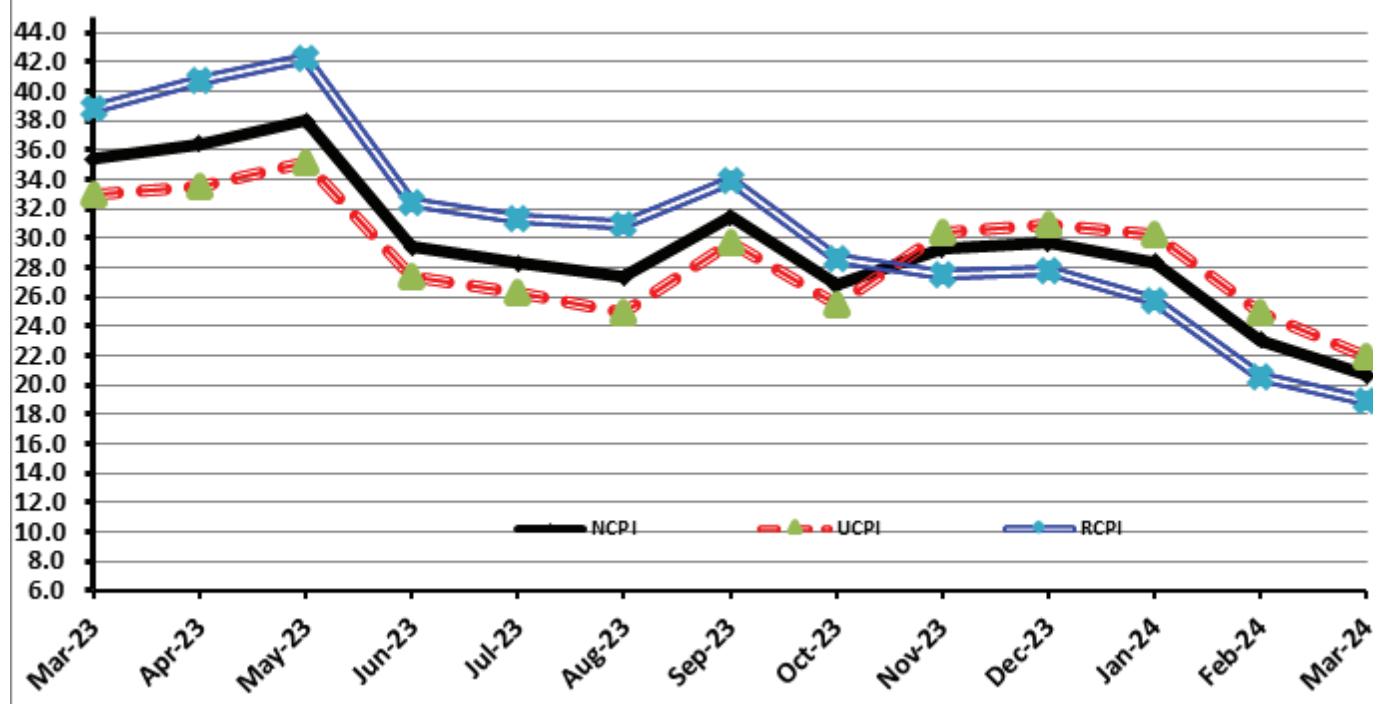
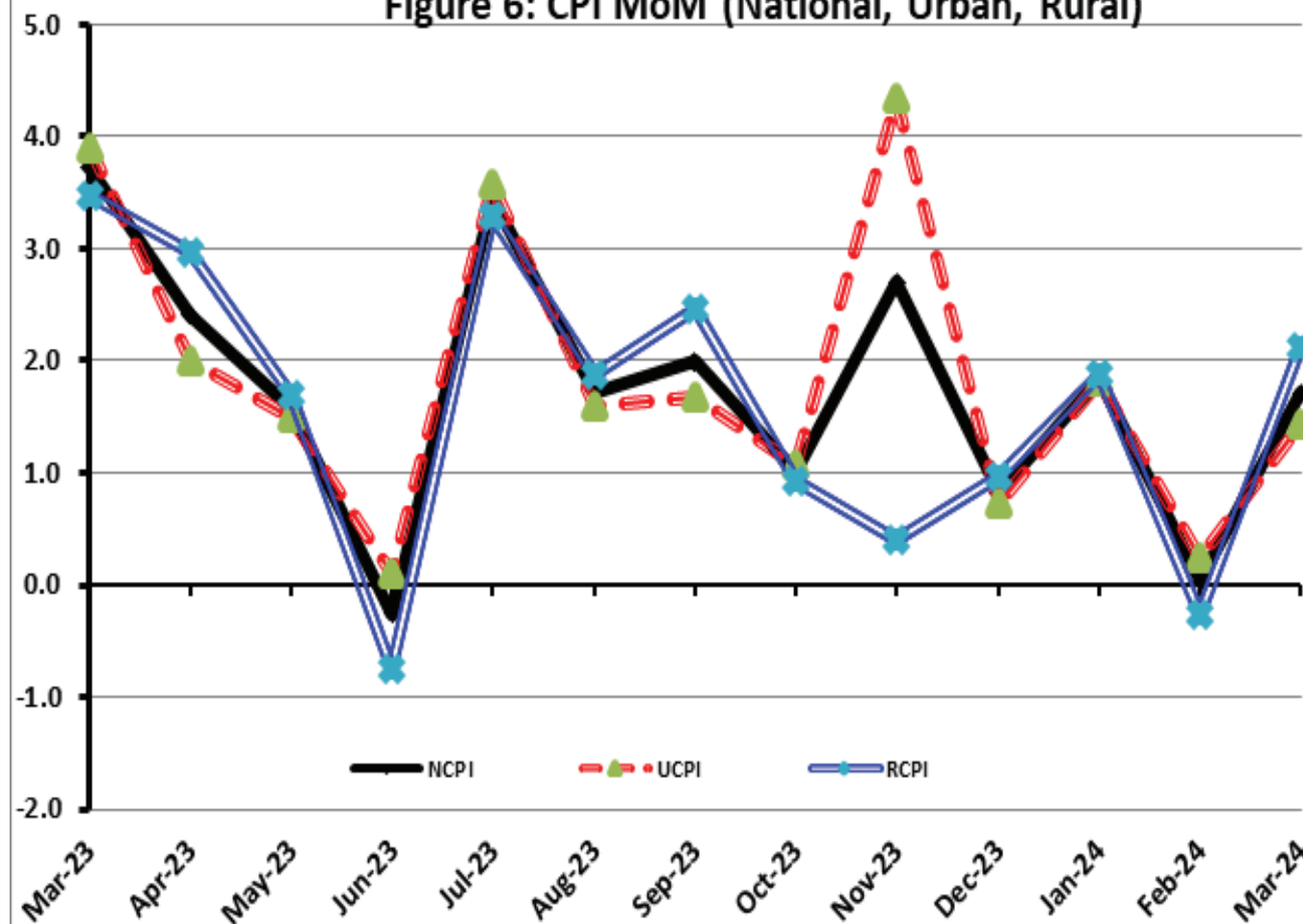


Figure 6: CPI MoM (National, Urban, Rural)



EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS EXPORTS FROM PAKISTAN

According to the provisional figures compiled by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics exports from Pakistan during March, 2024 amounted to Rs.716.711 million (provisional) as against Rs. 721,064 million in February, 2024 and Rs. 663,128 million during March, 2023 showing a decrease of 0.60% over February, 2024 but increased by 8.08% over March, 2023.

Exports during July – March, 2023 - 2024 FY2023-24 totaled Rs. 6,519,178 million (provisional) as against Rs.4,948,510 million during the corresponding period of last year showing an increase of 31.74%.

Main commodities exported in November, 2023 are given below:-

| S.No. | Commodities | Volume in Million Rs |
|-------|---|----------------------|
| 1 | Knitwear | 93,849 |
| 2 | Rice others | 92,099 |
| 3 | Readymade garments | 80,062 |
| 4 | Bed wear | 59,994 |
| 5 | Cotton cloth | 45,425 |
| 6 | Towels | 25,935 |
| 7 | Rice Basmati | 23,117 |
| 8 | Vegetables | 16,567 |
| 9 | Madeup articles (excl towels & bedwear) | 16,372 |
| 10 | Meat and meat preparations | 15,285 |

IMPORTS FROM PAKISTAN

Imports into Pakistan during March, 2024 amounted to Rs. 1,358,072 million (provisional) as against Rs. 1,202,117 million in February, 2024 and Rs. 1,052,285 million during March, 2023 showing an increase of 12.97% over February, 2024 and increased by 29.06% over March, 2023.

Imports during July – March, 2023 - 2024 FY2023-24 totaled Rs. 11,389,402 million (provisional) as against Rs. 10,194,382 million during the corresponding period of last year of showing an increase of 11.72%.

Main commodities imported in November, 2023 are given below:-

| S.No. | Commodities | Volume in Million Rs |
|-------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Petroleum crude | 177,060 |
| 2 | Petroleum products | 138,527 |
| 3 | Electrical machinery & apparatus | 117,154 |
| 4 | Natural Gas Liquified | 81,647 |
| 5 | Palm oil | 76,343 |
| 6 | Wheat unmilled | 57,192 |
| 7 | Iron & Steel | 51,663 |
| 8 | Plastic Materials | 49,625 |
| 9 | Mobile phones | 42,656 |
| 10 | Iron & Steel Scrap | 32,030 |

BALANCE OF TRADE

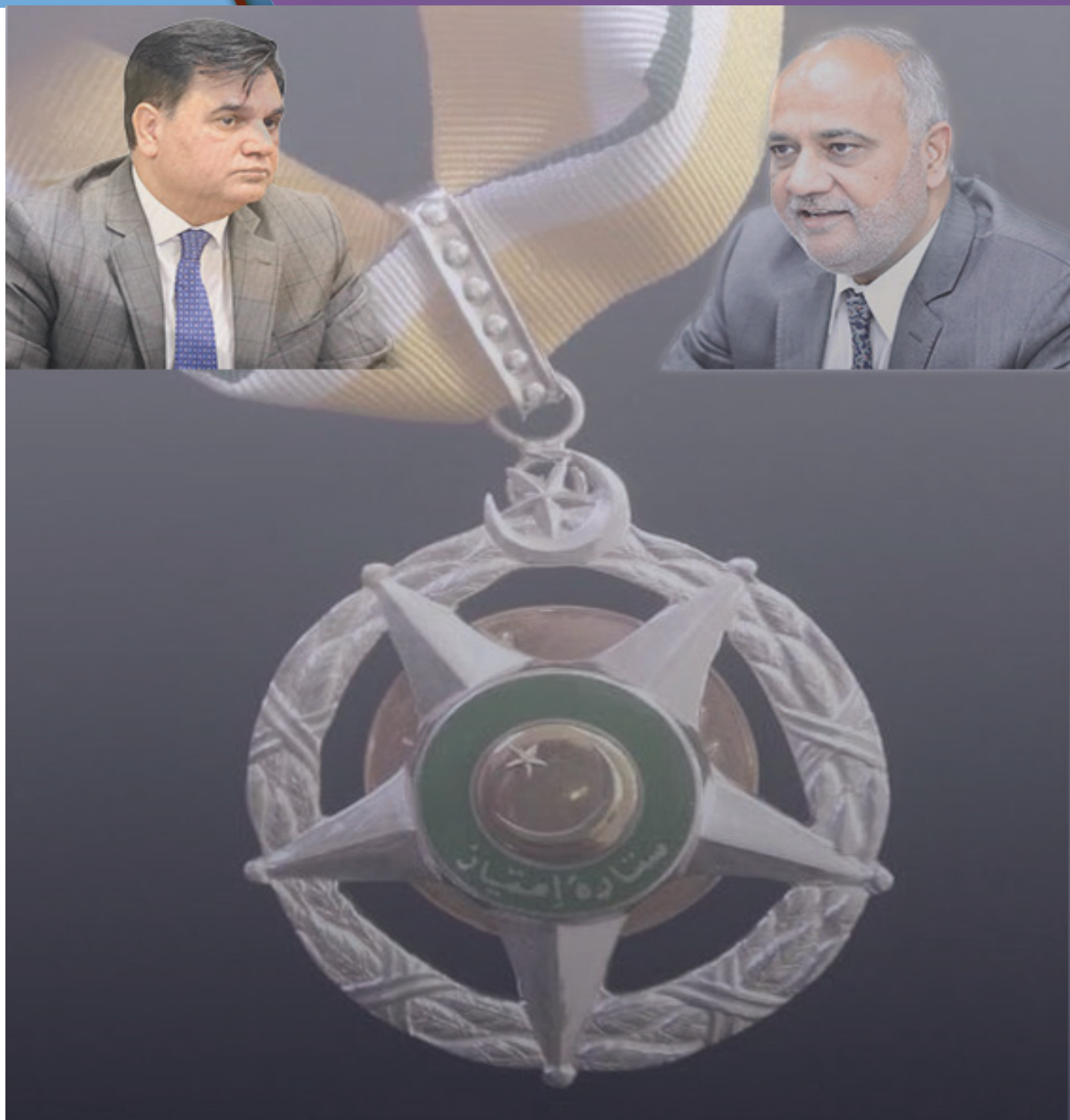
Based on the provisional figures of imports and exports the balance of trade in March, 2024 was (-)641,361 million in terms of Rupees. The balance of trade figures cumulative from July - March, 2023 – 2024 FY2023-24 were (-)4,870,224 million in terms of Rupees.

| Period | Exports | Imports | Balance of Trade |
|--------------|---------|-----------|------------------|
| Mar, 2023 | 663,128 | 1,052,285 | -389,157 |
| Apr, 2023 | 608,239 | 849,474 | -241,235 |
| May, 2023 | 627,199 | 1,228,739 | -601,541 |
| June, 2023 | 675,273 | 1,200,392 | -525,119 |
| Jul, 2023 | 580,119 | 1,037,150 | -457,031 |
| Aug, 2023 | 695,137 | 1,314,587 | -619,450 |
| Sep, 2023 | 735,689 | 1,176,025 | -440,336 |
| Oct, 2023 | 753,767 | 1,363,293 | -609,526 |
| Nov, 2023 | 734,504 | 1,291,997 | -557,493 |
| Dec, 2023 | 799,545 | 1,313,026 | -513,481 |
| Jan, 2024 | 782,642 | 1,333,136 | -550,494 |
| Feb, 2024 | 721,063 | 1,202,117 | -481,053 |
| Mar (P) 2024 | 716,711 | 1,358,072 | -641,361 |



LIST OF EMPLOYEES RETIRED w.e.f 01.01.2024 to 31.03.2024

| S.No | NAME | Designation | BS | "Date of Retirement" | STATION |
|------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----|----------------------|------------|
| 1 | MR, HAQ NAWAZ | Assistant Census Commissioner | 17 | 01.01.2024 | MULTAN |
| 2 | MUHAMMAD SARWAR ARAIN | Statistical Officer | 17 | 05.01.2024 | R.Y.K |
| 3 | MR, RIAZ AHMED | Assistant Ministerial | 16 | 14.01.2024 | SUKKUR |
| 4 | MR,MASOOD AHMED KHAN | Statistical Officer | 17 | 20.01.2024 | KARACHI |
| 5 | MR, MIR DAD | Statistical Officer | 17 | 31.01.2024 | ISLAMABAD |
| 6 | SYED SAEED UR REHMAN | Assistant Census Commissioner | 17 | 01.02.2024 | PESHAWAR |
| 7 | MR, EHSAN UL HAQ | Statistical Officer | 17 | 02.02.2024 | GUJRANWALA |
| 8 | MR, SAMI ULLAH SHAH | Statistical Officer | 17 | 12.02.2024 | D.I.KHAN |
| 9 | MUHAMMAD ASIF | Assistant Ministerial | 16 | 21.02.2024 | LAHORE |
| 10 | MUHAMMAD RAFIQ KIYANI | Steno-typist | 16 | 04.03.2024 | ISLAMABAD |
| 11 | MS,FEHMIDA PARVEEN | Statistical Assistant | 16 | 14.03.2024 | KARACHI |
| 12 | MR, ADAM AHMED | Statistical Officer | 17 | 16.03.2024 | QUETTA |
| 13 | MUHAMMAD ALI TARIQ | Assistant Supervisor | 17 | 20.03.2024 | LAHORE |
| 14 | MR, ZAFAR IQBAL SIDDIQUI | Statistical Officer | 17 | 22.03.2024 | KARACHI |
| 15 | MUHAMMAD AYUB | Steno-typist | 16 | 31.03.2024 | ISLAMABAD |



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