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Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiatives
Pakistan Bureau of Statistics



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PRESS RELEASE

High level meeting Jointly Chaired by Chief Secretary KP and Chief Census Commissioner to ensure the completion of Verification/ Enumeration process for 7th Population and Housing Census-2023 in KP by 15th May, 2023 was held in Peshawar on 3rd May, 2023

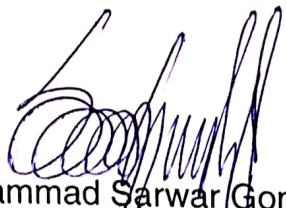
- In mutual consultation with Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) and KP Provincial Government, a strategy was devised to ensure complete coverage of census in KP till 15th May, 2023
- The verification process will continue till 15th May, 2023 in districts of KP where growth rate is less than 1.5.
- The districts of KP in which verification process will be carried out are Bannu, Lakki Marwat, Dera Ismail Khan, Tank, Abbottabad, Hangu, Kohat, Nowshera and Peshawar.
- The Census Field Operation has been halted in 3 Districts of Kohistan due to over-reporting and will be resumed after devising a comprehensive strategy to ensure credible and transparent Field Operation in Kohistan.
- PBS presented in detail the reasons for low coverage mined through Digital Systems and gave recommendations to achieve the target of full coverage
- Block-wise list of one member, two members and non-living units shared with KP Provincial Government for targeted approach to ensure full coverage
- Chief Census Commissioner, Dr. Naeem uz Zafar assured full support of PBS in identifying further gaps and provision of desired information
- Chief secretary KP appreciated the presentation shared by PBS and assured his full cooperation in filling the gaps identified by PBS and completing the important National task of Census within the stipulated timelines
- All Commissioners presented their findings for the reasons for low coverage and other Population trends in their areas of responsibility and assured complete coverage by 15th May, 2023
- Chief Secretary and Commissioners will convene daily progress review meetings and daily progress report will be shared with Chief Secretary and Chief Census Commissioner.
- Chief Secretary directed Commissioners that supervisors should be sensitized to ensure complete coverage till 15th May, 2023 through their respective Deputy Commissioners (DCs) and Assistant Commissioners (ACs).
- DCs and ACs will play their role 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 change in Population trends reason has to be given in Completion Certificate.

In pursuance of directions of Mr. Ahsan Iqbal, Minister PD & SI, to complete census exercise on 15th May, 2023 for timely handing over data to Election Commission of Pakistan. PBS higher management is holding series of meetings with Provincial Governments and ICT Administration. A meeting between Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) higher management and KP Provincial Government, under the joint chair of Chief Secretary Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Chief Census Commissioner PBS was held on 3rd May, 2023. Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners (DCs) of KP and Senior officers of PBS attended the meeting.

Mr. Sarwar Gondal, Member (SS/RM), PBS delivered a detailed presentation highlighting the reasons of low coverage determined through data analysis and ground. As Provincial Government is fully responsible for completion of Census Field Work in KP. The reasons of negative growth rate as identified by PBS are Non response, non-coverage of collective residences like hostels, madrassas etc. low coverage in high rise buildings, high percentage of one person and two persons' households, over reporting of non-living households. He also stressed on regular field visits of DCs and ACs for effective monitoring. He also emphasized on daily progress sharing as strict action is needed to conclude the exercise on 15th May, 2023.

It was mutually agreed that all efforts will be made to reduce the gaps identified by PBS. KP Provincial Government was fully agreed with the concept of targeted approach. Chief Secretary KP directed all DCs and ACs to undertake field visit to ensure complete coverage and plug in the gaps identified by PBS. Further, Chief Secretary KP and Commissioners will convene daily progress review meetings and progress will be shared with Chief Secretary and PBS on daily basis. He further directed that strict action will be taken against enumerators who have neglected their duties or involved in misreporting. Chief Secretary directed Commissioners and DCs to make utmost efforts to ensure complete coverage within stipulated time.

Chief Census Commissioner, Dr. Naeem uz Zafar, anticipated that with cooperation of Chief Secretary, KP 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

