



Government of Pakistan  
Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiatives  
**Pakistan Bureau of Statistics**



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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Minister PD & SI directed all chief secretaries to monitor the progress efficiently and take prompt action for complete coverage.**

Minister IT & T, Mr. Ameen ul Haq, became part of Census Monitoring Committee on directions of Prime Minister, Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif. He attended the meeting and appreciated PBS team for conduct of 7<sup>th</sup> Population and Housing Census and identifying the abnormalities in data and procedure (Field Execution) timely for rectification of the same to avoid any controversy.

**Tenth Meeting of Census Monitoring Committee was held, under the chair of Minister of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal on 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2023**

Professor Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister PD&SI chaired the tenth meeting of Census Monitoring Committee (constituted in pursuance of decision taken in 49<sup>th</sup> meeting of Council of Common Interest (CCI) held on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 to oversee/ monitor Census activities to ensure an expeditious, transparent and credible census operation) on ninth April, 2023. The meeting was attended by Members of Committee and representatives from all relevant departments and stakeholders and senior officers from Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. The main purpose of the meeting was to review the progress regarding the progress of field Operation of first ever Digital census and other allied and trends and analysis on the basis of data collected so far. The meeting was also attended by Mr. Ameen ul haq, Minister IT&T who has also become part of CMC on directions of Prime Minister, Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif.

Chief Census Commissioner, Dr. Naeem uz Zafar presented the progress of the census operation. He informed 96 percent of the work has completed all over Pakistan, however Balochistan and Islamabad are lagging behind due to various administrative reasons.

He informed that out of 156 districts, 100 percent work completed in 115 districts and in 20 districts the percentage of completed work is between 70 to 90. However, enumeration progress is slow in big cities like Rawalpindi, Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad etc. due to non-response and other reasons. It was also informed that after in-depth analysis PBS has identified high rise buildings in big cities where it was feared that there could be chances of underreporting and requested the relevant Chief Secretaries to direct their relevant DCs/ACs to efficiently monitor the progress and ensure complete coverage of all structures/houses and leftover structures.

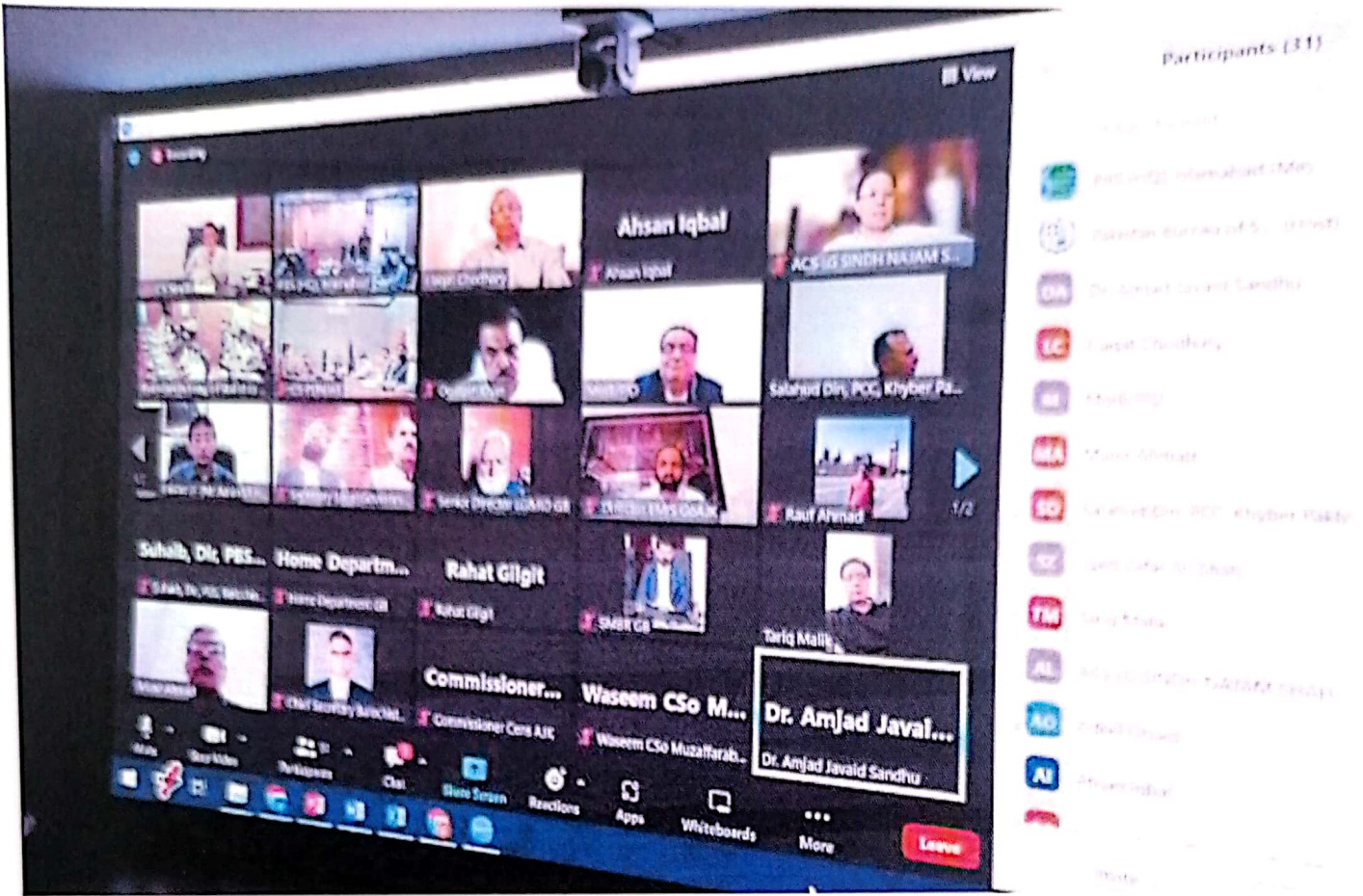
Prof Ahsan Iqbal, Minister PD & SI directed that as conduct of field operations is the responsibility of the provincial governments, therefore any inefficiency on part of the administration will be harmful for the whole census process and will lead to controversies. He emphasized that Govt of Pakistan is conducting

the census on request of provinces especially Sindh. Therefore, all ACs /DCs may be strictly directed to vigilantly monitor the progress and ensure the complete coverage of the leftover structure to avoid undercutting and action must be taken against those ACs/DCs who failed to do that.

Mr. Ameen ul Haq, Minister IT&T appreciated the work done by PBS team for conduct of this National exercise and identifying the abnormalities timely for rectification of the same to avoid any controversy on results of the national gigantic exercise and ownership of process. He proposed to extend the census operations for a week in big cities for complete coverage and to reduce under enumeration

In the end the Minister PD & SI directed all chief secretaries to monitor the progress efficiently and take prompt action for complete coverage. He also directed chief secretaries to provide the required number of days to cover the big cities, however it should be minimum possible days with optimum utilization of resources as Govt. has to provide results by 30th April and no extension will be provided due to sensitivity of matter and provision of results to Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP).





*[Handwritten signature]*



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Muhammad Sarwar Gondal'.

(Muhammad Sarwar Gondal)  
Member (Support Services)  
Official Spokesperson