

**COUNTRY REPORT**  
**FOR**  
**REGIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON GENDERIZING THE**  
**POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS**  
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## **Historical and Geographical Background of Pakistan**

The Islamic Republic of Pakistan emerged on the map of the world as an independent on 14<sup>th</sup> August, 1947 as a result of the division of former British India. It lies between 23 and 37 degrees north latitude and 61 and 76 degrees east longitude. It is surrounded by North China, South Arabian Sea, East India, West Iran and Afghanistan.

The total area of the country is 796096 sq. kms, whereas its estimated population as on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2010 is roundabout 169.95 million. The last Population and Housing Census was conducted in 1998, according to 1998 Census the population of the country was 132.35 million with the average annual growth rate from 1981-1998 was 2.69 and the density per square kilometer of 166.3 persons.

### **1. The Census Organization**

#### **Responsibility of Organization :**

Population Census Organization, an attached department of Statistics Division, is the official agency of Federal Government which is responsible for planning and execution of decennial Population and Housing Census and release of its data for public and private use.

#### **Relationship to the other Organization:**

Population Census Organization is an attached department of Statistics Division, Federal Bureau of Statistics and Agricultural Census Organization are sister organizations, they are conducted different type of survey. During the preparation of census questionnaire, Population Census Organization also consult with other Ministries i.e. Ministry of Population Welfare, Ministry of Labour Force and Manpower, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Planning Commission and Ministry of Health.

#### **Manpower Required for Census:**

Census questionnaires have been developed in consultation with relevant census data users and stakeholders including women's organizations.

- Census Advisory Committee comprising 104 representatives of Federal and Provincial governments and experts reviewed and endorsed census questionnaires.
- For the field operation round about 180000 manpower would be involved in the data collection. In data processing round about 500 officials and 60 officers will be involved in Editing & Coding and data processing.
- Round about 14 officers will be involved in data analysis and a unit comprising 6-7 officers / officials will be involved in data dissemination process.

### **Criteria of Appointment of Field Staff:**

Generation of own field force to conduct the census throughout the country remained a problem for the Federal Government and therefore, Federal Government have to engage the staff of the Provincial / Local Governments for the peak period of census operation under the census ordinance, 1959. They are authorized under Section-6, to call upon (by order in writing ) member of the Local functionaries to work as enumerators or perform other duties of a census officer in the areas of jurisdiction. Among others these include Census Enumerators and Circle supervisors.

For enumerators, in rural areas preferably, middle and high school teachers, patwaris and agricultural field Assistants will be selected. In urban areas school teachers, secretaries, local councils and senior clerks form local government functionaries and autonomous organizations wherever possible will be taken as enumerators. Efforts will be made to appoint maximum number of female enumerators.

Proper care is to be taken in the selection of the field staff as it would not be desirable to appoint persons who do not have requisite sense of responsibility, especially the persons selected as enumerators and circle supervisors should enjoy good reputation in the area. The Circle Supervisors and the enumerators should have the following qualities:

- He is from the same area.
- He is acceptable to the community.
- He has good reputation being a dedicated worker.
- He is sufficiently educated and intelligent enough to understand instruction given to him without any difficulty.
- Female enumerators if available would be preferable.

## **2. The Census of Population and Housing**

### **Schedule of Coming Census:**

In Pakistan the sixth population and Housing Census will be conducted in two phase. First phase of House Listing operation will be conducted in October, 2010 and the second phase Population and Housing Census will be conducted in March, 2011.

### **The broad objectives of the census:**

The main objectives of the Population and Housing Census is to provide bench mark statistics for all type of socio-economic development plans, administrative activities and projection of population to need futures needs.

Population Census is the principal source of data on population size, its geographic distribution and composition by various characteristics necessary for socioeconomic development plans & their evaluation, administrative activities or scientific research aimed at improving the welfare of population.

## Uses of Census Data:

Census provide bench mark statistics for all socio-economic development plans / policies aimed at welfare of the country and its population. Government used census results for planning and evaluation of development programme in housing, literacy, education, Health, employment & manpower etc.

Census data meet legal and constitutional requirements for:

- a) Political representation in the National and Provincial Assembly.
- b) Distribution of funds to the Federating Units by the National Finance Commission.
- c) Determine quota for recruitment to all civil posts in Federal Government.
- d) Drawing/redrawing boundaries of local government units (union councils).
- e) Census data is the base of all demographic studies.
- f) Demography not only deals with vital statistics but also with socioeconomic aspects of population.
- g) Provide basis for projection of population to meet future requirements.
- h) Provides data for scientific analysis and appraisal of the composition, distribution and growth of population.
- i) Provides changing patterns of rural / urban concentration for development of urbanized and rural areas.
- j) Provides patterns and differentials of fertility and mortality for various population groups.
- k) Provide a comprehensive source of statistical information for socioeconomic development planning, administrative purposes, assessing conditions in human settlements, measuring change over time, for demographic research, and commercial and other uses.

## Area to be covered:

Census covers entire territory of Pakistan including Tribal Areas (FATA & PATA) as well as Azad Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan. All persons living in the country at the time of census will be enumerated. Foreign nationals will also be enumerated except diplomatic personnel and their families.

## Data items:

Data Items	100 percent	Sample
On Persons	100 Percent coverage	For sample 25 percent block selected in urban areas and 15 percent block selected from rural areas.
On Households	100 Percent coverage	From selected block every 5 <sup>th</sup> Household will be taken as sample.
On Housing	100 Percent coverage	Every housing unit will be enumerated.

**Consultancy on Questionnaire:**

Questionnaires have been finalized through consultation with data users and experts. Topics to be covered in the census depends on national needs. The census questionnaires have been made gender responsive to reflect accurate status of females. New question has been included in the census questionnaire for probing accurate status of female's participation in economic activity. Response categories to certain gender specific questions have also been revised to collect accurate data on female.

**Respondents:**

Usually head of the household is the respondent. However in many situations when enumerators go to his enumeration area the head of the household may be busy in his job or out of the household and women doing housekeeping then the actual respondents are women.

**Publicity:**

An effective publicity campaign is launched to educate the general public seeking their cooperation to get accurate information and motivate the field staff.

Publicity strategy generally include messages of the President / Prime Minister, Governors / Chief Ministers, interviews by the Secretary, Chief Census Commissioner and other experts.

Other publicity material like posters, brief news, advertisements, etc. are prepared and displayed during census period.

A Web-Site on Census-2009 has been launched for information of the data users and the general public.

**Plan for Census Data Analysis:**

For the formulation of any policy for socio-economic development and research on population and housing, planner generally need data on population and housing characteristics, which is mutually, cross classified with some variables amenable to a meaningful analysis. In sixth Population and Housing Census the data analysis plan is in progress. Data analysis will be comprises on different indicators like Population Size, Growth rate, Sex, Age, Marital status, Literacy rate, Education Attainment, Migration, Economic characteristics, Immunization and National identity card.

**Information in Census Reports:**

The census report mainly consists of three section viz write up which carries general description of the areas and some analysis of population and housing data, second section comprising tables while third section provided additional information about these sections in the form of annexures.

The main information in the census reports i.e. (i) Geography of the areas, Agricultural and related sectors, Industry and Trade, History, Ethnicity and Culture, Health and Education sector. (ii) Population Size, Growth and Distribution, Sex, Age and Marital status, Literacy and Education Attainment, Migration, Economic characteristics, Immunization and National identity card. (iii) type of Housing stock, Housing facilities. (iv) Statistical tables of Population and Housing.

#### **Census Results and Dissemination:**

The provisional census result will be published after two month of the completion of field works on the basis of REN-2. REN-2 is a summary form of the block (Retrieval from Enumerator) containing block geographic identity and total No. of Males, Females, Total Persons and Total Household. This form is field in by the enumerator in the field after completion of his/her work.

### **3. Gender Concerns**

#### **Gender Development Action Plan:**

Gender mainstreaming is an important but a sensitive issue. We see that today international thinking is focused towards a gender based approach for development planning. The collection of gender disaggregated statistics therefore has great relevance in formulating policies and plans. There is general feeling that women's contribution towards development is seriously under reported /under estimated in most of statistical exercises, as a result their social recognition is limited. Thus the need for generating good quality, accurate and widely gender disaggregated statistics is essential for mainstreaming gender into all phases of development planning.

In this regard an action plan has been prepared to follow gender specific approach for data collection in the next census which includes the following initiatives.

#### **(a) MANUAL OF INSTRUCTIONS.**

The manuals of instruction (training manuals) have been prepared to improve the definitions of gender specific items like head of household, better counting of females as it affects sex ratio, female labour force participation, literacy enrolment ratio etc. Special instructions to overcome the problems of under-counting of female work and gender-biases have also been included with a number of illustrative examples. To explain the concept of work special sketches showing women's involvement in paid economic activities, like own farming, knitting etc. are included in the manual.

**(b) FEMALE PARTICIPATION**

Participation of females will be encouraged in the census process especially as supervisors and enumerators. This will help to collect gender sensitive socio-demographic data from the female respondents during the census operation. Efforts will be made to appoint maximum number of female enumerators for sample count. requirement of female field staff, could also be met from Ministry of Population Welfare, Ministry of Education and NGOs, etc

**(c) PUBLICITY.**

To get proper response on gender issue, it is important to create public awareness on these issues. Electronic and print media would be used to highlight the gender issues involved properly. Such campaign will focus on creating awareness that women in the household should respond, women do perform various economic works besides house keeping, that women could be household head etc. it will be highlighted that women do contribute economically to the household from such economic work and they should be honored for it.

A census logo showing a picture comprising of 2 females and 2 males symbolizing a nuclear family with ideal size, gender balance and the women leading from the front will be prepared. This logo will be extensively used / printed on the publicity material.

**Gender Responsibility on Government:**

To achieve a significant improvement in the census data regarding gender statistics the Population Census Organization is reviewing the whole census process. The other Government Departments i.e. Population Welfare, Ministry of Labour Force and Manpower, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Planning Commission and Ministry of Health are also responsible for the improvement of gender statistics.

**Establishment of Gender Cell:**

Despite the relevance of the census data in terms of its scope and coverage of population by sex down to the smallest geographic level in Pakistan the enumeration and quality need improvement to reflect the actual situation of women and men. The gender dimensions of demographic and socio- economic characteristics are neither adequately

addressed nor uniformly covered in all areas, making it difficult and problematic to measure the gender related changes in all parts of the country over time.

With the purpose to ensure government commitment to census engendering initiatives in taking up gender issues and sensitize the census functionaries at various stages of the census, special gender cells have been established at PCO Hqs. Islamabad as well as Provincial offices. These cells are tasked to identify gaps and suggest strategies to improve census engendering process. Gender cell PCO Hqs. is also responsible to chalk-out training programs for census officers both at head quarter as well as at provincial offices.

To promote better dissemination and utilization of gender statistics for development planning, Gender cell will recommend for the publication of census reports up to lower levels. It will also be recommended that data should be packaged in a way better suited to the needs of the various data users i.e., it should be user- friendly and easily accessible.

#### **Sensitization Workshops:**

In order to create awareness regarding engendering Census among the Provincial/ Local Govt. functionaries who play a pivotal role in the census taking, one day sensitization workshops have been conducted at provincial and regional headquarters and various cities through out Pakistan.