



REPORT ON TECHNICAL EVALUATION OF 6th POPULATION & HOUSING CENSUS-2017

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AC	Assistant Commissioner
AJK	Azad Jammu & Kashmir
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
CDO	Census District Officer
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor
DC	Deputy Commissioner
DPC	Data Processing Centre
EAs	Enumeration Areas
FATA	Federal Administered Tribal Areas
GB	Gilgit – Baltistan
GIS	Geographic Information System
GIZ	Deutsche Gessellschaft fur International Zusammenarbeit
ICT	Islamabad Capital Territory
ICR	Intelligent Character Recognition
OMR	Optical Mark Reader
PA	Political Agent
PBS	Pakistan Bureau of Statistics
PES	Post Enumeration Survey
PHC	Population & Housing Census
SDC	Skill Development Council
QCR	Quick Count Record
UNFPA	United Nation Fund for Population Activities



ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Launching Technical Evolution/Audit of the 6th Population & Housing Census, 2017 is the outcome of the decision by the worthy Secretary, Statistics Division, Ministry of Statistics, based on her keen observation that there was no comprehensive mechanism in place to monitor/evaluate the census activity. This she had constituted a team comprising two committees namely Supervisory Expert Group and Technical Evaluation/Audit Committee, to evaluate all aspects of the census, 2017 and highlight the weaknesses for possible remedies.

I, Ms. Rizwana Siddique Director, PBS being the member & Secretary of the Technical Evaluation/Audit Committee would like to express my deepest appreciation to all those who extended full cooperation and provided me the requisite material to complete this report.

My special thanks to my other two committee members who provided me guidance and support, wherever I needed and helped me in coordinating all the efforts, by declaring my office as a Secretariat, for this special task.

A special gratitude, I would like to give express for Supervisory Expert Group members Particularly Dr. Zeba A. Sathar, Country Director, Population Council, Pakistan Office, Islamabad, whose full support and contribution in providing valuable input; necessary material & stimulating suggestions and encouragement, helped me to accomplish this big task of compiling the report regarding technical evaluation of the 6th Population & Housing Census, 2017. I have to appreciate the guidance given by other Supervisory Expert Group members.

Last but not least, many thanks go to the worthy Secretary Statistics Division, who have honoured us by giving this special Assignment and invested her full efforts and keen interest that enabled us in achieving the goal, to the best possible extent.



TEAM FOR TECHNICAL EVALUATION OF 6TH POPULATION & HOUSING CENSUS-2017

I. Supervisory Expert Group

- i. Dr. Zeba A. Sathar, Country Director, Population Council, Pakistan Office.
- ii. Dr. Syed Muhammad Arif, Retired Professor, Department of Economics, University of Balochistan.
- iii. Dr. Muhammad Iqbal, Professor, Department of Statistics, University of Peshawar.

II. Technical Evaluation/Audit Committee

- i. Mr. Arif Anwar Baloch, Provincial Census Commissioner, PBS, Lahore.
- ii. Mr. Ismail Khan, Dy. Director General, PBS, Islamabad.
- iii. Mrs. Rizwana Siddique, Director, PBS and Member & Secretary of Technical Evaluation/Audit Committee, PBS, Islamabad.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Secretary, Statistics Division being Principal Accounting Officer, has constituted the two committees, that are, Supervisory Expert Group and Technical Evaluation/ Audit Committee to evaluate all aspects of the Census 2017 and to highlight weaknesses for possible remedies for the release of the detailed results and for compiling good practices/lesson learnt for forthcoming censuses.

In view of the above, Technical Evaluation of the Census had been carried out by Technical Evaluation/Audit Committee, by working closely with Supervisory Expert Group Members. In this connection as per advise of the Supervisory Group Members, number of meetings/discussions were held with the staff engaged in census work as well as with Provincial Stakeholders including Heads of Provincial Technical Committee; Focal Persons of Provincial Census Coordination Committees and with Provincial Census Commissioners, for recording their views/observations regarding 6th Population & Housing Census, 2017. Findings of Technical Evaluation have been recorded in three phases by concluding each phase with a statement containing Areas of Concern, Recommendations by National/International Agencies and Status of Implementation along with Comments. Starting with Technical Evaluation of Preparatory/Planning Phase of Census wherein brief about work carried out regarding updating of urban area and rural area maps and frames have been discussed and indicated the deficient areas in this particular assignment envisaged in 2012(after House Listing Operation of 2011) as peace time exercise for 6th Population & Housing Census, 2017 followed by the budget details for 6th Population & Housing Census. Thereafter, brief on Technical & Financial support by UNFPA & other development Partners have been added. Administrative/logistics arrangements of PBS, for 6th Population & Housing Census have also been elaborated along-with highlighting the main functions of different committees formulated at Headquarter and at Provincial, Divisional and at District level. Then brief details about designing/development of Census Communication and designing of Monitoring and Evaluation Tools have been included. In the concluding statement of this phase, various areas of concern such as incomplete updating of rural area maps and frames; urgent need for financial audit for 6th Population & Housing Census; no clear inter coordination and intra coordination mechanism for various committees formulated in the administrative setup; no proper planning for designing/development of census communication and no plan for post enumeration survey coupled with non- effective utilization of tools developed for the purpose.

Technical evaluation in respect of second phase of Census Field Operation has been carried out by segregating it into three sub-phases i.e. pre-enumeration activities; data collection/enumeration process and post enumeration activities. Brief details of the activities under each sub-phase have been discussed followed by concluding statement indicating areas of concern in each of the aforementioned sub-phases in sequential order. Under pre-enumeration activities areas of concerns have been indicated as old stocks prevented updates in questionnaire; dropping of long form; limitation in the training imparted; no monitoring of training sessions; gaps in census communication and non-launching of pilot census.

For the data collection/enumeration process, areas of concern had been non-use of latest technology in the launching of field operation; no monitoring of data collection/enumeration process by PBS, Headquarter; mix of de-facto and de-jure definitions; concerns about involvement of Army; non-

enumeration of refugee camps; no refresher of training; no publicity for Census questionnaire (Form-II); apprehension about question on disability; inferred/directed responses relating to ethnicity and religion; serious reservations regarding recording of CNIC and its verification through NADRA database; non effective utilization of control room and last but not the least no performance evaluation of Coordination Committees and Vigilance Teams etc. For the post enumeration activities, no utilization of documented instructions for manual editing & coding; no clear idea about using of FQC form for assessing the quality of data; recommendations regarding sharing of clean data of census-2017 have been reiterated as need of the hour. Further, one of the missed opportunity by PBS regarding utilizing services of Communication Consultants for managing its publication activities had been highlighted.

In the technical evaluation of Post Census Activities, release of provisional summary results of 6th Population & Housing Census, 2017; proposed mechanism for redressal of objections raised during census-2017 and usefulness of post enumeration survey – as validation exercise for Population Census and possibilities for filling in long form (Form-2A) have been discussed.

In the next section of the report, observations and reservations of provinces and FATA about 6th Population & Housing Census have been mentioned in detail.

Technical evaluation of census-2017 have been concluded with the comments due to lack of coordination with the national bodies and non-compliance/partial compliance of recommendation by national and international consultants coupled with acute shortage of expert staff and lack of technical expertise had left the PBS with number of loopholes. Though, precautionary measures need to be taken by PBS to maintain accuracy of census data and Experts Consultation is strongly recommended while compiling final result of 6th Population and Housing Census, 2017. Number of other recommendation, have also been added as lessons learnt for better planning for the future Population & Housing Censuses.



REPORT ORGANIZATION

Report on technical evaluation census, 2017 has been structured into the following sections:

SECTION-I: Introduction includes background and brief history of Population & Housing Censuses in Pakistan, along-with its Legal and Constitutional requirements.

SECTION-II: Phase-Wise Technical Evaluation of 6th Population & Housing Census, 2018 -Gives Technical Evaluation Of 6th Population & Housing Census, 2017 in three Phases - Technical Evaluation of Planning/Preparatory Phase; Technical Evaluation of Census Operation, 2017; and Technical Evaluation of Post Census Activities.

SECTION-III: Observations/Reservations of Provinces/Fata About Population & Housing Census, 2017- In this section, Observations/Reservation of the Provinces & FATA about 6th Population & Housing Census, 2017, as recorded in their administrative reports as well as noted in meetings of Provincial Technical Committee Meetings are briefly mentioned.

SECTION-IV: Conclusion and Recommendations is self -explanatory

APPENDICES Comprises important references utilized for Technical Evaluation of Census, 2017

