

## **Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics Issues a Press Release on the Occasion of Land Day, March 30, 2006**

### **187,000 Dunums is the Area of Built-Up Land in Israeli Settlements**

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics issued a press release on the occasion of Land Day which occurs on March 30. The press release focuses on the main statistical land use indicators in the Palestinian Territory.

#### **187,000 Dunums is the Built-up Land in Israeli Settlements in the West Bank**

The area of Built-Up Land in Israeli Settlements in the West Bank totaled 187,100 thousand dunums (187.1 km<sup>2</sup>) in August 2004; the largest area was in Jerusalem Governorate at 44.4 km<sup>2</sup>, representing 12.9% of the total area of the Governorate, followed by Ramallah and Al-Bireh Governorate at 30.3km<sup>2</sup>, representing 3.5% of the total area of the Governorate.

According to 2004 data, the number of formal settlements in the West Bank was 148 settlements; 26 settlements were in Jerusalem Governorate, and 24 settlements were in Ramallah and Al-Bireh Governorate.

Data indicate that the number of settlers in the West Bank in 2004 reached 432,275 settlers, of which 236,480 settlers were in Jerusalem Governorate (184,229 settlers in that part of Jerusalem which was annexed by Israel in 1967, and 52,251 settlers in the rest of the Governorate) representing 54.7% of total settlers in the West Bank.

#### **47.9 Thousand Dunums Confiscated to Construct the Expansion and Annexation Wall**

Data showed that the area confiscated by Israel to construct the Expansion and Annexation Wall reached about 47,900 dunums until June 2005, while the area isolated between the wall and the green line amounted to almost 301,100 dunums, where 44,273 Palestinians live.

#### **24.7% of the Area of the Palestinian Territory is Agricultural Land**

The area of the Palestinian Territory is 6,020 km<sup>2</sup>; 24.7% (1,488.1 km<sup>2</sup>) was agricultural land during the year 2004, 77.5% was permanent agricultural land and 89.4% was rainfed agricultural land, in addition to 1.5% of the Palestinian Territory as forests (91.7 km<sup>2</sup>).

In 2004, the yield of each km<sup>2</sup> of the total irrigated and rain-fed agricultural land in the Palestinian Territory was 4,687.7 tons and 257.5 tons respectively; the value of agricultural production in the Palestinian Territory in 2004 was 363.8 thousands US\$/km<sup>2</sup> of agricultural land, while the value added was 276.8 thousand US\$/km<sup>2</sup>.

#### **625 Persons/km<sup>2</sup> in the Palestinian Territory at Mid Year 2005**

In 2005 the population density in the Palestinian Territory reached 625 capita/km<sup>2</sup>, while it was 420 capita/km<sup>2</sup> in the West Bank and 3,808 capita/km<sup>2</sup> in the Gaza Strip. Gaza governorate was considered the most densely populated governorate in 2005, where the population density reached 6,593 capita/km<sup>2</sup>. On the other hand, Jericho governorate was considered the least densely populated governorate, where the population density was 71.3 capita/km<sup>2</sup>.

In demographic terms, the percentage of settlers in the Palestinian Territory, according to 2004 data, equaled 15.6% of the total persons living in the West Bank with the highest percentage in the Jerusalem Governorate at 37.5%.