

O/o Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India

1. It is responsible for the following:
 - (i) **Housing & Population Census:** The Census Commissioner, India is the statutory authority vested with the responsibility of conducting the Housing and Population Census in India under the Census Act, 1948 and Rules framed thereunder. Planning, coordination, supervision of the field activities; data processing; tabulation, compilation and dissemination of Census results is the responsibility of this office.
 - (ii) **National Population Register (NPR):** In pursuance to provisions contained in Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2003, the National Population Register is prepared by collecting information relating to all persons who are usually residing in the country.
 - (iii) **Civil Registration System (CRS):** The Census Commissioner, India is also designated as Registrar General, India under the Registration of Births & Deaths Act, 1969 which provides for the compulsory registration of births and deaths. In this role, he coordinates the functioning of the civil registration and vital statistics system in the country through all States and Union Territories.
 - (iv) **Sample Registration System (SRS):** Implementation of Sample Registration System, wherein large scale sample survey of vital events is conducted on half-yearly basis, is also the responsibility of the ORG&CCI. SRS is an important source of vital rates like Birth Rate, Death Rate, Infant Mortality Rate and Maternal Mortality Rate at the State level in the country.
 - (v) **Mother Tongue Survey:** The project surveys the mother tongues, which are returned consistently across two and more Census decades. The research programme documents the linguistic features of the selected mother tongues.

- (vi) **Linguistic Survey:** Linguistic Survey of India (LSI) is a regular research activity in ORG&CCI since the 6th Five Year Plan.

Population Census

2. India has a long tradition of having regular decennial Population Censuses since 1872. Last Population Census was conducted in 2011. The next decennial Census is to be conducted in 2021 which will be the 16th Census in the continuous series from 1872 and 8th Census since independence.
3. Population Census is the largest administrative exercise in the country providing vital data on different socio-economic and demographic parameters of population. The Census operations are conducted in two phases, viz.,(i) Houselisting & Housing Census and (ii) Population Enumeration. The first phase of Population Census which is conducted 6-10 months prior to the Population Enumeration, provides very useful data on quantity and quality of housing, availability of amenities and assets to households besides providing an unambiguous frame for enumeration. During the second phase of Population Enumeration, individual level information is collected so as to provide a variety of data on demographic, socio-cultural, economic, migration and fertility status of the country and for other administrative areas.
4. Timely processing of the voluminous data collected at each Census, generating results for the country for use in planning of various socio-economic programmes, has always been a challenge. Speedy processing and compilation of Census data has necessitated adopting the latest available IT systems/technology at each Census in the past. Though the data collection from the field across the censuses was hundred percent, its level of computerization has varied from 5 to 45 per cent till 1991. After the advent of sophisticated IT tools like Optical Mark Reader (OMR)/ Optical Character Recognition (OCR)/Intelligent Character Recognition (ICR) etc., nearly 100% data capture was resorted to for the first time at the time of 2001 Census and most of the reports were released within a period of 4-5 years in comparison to previous Censuses. In Census 2011, O/o RG&CCI had set very high standard for itself and used the same technology with the objective to convert 100% information recorded in Census schedule

to digital form through ICR technology, besides maintaining quality and release of Census results as early as possible.

5. The Provisional Population Totals based on Census 2011 were released in a record time of three weeks in March 2011, followed by release of Rural-Urban distribution of population. Subsequently, a large number of data sets have been released, the details of which are reproduced below: (Annexure enclosed). All the datasets of Census 2011, including religion-wise data, educational level data, data on disability, data on classification of workers based on NIC/NCO (National Industrial Classification/National Classification of Occupation), Language and migration have been released.

6. Like the previous Censuses, the 2021 Census will be conducted in two phases, i.e. Houselisting and Housing Census during 2020 and (ii) Population Enumeration in February-March, 2021. The preparatory work for the ensuing Census has already commenced and progressed as follows:

- i. The jurisdictional changes made after Census 2011 are being compiled in consultation with the concerned departments in States/UTs so as to finalise the list of Administrative units for both rural and urban areas for Census 2021.
- ii. A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was constituted under the Chairmanship of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India to advise on issues connected with the holding of the 2021 Census and meetings held to discuss the methodology to be adopted and proposed questionnaires for the ensuing Census 2021.
- iii. A notification vide S.O. No. 1455 (E) dated 26th March, 2019 declaring the intention of the Central Government that a census of the population of India shall be taken in the country in 2021, has been published on 28.3.2019 in the Gazette of India.
- iv. A two days Data User's Conference (DUC) was organized on 9th-10th April, 2019 with main agenda for intensive deliberations on methodology to be adopted and the proposed questionnaires for the ensuing Census 2021.
- v. A notification vide S.O. No. 2221 (E) dated 25th June, 2019 for conduct of pre-test of Census of India, 2021 was published on 28.6.2019 in the Gazette of India. The pre-test of Census of India, 2021 was conducted during the notified period i.e. 12th August,

2019 to 30th September, 2019 in around 5000 selected enumeration blocks covering about 30 lakh population in all States/UTs in the country.

- vi. The pre-test being the full dress rehearsal of the main Census, the in- house developed mobile apps, Census Management & Monitoring System (CMMS) Portal, methodology and census schedules proposed for Census 2021 were tested.
- vii. The following new initiatives have been taken for the ensuing Census 2021
 - Use of Mobile apps for census data collection
 - Enumerators to be incentivised to use their own smart phone for collection of data
 - If any enumerator finds difficulty in collection of data through Mobile app, then she/he can collect in paper schedule.
 - Monitoring and management to be done through CMMS portal
 - A Code Directory has been compiled for use in the field in collecting information on descriptive responses.

These new initiatives would facilitate quick release of Census 2021 data.

Census Mapping Using Geographic Information System (GIS)

7. The mapping activities are categorized into a) Pre-Census mapping and b) Post-Census mapping. The Pre-Census mapping activities include the preparation and updation of maps showing administrative units of the States/UTs, Districts, Sub-districts, Villages, Towns and Wards within Towns to ensure proper coverage of the entire geographical area of the country. The Post-Census mapping activities include the preparation of administrative and thematic maps based on Census data for proper data dissemination and for bringing out various publications.

8. Geo-spatial technology using GIS tools is being used extensively to enhance the quality of Census mapping, quick retrieval, analysis and representation of various parameters spatially and to avoid any duplication or omission of information during Census 2021.

Mother Tongue Survey of India (MTSI)

9. Mother Tongue Survey of India (MTSI) is a plan scheme of the 12th Five Year Plan period (2012-2017). This project is successfully completed with field videography of 576 Mother Tongues.

10. In order to preserve and analyse the original flavour of each indigenous Mother Tongue, it has been planned to set up a web-archive at the National Informatics Centre (NIC).

(a) Linguistic Survey of India (LSI)

Linguistic Survey of India (LSI) is a regular research activity in ORGI since the 6th Five Year Plan.

Data Dissemination

11. The most important step after the enumeration exercise and data processing is the dissemination of the results for its use by Government Departments, Universities, Institutes of repute, scholars, students and other data users. With this objective, the ORGI is implementing an elaborate data dissemination plan to keep the data users informed about the utility and releases of different datasets from Census, like population, SCs & STs, literates, workers & non-workers, slum data, age data and data on housing and household amenities & assets.

12. The datasets are released at the Census of India website at <http://www.censusindia.gov.in> for free download. These are also made available on Compact Discs (CDs) and in some cases, as printed volumes.

13. Another major innovative step taken by ORG&CCI is to set up workstations for Research on Sample Micro-Data from Census. The ORG&CCI intends to allow researchers from Universities / Institutes to access sample micro-data from Census 2001 and Census 2011 for research purpose. To meet this objective, Census Workstations have been setup in 18 different Universities / Institutes across the country, the one established at Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla University, Raipur being the last in this series which was inaugurated on 19.06.2019.

14. The Workstations are fully equipped with all the facilities for research on sample Micro Data from Census. They are fully air-conditioned and have the network of computer terminals for accessing the data. All published Tables from 1991 to 2011 Censuses in soft copy format,

sample micro-data (1% at National level & 5% at State / UT / District level) on Houselisting for 2001 and 2011 Censuses and on Population Enumeration (limited parameters) for Census 2011 have been made available in the workstations. An official from the University / Institute is posted at the respective Workstation to provide access to the data available at the Workstation to the researchers after they get the approval of the Steering Group for conducting their research work. The researcher is permitted to use the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) and Statistical Data Analysis (STATA) software available for tabulation. The Workstations also have high speed duplex colour laser printer for printing the approved outputs.

15. The ORG&CCI has taken another major initiative in digitising and archiving all old Census reports published since 1872 for use of posterity. More than 26 lakh pages of these old Census reports have been scanned and uploaded at Census website for free download and also made available for access at Census Directorates and Workstations in Universities / Institutes across India.

Training

16. To strengthen the in-house capacity of the officials, an intensive Training Needs Assessment (TNA) was conducted electronically. The requirement of in-service training on Administration & Establishment and the Statistical/ Demographic Tools & Techniques, depending on their assigned work & field of functioning were identified through the TNA.

VITAL STATISTICS

Civil Registration System (CRS)

17. The registration of births and deaths in the country is done by the functionaries appointed by the State Governments under the Registration of Births and Deaths (RBD) Act, 1969. The Registrar General, India coordinates and unifies the registration activities across the country while the Chief Registrars of Births and Deaths in the States are the chief executive authorities in the respective States for executing the provisions of the Act and the Rules and Orders made thereunder. National Conferences of Chief Registrars of Births and Deaths are held from time to time to review the functioning of Civil Registration System. Latest One such

conference was recently held on 04.07.2019 in New Delhi.

18. The proportion of registered births and deaths has witnessed a steady increase over the years. The registration level of births for the country has gone up to 84.9%, registering an increase of 8.5 percent as per the figures of 2017 over the year 2008. On the other hand, registration level of deaths during 2017 has increased to 79.6% from 66.4% in 2008 i.e registering growth of 13.2 percent during the period.

Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD)

19. The scheme of Medical Certification of Cause of Death (MCCD) under the registration of Births and Deaths (RBD) Act, 1969 provides data on causes of death, a prerequisite to monitoring health trends of the population. Data received in prescribed forms are tabulated as per the National List of Causes of Death based on Tenth Revision of International Classification of Disease (ICD-10).

20. As per the Annual Report on “Medical Certification of Cause of Death” for the year 2017, out of the total registered deaths of 64,26,595 in 35 States/UTs, a total of 14, 11,060 deaths (8, 73,368 Males and 5, 37,692 Females) have been reported to be medically certified.

21. The coverage of MCCD is limited to selected hospitals in urban areas. Steps are being taken by the States to expand the scope of MCCD to all the medical institutions.

Sample Registration System (SRS)

22. The Sample Registration System (SRS) is a large scale demographic survey for providing reliable estimates of birth rate, death rate and other fertility and mortality indicators at the national and sub-national levels. The SRS is a dual record system that consists of continuous enumeration of births and deaths by resident part time enumerators and an independent retrospective half yearly survey by supervisors. The unmatched data for these sources are re-verified in the field. The survey was initiated by the ORG & CCI on a pilot basis in a few selected states in 1964-65; it became fully operational in 1969-70 covering about 3700 sample units. With a view to monitoring the changes in vital rates, the SRS sampling frame is revised every ten years, apart from efforts for enhancing its scope and rationalizing the system. The instant SRS sample has 8850 units (4961 rural and 3,889 urban) spread across all States/UTs, which is based on 2011 census and is effective from 01.01.2014. Based on the data

collected the SRS bulletin, SRS Statistical Report and SRS Based Abridged Life Tables are brought out annually.

23. The SRS Bulletin a yearly publication under Sample Registration System (SRS), contains estimates of birth rate, death rate and infant mortality rate for all States/UTs, for rural and urban areas separately, for rural and urban areas. Salient findings at national level for the year 2017 are as under:

- (i) Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is 20.2 per 1000 population for all-India, with 21.8 for rural areas and 16.8 for urban areas. Among bigger States, CBR is the lowest (14.2) in Kerala and the highest (26.4) in Bihar.
- (ii) Crude Death Rate (CDR) is 6.3 per 1000 population for all-India, with 6.9 for rural areas and 5.3 for urban areas. Among the bigger States, Delhi has recorded the lowest (3.7) and Chhattisgarh the highest (7.5).
- (iii) Infant (< one year) Mortality Rate (IMR) is 33 per 1000 live births for all- India, 37 for rural areas and 23 for urban areas. Among the bigger States, Kerala has recorded the lowest (10) and Madhya Pradesh has recorded the highest (47) IMR value.

24. In addition to the above, the SRS Statistical Report – 2017 containing inter-alia estimates of various other Fertility and Mortality indicators like Under-Five Mortality Rate, Sex Ratio at Birth, Total Fertility Rate has been released. Salient findings at national level for the year 2017 are as under:

- ❖ In 2017, U5MR for the country has shown a decline of 2 points over 2016 (37 in 2017 against 39 in 2016).
- ❖ Sex Ratio at Birth for the country has been estimated at 896 in 2015-17 as against 898 in 2014-16.
- ❖ Total Fertility Rate (TFR) for the country has come down to 2.2 in 2017 after being stable at 2.3 for the last four years from 2013 to 2016. During 2017, Bihar has reported the highest TFR (3.2) while Delhi has reported the lowest TFR (1.5). It is noteworthy that the replacement level TFR, viz. 2.1, has been attained by 13 number of States viz. Delhi (1.5), West Bengal (1.6), Tamil Nadu (1.6), Andhra Pradesh (1.6), Jammu & Kashmir (1.6), Punjab (1.6), Himachal Pradesh (1.6), Telangana (1.7), Maharashtra

(1.7), Kerala (1.7), Karnataka (1.7), Uttarakhand (1.9) and Odisha (1.9). On an average a rural woman (having a TFR of 2.5) at the National level has about one child more than an urban woman (having a TFR of 1.7).

25. The Special Bulletin on Maternal Mortality in India for 2015-17 under Sample Registration System (SRS) has been released. The Maternal Mortality Ratio of India has declined from 130 in 2014-2016 to 122 in 2015-17. The decline has been most significant in Empowered Action Group (EAG) States & Assam from 188 to 175. Among the Southern States, the decline has been from 77 to 72 and in the Other States from 93 to 90.

26. The SRS based Abridged Life Tables for 2013-17 have also been released. The life expectancy at birth at national level is 69.0 years, an increase of 19.3 years during the last four decades. The expectancy at birth for males is 67.8 years whereas for females is 70.4 years. Among bigger States, the life expectancy is reported the highest in Kerala (75.2 years) and the lowest in Uttar Pradesh (65.0 years). The life expectancy at birth in rural areas is 67.7 years, being 66.4 years for males and 69.0 years for females. The life expectancy in urban areas is 72.4 years, being 71.2 years for males and 73.7 years for females.

Updation of National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam

27. The NRC in the State of Assam is being updated as per the provisions of the Citizenship Act, 1955 and the provisions contained in the Schedule framed under Rule 4A (4) of the Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and Issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003.

28. The objective of the Scheme is to update the NRC 1951 in the State of Assam containing the names of persons whose names appear in any of the electoral rolls upto the midnight of 24.03.1971 or National Register of Citizens, 1951 and their descendants.

29. The Government of India, which is funding the NRC project, has approved the scheme of updation of National Register of Citizens (NRC), 1951 in the State of Assam. The approved cost of NRC updation in Assam is Rs.1602.66 crore and Rs. 1348.13 crore has so far been released for the purpose.

30. The stages of updation of NRC, 1951 in Assam are publication of Legacy data i.e. Electoral Rolls upto 1971 and NRC 1951, Application Form received from all residents, field verification by Verification Teams and office verification of documents appended by the residents along with their application forms, computerization of all the records and preparation

of a citizenship register in Assam, draft publication of updated NRC, inviting claims and objections and disposal thereof by various levels of functionaries and publication of final NRC.

31. 2,89,83,677 numbers of persons were found eligible for inclusion in the Complete Draft NRC published on 30th July, 2018. After publication of the draft NRC, the Citizenship Rules, 2003 prescribe inviting claims and objections and any person whose name is not included in the draft NRC can file a claim for inclusion of his/her name. Similarly, any person can file an objection against any alleged wrong inclusion. The process of receipt of claims and objections on draft NRC started on 25.09.2018 and completed on 31.12.2018.

32. The claims for 36,26,630 lakh persons and objections against 1,87,633 lakh persons were received. The process of disposal of claims and objections started from 15th February, 2019 and continued till August, 2019. The biometric of the persons was also taken during the hearings at the time of verification of claims and objections.

33. An Additional Draft Exclusion List consisting of 1,02,462 persons, whose names were included in the Draft NRC published on 30th July 2018, but was subsequently found ineligible, was published on 26.06.2019.

34. After the disposal of claims and objections, the final NRC covering 3,11,21,004 persons has been published by 31st August, 2019. A total of 19,06,657 persons were found ineligible for inclusion in the final NRC. Any person not satisfied with the outcome of the decisions of claims and objections may prefer an appeal before the Foreigners Tribunal constituted under the Foreigners (Tribunal) Order, 1964. On the disposal of appeal by the tribunals the names shall be included or deleted, as the case may be, in the National Register of Indian Citizens in the State of Assam.

National Population Register

35. The scheme for creation of National Population Register is being undertaken under the provisions of The Citizenship Act, 1955 and The Citizenship Rules, 2003.

a) **Multi-purpose National Identity Card (MNIC)**

(i) The Multi-Purpose National Identity Card (MNIC) Project was initiated in 2003 in selected areas of 12 States and 1 Union Territory.

(ii) The project was completed in 2009 with issuance of 12.50 lakh cards

b) **NPR (Coastal)**

- (i) The NPR (coastal) scheme was implemented in 12 States and 1 UT.
- (ii) No(s) of coastal Districts – 70
- (iii) No(s) of coastal Villages -3331
- (iv) Total population covered – 1.2 crore,
- (v) Resident Identity Cards (RICs) issued – 65.50 lakh

The project was completed in 2013.

c) NPR (country)

- (i) The scheme of NPR in the country was created in 2010.
- (ii) The field work of NPR was conducted with Housing and houselisting Operation (HLO) in 2010.
- (iii) The 14 demographic field were collected of each usual resident.
- (iv) The digital database of more than 119 crore persons were created under this scheme.

d) Updation of NPR in the country

- (i) The database collected in 2010 in the all the States/UTs, has been updated in 2015-16 in the all the States/UTs (except Assam & Meghalaya).
- (ii) Aadhaar number, mobile number and Ration card also collected in updation exercise.
- (iii) The digitization of NPR updation work was completed in 2018.

e) Updation of NPR in the country -2020

- (i) The Government has decided to update National Population Register (NPR) alongwith Houselisting and Housing Census Operations of Census, 2021 during April,2020 to September, 2020 by conducting a house to house visit in all States/UTs (except Assam)
- (ii) Notification conveying the intention of the Government to take up the exercise of updation of NPR database in the country published in the Gazette of India on 31st July, 2019
