

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 696**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 26<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2023/ SRAVANA 4, 1945 (SAKA)**

**CONDUCTING CASTE BASED CENSUS**

**696 SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK:**

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the reasons for the continuing delay in conducting Census 2021, details thereof;**
- (b) the time-frame planned by Government for the conduct of Census 2021;**
- (c) whether Government has any plan to assess the actual population of different castes and communities by conducting caste-based census and to reflect upon their socio-economic standing while formulating strategies for the development of various sections of the society; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

- (a) & (b): The intent of the Government for conducting Census 2021 was notified in Gazette of India on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2019. The Government decided to conduct Census 2021 under the Census Act, 1948 in two phases, viz.,**
- (i) House listing & Housing Census during April-September, 2020 and**
  - (ii) Population Enumeration during 9<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2021. Due to outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, the Census 2021 and the related field activities have been postponed.**

**(c) & (d): In Census, the castes and tribes which are specifically notified as Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) as per the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950, as amended from time to time, are enumerated. The Government of India has not enumerated caste wise population other than SCs and STs in Census since independence.**

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