

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 699**

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

DELIBERATE DELAY OF CENSUS OPERATIONS

699 SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) reasons why Government is repeatedly postponing the conduct of the 2021 Census that has been held in time for 170 years before this;

(b) when Government proposes to conduct it;

(c) whether decennial census reports are critical for understanding the success or otherwise of schemes that target population control, literacy, public health, poverty, food, agriculture, and infrastructure;

(d) whether these data and decennial comparisons are absolutely essential for scientific planning; and

(e) whether ascertaining the social, religious, linguistic and such data of the people, especially SCs, STs and OBCs is not essential?

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 28th March, 2019. Due to outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, the Census 2021 and the related field activities have been postponed.

(c) to (e): In Census, data is collected on demographic and various socio-economic parameters like education, SC/ST, religion, language, marriage, fertility, disability, occupation and migration of the individuals.
