

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*320**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH AUGUST, 2021/ SRAVANA 19, 1943 (SAKA)

CENSUS 2021

***320. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there will be any changes or any additional information required in the 2021 Census as compared to previous editions and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether information obtained from the 2021 Census will be used for the preparation of any other databases, such as the National Register of Citizens and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this will be disclosed to respondents before obtaining the information for the Census and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there will be significant delay in the release of the information that is collected and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the estimated release dates of the different sets of data that are compiled for the Census?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *320 FOR 10.08.2021 REGARDING 'CENSUS 2021'

(a): 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. The forthcoming Census is to be the first digital Census and there is a provision for self-enumeration. Mobile App for collection of data and a Census Portal for management and monitoring of various Census related activities have been developed. The questionnaire for the first phase of Census was notified in the Gazette of India. Due to the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, Census 2021 and other Census related field activities have been postponed until further orders.

(b) & (c): The individual data collected in Census under the Census Act, 1948 are not made public as per the provisions contained in the Act. The individual data are not used for the preparation of any other database including National Register of Citizens. Only the aggregated Census data at various administrative levels are released.

(d) & (e): Special emphasis is given on scientifically designing the Census questions for faster processing and early release of data.