MOST IMMEDIATE

भारत सरकार / Government of India
गृह मंत्रालय / Ministry of Home Affairs
भारत के महारजिस्ट्रार का कार्यालय
OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, INDIA
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No. 9/16/2010-CD(CEN)

Dated: February 25, 2010

CENSUS OF INDIA 2011 - CIRCULAR No. 14

Subject: Responsibilities and duties of the public under the Census Act, 1948 and Issue of Notification by the State Government/UT Administrations directing the public to cooperate in smooth conduct of Census of India 2011.

The Census of India is the largest administrative exercise carried out in the country that provides data on various socio-economic parameters and demographic profile of the entire country's population. It is undertaken as per the Census Act, 1948 (37 of 1948) and Census Rules 1990 and amendments made thereunder. The preparations for conduct of 2011Census are in full swing. The Ist Phase of Census 2011 i.e. Houselisting & Housing Census is scheduled from 1st April, 2010 to September, 2010 in all States/Uts depending upon their local conditions. The details required for the preparation of the National Population Register will also be canvassed during this phase. The second phase of Census Operations would be conducted from 9th February to 5th March, 2011.

2. Further under the Census Act, 1948 provisions have been made in Section 11 of Census Act, 1948 imposing penalties on the erring public. The important sections of the Act are reproduced below for ready reference and for due notification by the State Government.

(i) **Section 8** (1) A census-officer may ask all such questions of all persons within the limits of the local area for which he is appointed as, by instructions issued in this behalf by the Central Government and published in the Official Gazette, he may be directed to ask.

(2) Every person of whom any question is asked under sub-section (1) shall be legally bound to answer such question to the best of his knowledge or belief:

Provided that no person shall be bound to state the name of any female member of his household, and no woman shall be bound to state the name of her husband or deceased husband or of any other person whose name she is forbidden by custom to mention.

(ii) **Section 9** Every person occupying any house, enclosure, vessel or other place shall allow census officer such access thereto as they may require for the purposes of the census and as, having regard to the customs of the country, may be reasonable, and shall allow them to paint on, or affix to, the place such letters, mark or numbers as may be necessary for the purposes of the census.

(iii) **Section 10(1)** Subject to such orders as the Census Commissioner may issue in this behalf, a census-officer may, within the local area for which he is appointed, leave or cause to be left a schedule at any dwelling-house or with the manager or any officer of any commercial or industrial establishment, for the purpose of its being filled up by the occupier of such house or of any specified part thereof or by such manager or officer with such particulars as the Census Commissioner` may direct regarding the inmates of such house or part thereof, or the persons employed under such manager or officer, as the case may be, at the time of the taking of the census.

(2) When such schedule has been so left, the said occupier, manager or officer, as the case may be, shall fill it up or cause it to be filled up to the best of his knowledge or belief so far as regards the inmates of such house or part thereof or the persons employed under him as the case may be, at the time aforesaid, and shall sign his name thereto and, when so required, shall deliver the schedule so filled up and signed to the census-officer or to such person as the census-officer may direct.

(iv) **Section 11(1)** – [(a) any census-officer or any person lawfully required to give assistance towards the taking of census who refuses to perform any duty imposed upon him by this Act or any rule made thereunder, or any person who hinders or obstructs another person in performing any such duty, or

(aa) any census-officer or any person lawfully required to give assistance towards the taking of a census who neglects to use reasonable diligence in performing any duty imposed upon him or in obeying any order issued to him in accordance with this Act or any rule made there under, or any person who hinders or obstructs another person in performing any such duty or obeying any such order, or;]

(d) any person who intentionally gives a false answer to, or refuses to answer to the best of his knowledge or belief, any question asked of him by a census-officer which he is legally bound by section 8 to answer, or

(e) any person occupying any house, enclosure, vessel or other place who refuses to allow a census-officer such reasonable access thereto as he is required by section 9 to allow, or

(f) any person who removes, obliterates, alters, or damages any letters, marks or numbers which have been painted or affixed for the purposes of the census, or

(g) any person who, having been required under section 10 to fill up a schedule, knowingly and without sufficient cause fails to comply with the provisions of that section, or makes any false return there under , or

(h) any person who trespasses into a census office, shall be punishable with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees and in case of a conviction under part (a), (b) or (c) shall also be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to three years.

(2) Whoever abets any offence under sub-section (1) shall be punishable with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees.

You are now required to approach the State Government /UT Administrations to issue notification in this regard so that the above provisions of the Act are made public well before the field operations of Census of India-2011 begining in April 2010. Please report compliance of these instructions at least four weeks before the date of Houselisting Operation begins in your State/UT.

(C. Chandramouli)
Registrar General and
Census Commissioner, India

To

All Directorates of Census Operations

Copy to:

1. Addl. Director, DRG(C&T), DRG(PKB), DRG(Map), DRG(CRS/SRS), ARG(Demo), JD(AKS), JD(DP), JD(A.K.Samal), JD(M.S.Thapa), JD(A.K.Srivastava), JD(Anil Kumar), JD(SS), ARG(SS), JRGI, DS(A), SRO(Language Division)
2. JD(OL) for immediate Hindi translation
3. PPS to HS
4. PS to RGI, PS to Addl. RGI, PS to DDG(MNIC), PS to DDG(D.Rastogi)
5. Census Cell (15 copies)
6. Guard File