General FAQ on Census

1. What information is collected in Census?
- Phase I (Houselisting & Housing Census): Housing conditions, household details, availability of amenities such as drinking water, toilets, electricity, fuel used for cooking, internet, etc.; and possession of assets such as Radio, TV, Computer, Two Wheelers, four-wheelers, etc. by the household
- Phase II (Population Enumeration): Number of persons and their Name, Age, sex, marital status, caste, religion, education, language, disability, migration, occupation, and fertility details (for married women).

2. Will my personal information be kept confidential?
Yes, Confidentiality is guaranteed under Section 15 of the Census Act, 1948. Your individual details will not be shared with anyone. Only aggregate data and summaries at various administrative levels like State, District, Sub-district, Village/Town etc. are published.

3. Is it compulsory to answer Census questions?
Yes. As per Section 8 of Census Act, 1948, you must answer Census questions truthfully to the best of your knowledge.

4. How often is Census done?
The first Census in India was conducted in 1872, in non-synchronous manner. Since 1881 it has been conducted every 10 years in a synchronous manner. The last Census in this sequence was conducted in 2011. However, Census 2021 was deferred due to Covid-19 and is being conducted in 2027.

5. Is it mandatory to participate in the Census?
Yes. Participation in the Census is mandatory under the Census Act, 1948. Every household must provide accurate information.

6. What happens if I do not give information?
Not providing correct information or not cooperating with Census officials is an offence under the Census Act, 1948. Under Section 8, sub-section (2) of Census Act 1948, every person of whom any question is asked shall be legally bound to answer such question to the best of his knowledge or belief. Section 11(1)(d) specifies that any person who refuses to answer to the best of his knowledge or belief, any

question asked of him by a census-officer commits an offense for which a fine can be imposed that may extend upto one thousand rupees.

7. Who conducts the Census in India?

The Census in India is conducted by the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India, under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. The Census Commissioner of India, appointed by the Central Government under Section 4(1) of the Census Act, 1948, supervises the entire process in close coordination with the States and Union Territories.

8. What are the ways by which I can get counted in Census 2027?

Your data can be recorded in the Census 2027 through two different methods.
1. Canvasser Method: An Enumerator visits your household and records your information using a Mobile App by asking the necessary questions.
2. Self-Enumeration (SE) Method: You can also choose to self-enumerate by providing your information through the self-enumeration portal, after which an Enumerator will visit your household to collect SE ID & validate the same during her/his field visit.

9. Who is appointed as an Enumerator and Supervisor in Census?

The field functionaries for carrying out the enumeration work are appointed by the State/District Administration as per the provisions of Census Act 1948 and Rules thereof.

Enumerators are generally appointed from amongst Teachers, Revenue officials, like Patwari, Gram Sevak, Health workers, Other Government/semi-government staff, Sub-staff of municipalities in urban areas. The Supervisor appointed by the State Government is generally a rank higher to the Enumerators.

10. Whom do I contact in case my household is not covered?

The Charge Officer. The Charge Officers are generally Block Development Officer/Tehsildar/Municipal Secretary/Ward Officer of your area. In case of need, you can also contact the Collector/DC/DM of your District or the Commissioner of your Town.

11. Do I need to show any documents to the enumerator?

No. The enumerator will take down all particulars as given by you. You are not required to show any proof. However, it is expected that you will provide correct and authentic information to the best of your knowledge and belief.

12. What are the obligations of the Public under the Census Act?

The following are obligations of the Public under the Census Act even if she/he is filling her/his data through SE portal:

a) To allow entry to the Census staff in her/his house

b) To allow painting of number on her/his house

c) To give correct information to the best of her/his knowledge & belief

13. When will Census 2027 data be published?

Preliminary data will be released within **a few months**, followed by detailed tables and reports in **phases**.

14. How can I access Census data?

Census 2027 data will be available on the official website of Census of India, after conduct of Census 2027 and Publication of Census results. However, previous Census data are available in the official website: **www.censusindia.gov.in**

Self-Enumeration FAQ in Census

1. What is the Self-Enumeration?

Self-Enumeration is a process where respondents fill out, complete, and submit the census schedule themselves, rather than having it done by a census enumerator. The Self-Enumeration Portal is an official online platform by the Office of Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India that allows residents to fill out their detailed information for Census 2027 from the comfort of their homes.

2. What are the benefits of Self-Enumeration?

- Self-Enumeration makes it easier for you to fill your own information at your own convenience through a web portal. This will also save your time.
- It ensures better accuracy, since you enter your own information.
- It provides an increased sense of privacy as you are entering your data directly.
- It makes the Enumerator's job faster and easier.
- It helps the Census process becomes more efficient

3. Can all types of Households, namely Normal, Institutional and Houseless do Self-Enumeration?

No. Only Normal Households can do Self-Enumeration

4. When can I do the Self-Enumeration in Census 2027?

- During the Houselisting and Housing Census phase, Self-Enumeration portal will remain open for **15 days** just before the start of house to house Houselisting Operations of 30 days in the respective States/UTs. Exact dates of Self-Enumeration are 1st to 15th April, 2026 in Goa.
- For Population Enumeration phase, period of Self-enumeration will be notified later.

5. Is Self-Enumeration mandatory?

No, it is optional. You will still be covered by enumerators who will visit households that haven't self-enumerated. However, it is encouraged as a convenient and efficient way to participate in the Census.

6. Can I self-enumerate in any language?

Self-Enumeration may be done in English and 15 Indian languages.

7. Do I need internet to self-enumerate?

Yes. An internet connection is required to access and submit information on the portal.

8. How do I log in to the Census Self-Enumeration Portal?

Select State/UT name in the Self-Enumeration Portal with Captcha verification and then write the name of the head of household, mobile number and email(optional). An OTP will be sent to the mobile and email (if provided) for verification. Enter the OTP to begin self-enumeration.

9. What happens after I submit my information in Self-Enumeration Portal?

After submission, your unique Self-Enumeration ID (SE ID) will be displayed in the screen. You will also receive a confirmation SMS and e-mail (if provided) with Self-Enumeration ID (SE ID). Please preserve this for sharing with the Census Enumerator when she/he visits your household during HLO.

10. What is the use of SE ID?

After submitting your details, you'll get a unique 11 digit SE ID (prefixed by H) by SMS and Email (if provided).
If you do not provide a correct SE ID, the Enumerator will collect all the required data by asking you again.

11. What if I forget or lose my SE ID?

You can retrieve your SE ID using the SE portal with your registered mobile number. You can also seek the help of the Enumerator during his/her visit to your house.

12. Will the Enumerator still visit my house if I Self-Enumerate?

Yes. The Enumerator will visit your household. If you've self-enumerated, you need to share your SE ID for verification. The enumerator will add few more data points like Building Number, Census House Number, Use of Census House etc. After verification of the responses, she/he will finally upload the data.

13. Can I edit my information after submitting in the portal?

The portal allows you to save your progress as a draft. You must complete and submit the form within the period specified for your State/UT. You can edit or revise your details until you finally submit the form or until the last day of self-enumeration in your State/UT. After submission or once the self-enumeration period is over, changes can only be made by the Enumerator during household verification.

14. Is my information safe on the Self-Enumeration Portal?

Yes. All data is encrypted and protected. Data will be encrypted and stored in secure government servers with strict cybersecurity and privacy safeguards.

15. Do I need to upload any documents for SE?

No documents are required to be uploaded. However, you must provide accurate information as per your knowledge and belief.

16. Can I complete self-enumeration for my family members?

Yes. The Head of the Household or any responsible adult member can fill in the details for all the normally residing members of their household using the single household access. The respondent can enter details of all family members living in the household during Population Enumeration Phase in 2027. During 1st Phase i.e., Houselisting & Housing Census, only household and housing information is collected.

17. Can I save my progress and complete the form later?

Yes, the portal allows you to save your progress and return to complete the form within a specified period. To access your saved data, ensure that you are logged in with the same mobile number used for previous log in.

18. Is there any assistance in the Self-Enumeration portal while filling the form?

Yes, help in the form of Tooltips has been provided in the portal for almost all questions.

19. How to correctly locate my residence in Self-Enumeration portal?

To mark location of your residence correctly, select District name from the drop down menu for the particular State/UT and enter PIN Code (if available). Then provide one or more of the information regarding village, locality, street, or nearby prominent landmark. Then click Search. Once the map loads, zoom in fully until individual houses are visible and place the marker exactly on your house, ensuring the correct side of the road and nearby landmarks match. Be careful in confirming the location as it will be used to assign an Enumerator and an incorrect placement of marker may lead to non-availability of household data in Enumerators mobile app.

->> Be cautious to adjust the marker to the exact location of your house for effective Self-Enumeration.

20. What I can do if I discover some error in response after final submission?

Don't worry. When the Enumerator will come to collect your SE ID please tell her/him to edit the SE information. She/he will be able do so before finalising and uploading data.

21. I am an Indian Citizen and live outside India. Can I get counted in Census through Self-Enumeration?

No. The Self-Enumeration portal is restricted within the geographical boundary of India.