



# Indian Census

DR DIPAK ROY CHOUDHURY &  
C CHAKRAVORTY



**Census is the *biggest* and  
the *only* source of information  
on  
size and distribution of  
population and its growth  
trends across all geographical  
and  
administrative units**

## A few words ..

- **The first census in India was held in 1872. It was a non-synchronous census covering the entire country from 1865-1872**
- **From 1881 a complete and synchronous census was held through out India**
- **The Census of India 2011 is the 15<sup>th</sup> census in India**
- **It is the seventh after Independence**

## A few words ..

- The essential features of the census are individual enumeration, universality within a defined territory, simultaneity and defined periodicity.
- The total population enumerated should refer to one well defined point of time and the data collected should also refer to a well defined point or period of time.

# Objectives

**Complete coverage and accurate enumeration of all the people:**

- ***who and how many***
- ***what do they do and how often***
- ***kind of houses they live in***
- ***household amenities and assets***
- ***Individual level information.***

# Use of Census Data

- **It is the mirror of people at a given point of time showing the demographic, socio-cultural, economic and other characteristics.**
- **Provides valuable information for planning and formulation of policies**
- **Used in delimitation of constituencies**
- **Effective Public Administration**
- **In research in India and abroad**

# Range of Census Data

**It is not only a headcount but biggest source of data on:**

- **Demography**
- **Economic Activity**
- **Literacy & Education**
- **Housing & Household Amenities**
- **Urbanization**
- **Fertility and Mortality**
- **Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes**
- **Language, Religion & Migration**

# *Census of India 2011*

---

1<sup>st</sup> Phase:

**HOUSELISTING OPERATIONS**

April - September 2010

2<sup>nd</sup> Phase:

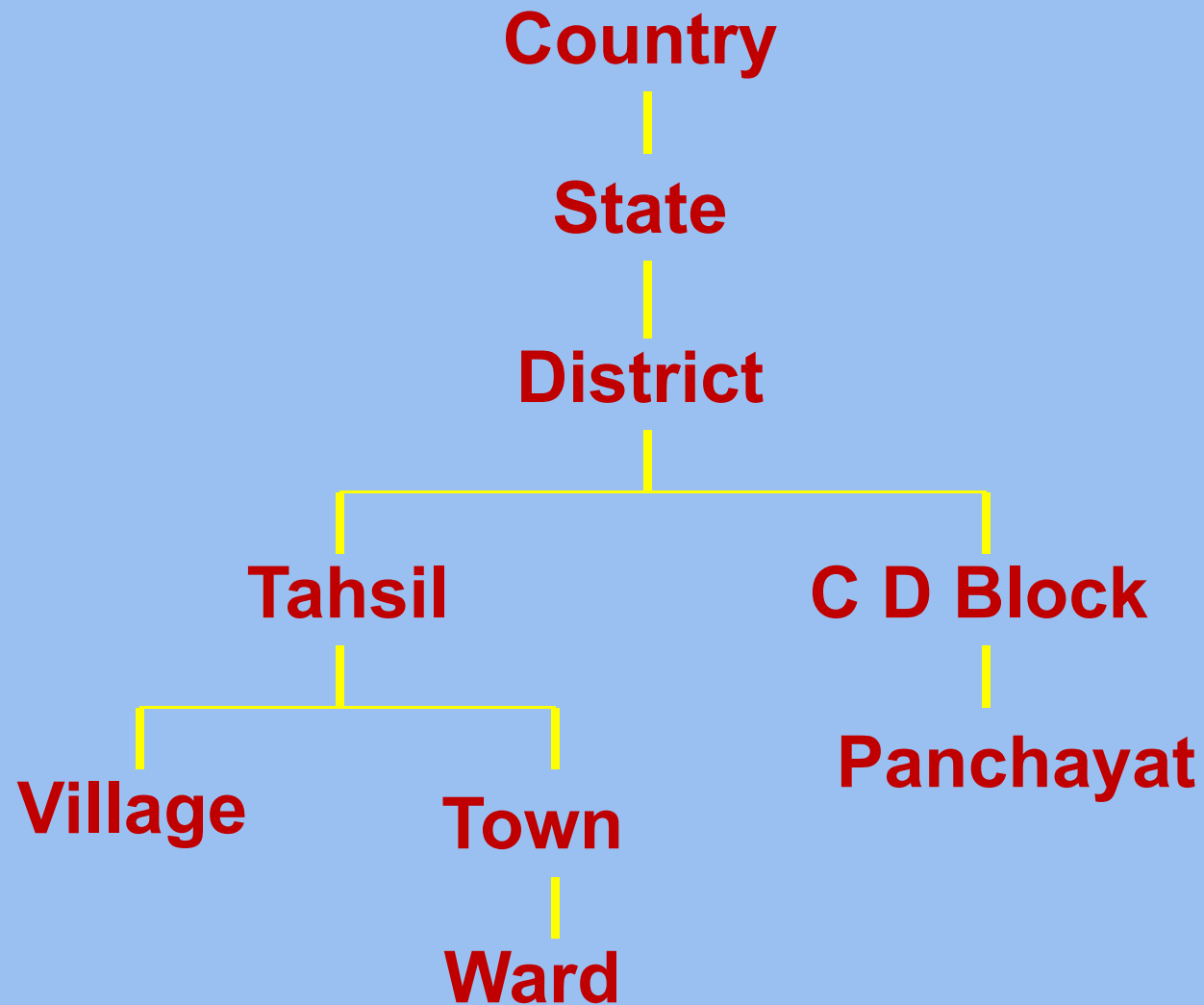
**POPULATION ENUMERATION**

9<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011

---



## Provides basic data at all administrative levels



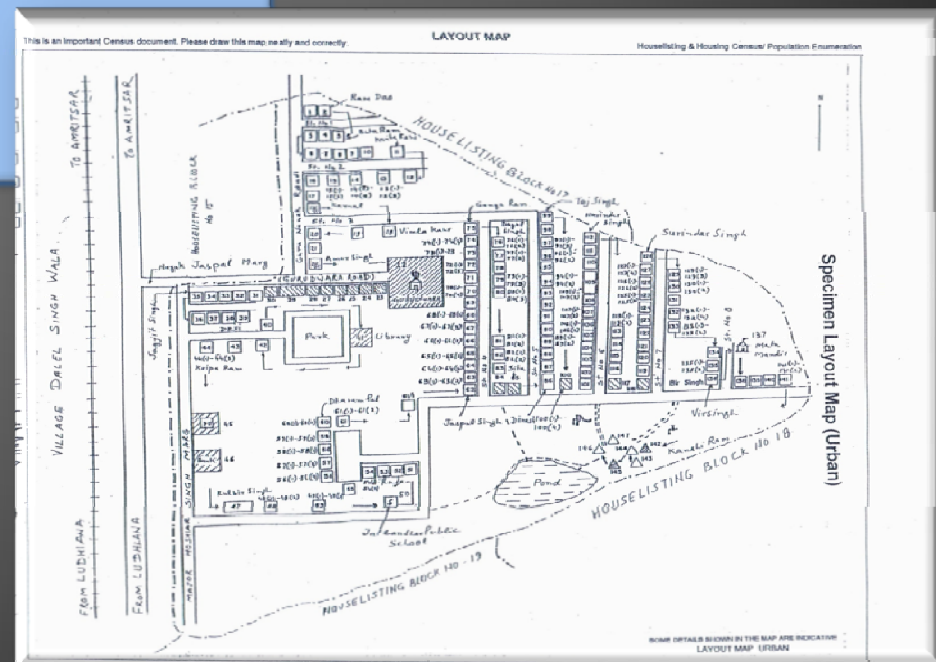
## *Concepts and Definitions*

- Enumeration Block
- Premises, Building
- Census House
- Household
- Normal Household
- Institutional Household
- Houseless Household



# Enumeration Block

Specific area allotted to a specific Enumerator for carrying out of Population Enumeration



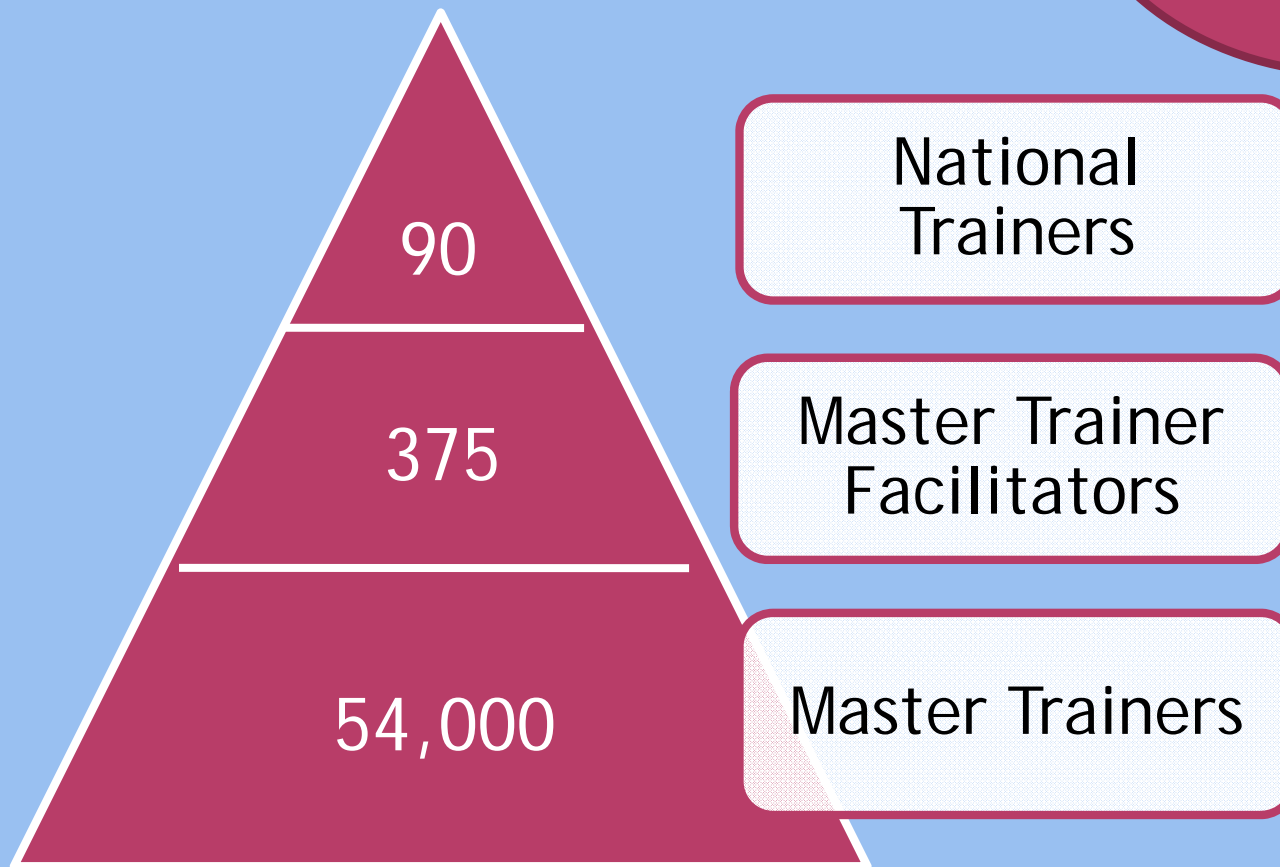
# Household

- Group of persons who normally live together and take their meals from a common kitchen
- The persons may be related or unrelated or mix of both
- Types:
  - Normal household
  - Institutional household
  - Houseless household



# Training Cascade

Master Trainers train 25 lakh Enumerators



# *Legal Provisions*

Census Act 1948  
(37 of 1948)  
&  
Census Rules



# *Confidentiality*

## Confidentiality of Census Records (Sec.15 of the Act)

**CENSUS RECORDS** not  
open to inspection nor  
admissible in  
evidence



# *Houselisting Operations*

## **The objective of the Houselisting Operations**

**Is to number and list out all the  
physical units of construction which  
are used or likely to be used for  
residential or any other purposes**





# *Houselisting Operations*



**THE HOUSELISTING  
OPERATIONS  
PROVIDE A BASE  
FOR  
POPULATION  
ENUMERATION**



# *Population Enumeration*

Phase - II  
Population Enumeration  
**9<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011**

Revisional Round  
**1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> March 2011**

# *Enumeration of Houseless Population*

Houseless Population will be  
enumerated on the night of  
28h February 2011  
wherever they will be found

The magnitude and sheer size of population and its growing divergence has made the Indian Census as one of the most challenging and single largest administrative exercise in the world



## *How large is Indian Census?*

- 25 lakh Enumerators & Supervisors deployed
- Schedule canvasses in 16 languages
- Instruction Manuals printed in 18 languages
- Would collect information on about 1.28 billion persons by visiting each household

## *How large is Indian Census?*

|            | 2001        | 2011        |
|------------|-------------|-------------|
| States/UTs | 35          | 35          |
| Districts  | 593         | 640         |
| Tehsils    | 5463        | 5767        |
| Towns      | 5161        | 7742        |
| Villages   | 5,93,732    | 6,08,786    |
| Households | 194         | 240         |
| EBs        | 19.82 lakhs | 23.56 lakhs |
| Population | 1.03 Bn     | 1.20 Bn     |

*How much will it cost ?*

Rs 2,200  
Crore

(Phase 1 and  
Phase 2)




## Part II





The Provisional Population Data  
based on 2011 Census as  
compiled from information  
collected by 2.5 million  
Enumerators will be released on  
**26<sup>th</sup> March 2011**  
within three weeks after the  
completion of the Census





This will be followed by  
collection of more than 34 crore  
Schedules from over 15,000  
Charges across the country and  
dispatch to Scanning Centres  
located in 16 States



Department of Posts has been assigned the responsibility of collection of about 7 lakh boxes weighing 10,000 MTs of printed material from printing presses and delivering them to the Charges and collect them back for delivery to Scanning Centres

# *Data Processing*

- Transfer of information from 36 Crore Schedules to computer readable format is a huge and daunting task
- For the first time in 2001 Census data capture using Intelligent Character Reading Technology was used
- This step was considered a very challenging as the technology was not previously used for any large country

# *Data Processing*

- The Schedules were scanned using High Speed Duplex Scanners
- Working three shifts a day
- The scanned images read by ICR software
- Care taken to verify the correct recognition of characters
- ASCII files created for data processing

# Data Processing

## Tiling Process

The screenshot displays the 'Integra - Tile (HLIST) {070900014090100000060004}' application window. The interface includes a menu bar with 'File', 'View', 'Options', and 'Help'. Below the menu is a toolbar with icons for 'Get', 'Put', 'Save', 'Discard', 'View', 'Edit', 'Prior Page', 'Character Page', 'Page', 'Next Page', and 'Next Page'. The 'Character Page' is currently set to 1, and the 'Page' is set to 4. The main area is a grid of 20 columns and 10 rows of character tiles. Each tile contains a single character, mostly '1's, with some variations in stroke. One tile in the bottom row, second column, is highlighted in red. The status bar at the bottom right shows the time '9:44:38 AM'. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button and several open applications: 'presentation.doc - Micro...', 'Integra - Controller (HLI...', 'Top Image Systems - Int...', and 'Integra - Tile (HLIST)'. The system tray on the right shows the time '9:44 AM' and several system icons.



OVER TO DATA DISSEMINATION

