

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:81
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2004
CONTROVERSY OVER CENSUS REPORT
Singh Shri Sugrib;Subbarayan Shri K.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government recently published Census Report of 1990-2001;
- (b) if so, whether the data published in the report has shown rise in population of certain communities in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the factors attributed thereto;
- (d) whether the mode of publishing religion-wise data was also adopted in 1991 census report;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether some discrepancies were found in the report while publishing religion-wise data;
- (g) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Government for the wrong figures published in regard to population of certain communities in the country; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof and corrective measures taken/being taken against the guilty officials responsible for this lapse?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (h) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.81 FOR 07.12.2004

(a): Yes, Sir. Several reports based on Census 2001 have been released so far. The Report on Religion data was released on 6th September, 2004.

(b)&(c): Yes, Sir. The unadjusted and adjusted growth rates for various religious communities have been as under.

Decadal Growth Rate (%age)

1991-2001

Religious Community Unadjusted Adjusted

Hindus	20.3	20.0
Muslims	36.0	29.3
Christians	22.6	22.1
Sikhs	18.2	16.9
Buddhists	24.5	23.2
Jains	26.0	26.0

The adjusted growth rates were added in the Report released on 9th September, 2004.

The rise in population is demographically attributed to fertility and mortality rates.

(d)&(e): The 1991 Report on Religion provided the population data of religious communities and their growth rates. The 2001 Census Reports on Religion, has besides this, cross-classified the population data by other characteristics such as child population, literacy and workers and their categories.

(f): There were no discrepancies in the Report except that the growth rates shown in the Brief Analysis of the report released on 6th September, 2004 did not state that these were based on unadjusted figures. This Report indicated the absolute figures of population of various religious communities with a footnote that no census was conducted in Assam in 1981 and in Jammu & Kashmir in 1991. It also had indicated the proportion of the population for 2001 and previous censuses from 1961. The relevant para of the Report in Brief Analysis was amended on 9th September, 2004 to give the adjusted growth rates. At the same time, unadjusted and adjusted growth rates were added by way of a Table in the Report to avoid any misinterpretation.

(g)&(h): An internal enquiry has been made. A mistake has been committed. Appropriate warning is being issued to the concerned. Guidelines have been issued to the Office of RGI that whenever any changes are made in the format or analysis - it should be done after due technical diligence, be carefully vetted and an explicit mention should be made of the departure so as to avoid confusion and misinterpretation of the data by the users.