

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:990
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2011
INCLUSION OF DISABILITY IN CENSUS
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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to incorporate some changes in the Census, 2011, including expansion in the definition of disability so as to allow better capturing of the country's disabled population;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to incorporate other areas like education and work related information in the census; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

(a) to (d): Yes, Madam. A number of changes have been incorporated in Census 2011 for better capturing of and analysis of data including that on disability. The details of the changes incorporated on the issues relating to the question on disability, Work and Education are given hereunder:

Disability:

With a view to ensure complete coverage of all the disabled persons in the country the question on disability canvassed at the Census 2011 has been modified. The question on disability included in the Household Schedule attempts to collect information on eight types of disabilities as against five included in the Household Schedule of Census of India 2001. The information is being collected on disabilities namely, disability 'In Seeing', 'In Hearing', 'In Speech', 'In Movement', 'Mental Retardation', 'Mental Illness', 'Any Other' and 'Multiple Disability'. Persons suffering from the disabilities not listed in the question will have the option to return themselves under the category of 'AnyOther'. One of the important features of the question on disability is the inclusion of a category of 'Multiple disability' which has been designed to record as many as three types of disabilities. The question on disability and the definitions of various types of disabilities have been devised in consultation with the key stakeholders both in Government and in the Disability Sector. An important aspect of canvassing the question on disability has been the partnership with the NGOs working in the field of disability. The NGO in disability Sector took up the task of training and sensitizing census functionaries up to the district level.

In addition to the information collected in previous Census following changes have been incorporated in Census 2011 concerning Work and Education:

Work:

In Census work has been defined as 'participation in any economically productive activity with or without compensation, wages or profit. Such participation may be physical and /or mental in nature. Work involves not only actual work but also includes effective supervision and direction of work. It even includes part time help or unpaid work on farm, family enterprise or in any other economic activity. The important point to note is that the activity should be economically productive'.

In the previous censuses, workers were categorized as 'Main Workers' and 'Marginal Workers'. Those who worked for more than 6 months during last year were categorized as 'Main Workers' whereas those who worked less than 6 months were categorized as 'Marginal Workers'. At the Census 2011, for better capturing and analysis of Census data, 'Marginal Workers' have been classified into two categories viz.,

- (i) worked for 3 months or more but less than 6 months
- (ii) worked for less than 3 months. The definition of 'Main Worker' remain the same.

Education/literacy:

In order to ascertain the status of attendance in educational institutions of all the persons new codes have been introduced at the Census 2011. All the persons will be categorized under the following categories:

1. Not Attending
2. Attended before and
3. Never attended

Other important Changes in the Census 2011 are as under:

New/Revised Questions:

- 1.Name of the Institutional Household being recorded
- 2.Gender: New category `Other` introduced in addition to Male and Female
- 3.Date of Birth question introduced along with Age
- 4.Current Marital Status: Separate codes Assigned for Separated and Divorced
- 5.New filter Question on SC/ST Introduced – `Is this person SC/ST?`