



Census and You!

Dear Principal,

As you may be aware, the Census of India 2011 is to be conducted in February – March 2011. The Indian Census is acknowledged as one of the biggest peace time exercises in the world; it is also renowned the world over for the high quality of data it publishes.

Though there are references in the Arthashastra of Chanakya and the Ain-e-Akbari of the Mughal period that refer to the conduct of Censuses, modern Census taking in India has a history dating back to 1872 when the first imperial Census was taken in India. Since then, there has been an unbroken series of Censuses every decade. The Census of India 2011 will be the 15th decadal Census of India.

The process of collecting the data for the Census literally touches each and every home and family in the country. Thus, it is necessary for us to reach out to everyone, in every corner of the country, and ensure that correct and complete data is collected from every family. So also, the resultant data is used for the benefit of each and every person. The importance of Census data in planning for a welfare State and in the functioning of a democracy can not be over emphasized.

We have a two-fold aim in taking up this project – “Census and You” – first, to make all school children aware that a Census is taking place and that they have a role in ensuring that the data for their own family as well as the community in which they reside is returned correctly; and second, to expose students to the significance of census data in the progress of the country, and point out how the data can be of use and interest in itself as a subject of study.

We request that any one week, preferably in the month of January 2011, may be designated as the “Census Week”. During this week, the following activities may be taken up:

1. Reading of Messages on the Census and its importance during the School Assembly
2. Organizing discussions in the classrooms – 3 lesson plans are provided for the guidance of the teachers

You count ! Therefore we count!!

3. Organizing a Quiz – a set of Quiz cards has been provided. The winners could be awarded certificates sent along with this kit
4. Displaying the Map/Data sheet provided herewith for the general informations of the teachers and the students
5. Any other activity that you deem appropriate

Teachers and students are creative and imaginative and we are sure that they will come up with extremely innovative methods of observing the Census Week; This kit is only meant to be a starting point. We would also encourage you to visit our website and get all the details that are required. The possibilities are endless and we would be keen to hear from you at the end of it all. A grand prize is also planned for the best school in each State. So do write to us.

This is our Census. Its success will pave the way for planning a better future for us. I am sure you will take personal interest in this endeavor and ensure its success.

Wishing you all the best!

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. C. Chandramouli

Registrar General & Census

Commissioner, India

Visit us at : <http://www.censusindia.gov.in>