

## PREFACE

The Population Census has been a major source for collecting data pertaining to the population count of the country, its composition and other features. In this huge exercise requiring massive resources, maintaining the quality - both in coverage and content - is a challenging task and deficiencies and errors in both the coverage and response can't be ruled out.

2. The Census Organisation has the tradition of evaluating the results of the Population Census through Post Enumeration Surveys (PES), known also as Post Enumeration Checks (PEC). Such surveys have been conducted every time after each census since 1951. Its main objective is consciously to quantify the omission and duplication in the census enumeration as well as to measure the response errors in respect of certain selected characteristics canvassed in the census. The results of the PES are important in throwing light to the areas of census operations which would need attention including the concepts and definitions employed, procedures of enumeration and related instructions to the field staff etc. This is of help in improving conduct of future census operations. It may be mentioned here that no attempt has been made in the past or is being made now to adjust the Indian census results based on the PES results.

3. The PES Report of 2001 Census presents detailed analysis of the results along with the objective and organization of the survey, its methodology, schedules canvassed for PES. The planning, designing of the schedules, preparation of manual of instructions for the field staff, training of supervisory staff, processing and tabulation of the data, analysis of the results and the preparation of the Report have all been done by the Demography Division of the Organisation. The data entry work was done in the DDE centers under the guidance of the officers of the Data Processing Division. The training to the field staff and canvassing of the schedules were the responsibility of the Directorate of Census Operations of the state and union territories. The fieldwork of PES has been a joint effort of Central and State Governments in some states.

4. I would like to thank my predecessor, Shri J. K. Banthia and Shri. S.K. Sinha, Ex- Deputy Registrar General for their guidance in planning and conducting the field-work during their tenures. I would like to thank Shri David J. Megill of the *U. S Bureau of the Census* for the technical assistance in the design and analysis of the PES during his visits here and providing the software '*CENVAR*', *the variance calculation component of the Integrated Microcomputer Processing System (IMPS)* supplied by the *U. S Bureau of the Census, International Programs Center*. This *software* has been used in arriving the results of the PES

I would express my thanks to the Directors of Census Operations, the officers of Directorates of Economics and Statistics of the respective state governments and other government organisations for working hard in completing the survey in the stipulated time schedule. I would also like to record the sincere efforts put in by Dr. D. Roy Choudhury, Assistant Registrar General, Smt Renuka Ravindran, Senior Research Officer, Smt Dipali Bose, Statistical Investigator, Gr. II and Smt Manju Bose, Statistical

Investigator, Gr. III. for completion of the work of the PES. I would also like to appreciate the contributions of Shri M. S. Thapa, Deputy Director (EDP) and Shri Surendra Singh, Assistant Director (EDP) for processing the data and providing the relevant tables based on the PES under the overall guidance of Shri Himakar, Additional Director (EDP). Shri K. Narayanan Unni, Deputy Registrar General (Census & Tabulation) contributed immensely in the final stages of drafting this Report.

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