



Census v/s NPR

What to do when govt officials come to your house

The Government of India has suddenly declared that it will conduct a door to door survey to determine the ordinary residents of India from April 2020 to September 2020 (National Population Register-NPR). India is also due for the decennial population survey, the Census in 2021. By clubbing these two processes, one a much needed and regular process, the Census with the second, controversial NPR-NRC process the government is deliberately generating confusion and causing alarm.

The 21 questions that the government is now asking under **the new NPR 2020 threatens our privacy, may lead to surveillance and most dangerous of all can help target and mark out sections of the population for disenfranchisement from citizenship.** This is why we are saying NO to NPR-NRC. What we need to say equally clearly is that we have no objection to the Census. Hence, we need to clearly *understand and distinguish between the two.*

➤ Which questions do we need to answer? ➤ Which must we refuse to answer? ➤ Why?

First things first. The NPR process is being conducted under the Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and Issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003 while Census 2021 is as per Census Act 1948.

Participating in NPR is voluntary, you can REFUSE to ANSWER!

NOTE: Although, much of the sets of data in the NPR schedule are going to be pre-filled, **you can verify it or choose not to verify it.**

Differences and commonalities between Census and NPR

Census	NPR
Census questions are mandatory to be answered	NPR questions are voluntary. You can choose not to answer them.
The questions asked in the first phase of census are pertaining to the 'Houselisting Census' which are pertaining to amenities in the house, like toilet, electricity, water supply and so on	The questions in NPR are a part of Census Household schedule (the second phase) which is to be carried out in 2021; except for place of birth of parents
Census is carried out periodically every ten years. This is the 16 th Census since 1872 and 8 th census since India's independence	First NPR took place in 2010, it was updated in 2015. Govt. had claimed that NPR is being updated after a 10 year gap. The Rules do not state that NPR is to be done periodically. Hence, the motive behind NPR is being looked at suspiciously by all
Census is carried out under provisions of the Census Act, 1948	NPR does not have legal sanction. NPR is being carried out under Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and Issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003, which is a subordinate legislation
In Houselisting Census, questions will need to be answered individually, the answer fields will be blank	In the NPR schedule most of the answer fields will be pre-filled as this is an updation exercise of the NPR. You can choose to verify or not verify the data.
Census process is not related to NRC	NPR is the first step towards creation of NRC. This has been admitted by govt. in the parliament and MHA's Annual Report 2018-19.
In Census <u>providing accurate data is mandatory under section 8 of the Census Act, 1948 which states that every person of whom any question (published in official gazette for Census purposes) is asked shall be legally bound to answer such question to the best of his knowledge.</u>	Answering questions in NPR is not legally binding on an individual. However 9 & 7 of the rules do require that everyone has to register and that head of family must give ans to NPR questions or else face a fine of Rs. 1000/-. Not answering is therefore voluntary but WILL or CAN get you declared, by the govt, as a Doubtful Citizen (DC) if we don't ans.*
Census is the primary source of basic national population data required for administrative purposes and for many aspects of economic and social research and planning.	NPR is a National Population Register which will contain the details of all the 'usual residents' of the country regardless of whether they are citizens or non-citizens of India. NPR is being done as a database for NRC
The census data is collected in two phases in India. First is the House listing phase which precedes the second phase of Household data collection phase	NPR can be considered to be first phase of NRC, one preceding NRC
NPR process is going to be carried out <u>simultaneously</u> with the House-listing Census or the first phase of Census 2021. <u>Both of these are scheduled to begin from April 1, 2020 and will be concluded by September 30, 2020.</u>	

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CENSUS QUESTIONS THAT WE MUST ANSWER:

Census House listing Schedule:

These are the questions that form a part of the Census House listing Schedule, 2020:

1. Building number (Municipal or local authority or census number).
2. Census house number.
3. Predominant material of floor, wall and roof of the census house.
4. Ascertain use of census house.
5. Condition of the census house.
6. Household number.
7. Total number of persons normally residing in the household:
8. Name of the head of the household.
9. Sex of the head of the household.
10. Whether the head of the household belongs to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe/Other.
11. Ownership status of the census house.
12. Number of dwelling rooms exclusively in possession of the household.
13. Number of married couple(s) living in the household.
14. Main source of drinking water.
15. Availability of drinking water source.
16. Main source of lighting.
17. Access to latrine.
18. Type of latrine.
19. Waste water outlet.
20. Availability of bathing facility.
21. Availability of kitchen and LPG/PNG connection.
22. Main fuel used for cooking.
23. Radio/Transistor.
24. Television.
25. Access to internet.
26. Laptop/Computer.
27. Telephone/Mobile Phone/Smartphone.
28. Bicycle/Scooter/Motorcycle/
29. Car/Jeep/Van.
30. Main Cereal consumed in the household.
31. Mobile Number (for census related communications only).

**Source: ORGI Gazette Notification (Period of House listing Operation and Questions in House listing & Housing Census for Census 2021) dated 07-01-2019*



NPR SCHEDULE QUESTIONS THAT WE NEED NOT ANSWER:

Most of the fields in the NPR schedule will be pre-filled as the data was already collected in 2010 and updated in 2015. Hence, only changes in such data will be recorded. You will have to verify the data already filled in the schedule/questionnaire. As clarified by MoS Home Ministry, G Kishan Reddy, providing information in the NPR is voluntary. This means YOU CAN DECLINE TO PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION asked in the NPR SCHEDULE*

Census House Number and Household Number

· Present Address (pre-filled)	· Pin code (pre-filled)	· Household Status (available/closed/moved out/could not be enumerated/new)
Number of members (pre-filled)	· Name of the person in full (pre-filled)	· Availability of member of the household
· Relationship to Head	· Sex (pre-filled)	· Marital Status
· Date of Birth (pre-filled)	· Place of Birth (pre-filled)	· Nationality as declared (pre-filled)

Note: Nationality recorded is as declared by the respondent. This does not confer any right to Indian Citizenship

· Passport Number (if Indian, only then can they ask for passport number)

The manual states "if the respondent provides passport number..." which can be understood as the information sought is voluntary. This means even if you have a passport you may choose to not provide the passport number.

· Educational Qualification · Occupation/Activity
· Permanent Residential Address (pre-filled) · Duration of stay and place of last residence

**Q 12. Whether Staying at present place since birth
12 (a) Yes/No,**

if No, fill 12(b), else skip		Whether Staying at present place since birth	
12 (b) (i) Duration of stay at present place in years		12(a) Yes/No,	
12 (b) (ii) Place of Last residence		if No, fill 12(b), else skip	
12(a)	Yes	12 (b) (i) Duration of stay at present place in years	
12 (b) (i)	-	12 (b) (ii) Place of Last residence	
12 (b) (ii)	-	12 (a)	No
State/Country	-	12 (b) (i)	5
District	-	12 (b) (ii)	Patna
		State/Country	Bihar
		District	Patna

· Details of father, mother and spouse **(Not mandatory)**

Q.13(i) If father, mother and spouse are not enumerated in this household or not alive, write their names along with date of birth else write serial number		Q.13(ii) Place of Birth of Father & Mother If within India, write the name of the state and district if outside number																																	
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· Aadhaar Number (if available) **(specifically mentions "Aadhaar number is to be collected if provided by the resident voluntarily.)**

· Mobile Number (pre-filled) · Voter ID Card Number (if available)
· Driving License Number (if available)

If any of the above number is not available, it may be left blank. Hence, you will provide this information only if you want to.