

**CENSUS AND STATISTICS ACT**

**CHAPTER 19:03**

**Act  
17 of 1986**

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**Note  
on  
Omission**

The Census Order 1991 (10/1991) has been omitted.

## CHAPTER 19:03

### CENSUS AND STATISTICS ACT

#### ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

##### SECTION

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##### SCHEDULE.

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## CHAPTER 19:03

### CENSUS AND STATISTICS ACT

17 of 1986. **AN ACT to provide for the establishment of a co-ordinated statistical system and for the taking of censuses and surveys, for the collection, compilation, analysis and publication of statistical information and for other matters related thereto.**

Commencement. [10th July 1986]

Short title. **1. This Act may be cited as the—  
CENSUS AND STATISTICS ACT.**

Interpretation. **2. In this Act –**  
“person” where the term is used in relation to a person furnishing or required to furnish any information under this Act means all or any of the individuals constituting a firm or the person having the control or management of a partnership business and, in the case of a company or corporation, association or body of persons, includes any director, manager or secretary of the company or corporation or head, by whatever title called, of the association or body of persons;

“Statistics Authority” means the Chief Statistician and includes any officer acting in that capacity or performing for the time being the duties of the head of the Central Statistical Office; and

Schedule. “statistics” means information in connection with or incidental to any or all of the subjects in the Schedule.

Central Statistical Office and its functions. **3. (1) There shall be established a Central Statistical Office in the Ministry of the Minister responsible for Statistics, the duties of which shall be –**

(a) to collect, compile, analyse, abstract and publish statistics portraying various aspects of the social, demographic and economic conditions of the people of the State;

(b) to compile and publish national income accounts and estimates of the State; and

(c) to carry out such censuses and surveys in relation to subjects listed in the Schedule as may be desirable from time to time for the purposes of paragraphs (a) and (b).

Schedule.

(2) The head of the Central Statistical Office shall act as the Statistics Authority for the State and shall be responsible for taking, from time to time, appropriate measures to organise and develop a national statistical system capable of meeting effectively the statistical needs of social and economic planning.

4. (1) The Statistics Authority may, by Notice in the *Gazette*, delegate to a specified official or organisation any of the functions mentioned in section 3 insofar as these pertain to a specified area of work or a duly defined special statistical operation.

Delegation of functions.

(2) When a Notice as referred to in subsection (1) has been made, the specified official or the head of the specified organisation shall, in respect of the delegated functions, have all the enabling powers vested in the Statistics Authority by virtue of this Act.

5. The Statistics Authority shall, from time to time, take appropriate measures –

Standardization and co-ordination of statistics.

(a) to arrange through a system of committees and technical panels mutual consultation between users and producers of statistics in the State and in the light of these consultations –

(i) set up statistical goals and standards for different fields of activities; and

(ii) draw up operating instructions for the implementation of various statistical programmes;

(b) to develop the co-ordinative role of the Central Statistical Office as the focal point for inter-agency statistical co-ordination thereby eliminating duplication and overlapping in statistical activities;

(c) to organise suitable training facilities for various levels of statistical staff; and

(d) to advise the relevant administrative authorities concerned regarding qualifications and conditions of service in relation to statistical staff and their postings and transfers.

Population  
census.

6. The Minister may by Order direct that a census of population shall be taken for the State or any part thereof or any class of inhabitants thereof and any such Order shall prescribe—

- (a) the date on which or the dates between which the census is to be taken;
- (b) the persons by whom and with respect to whom the returns for the purpose of the census are to be furnished; and
- (c) the information to be obtained in the census.

Census and  
surveys other  
than population  
census.  
Schedule

7. The Statistics Authority may, by Notice in the *Gazette*, order that a census or survey in respect of any matter, other than population, included in the Schedule shall be taken for the State or any part thereof or any class of inhabitants thereof and any such Notice shall prescribe —

- (a) the date on which or the dates between which the census or survey is to be taken;
- (b) the information to be obtained in the census or survey; and
- (c) the procedures to be followed for the execution of the proposed census or survey.

Collection of  
statistics.

8. (1) When the Minister makes an Order under section 6, the Statistics Authority shall take all necessary steps, subject to the provisions of this Act and Regulations made thereunder, to carry out the census.

(2) After the publication of a Notice under section 7 the Statistics Authority shall, subject to the provisions of this Act and Regulations made thereunder, take all necessary steps to collect the requisite data according to the prescribed procedures.

Compilation and  
publication of  
statistics.

9. The Statistics Authority shall cause the statistics collected under this Act to be compiled, tabulated and analysed and, subject to the

provisions of this Act, may cause the statistics or abstracts to be published in a suitable form.

**10.** (1) The Statistics Authority or any person acting on his behalf may require, by notice in writing, any person or class of persons to furnish in such form and manner and within such time as may be specified in the notice any information, estimates or returns concerning any of the matters set out in the Schedule as may be so specified and may, when considered appropriate, obtain the required information by personal interview.

Power to obtain information.

Schedule.

(2) Any person having the custody or charge of any public record or document or the records or documents of any corporation, partnership, firm, company, society or association which, in the opinion of the Statistics Authority, can be used as a source of statistical information in respect of any of the matters listed in the Schedule shall, notwithstanding any provisions of any other law, allow the Statistics Authority or any person acting on his behalf access to the records or documents for the purpose of obtaining the requisite statistics.

(3) If the Statistics Authority publishes by Notice in the *Gazette* and in at least one local newspaper, a list of any classes or descriptions of businesses or callings in relation to which information is required for the purpose of a statistical inquiry under this Act, upon such publication, any person carrying on any of the specified classes or descriptions of businesses or callings who has not received notice under subsection (1) shall inform the Statistics Authority or any person specified in the notice within such period as may be specified and provide the information in respect of his business or calling as may be relevant for the purpose of the statistical inquiry as aforesaid.

**11.** The Statistics Authority or any person acting on his behalf may, after giving reasonable notice and upon production of his authorisation to collect information in connection with any of the matters listed in the Schedule, enter any dwelling or business premises and make such enquiries as may be necessary for the performance of his duties.

Power of entry.

Schedule.

**12.** (1) Information collected through inquiries conducted under this Act may not be published in a manner which enables the identification of the cost of production, capital employed and profits arising in any particular undertaking or business or which discloses the affairs of an individual household or person.

Security of information.

(2) Except for the purposes of proceedings for an offence under this Act –

- (a) no individual return or part thereof made for the purposes of this Act;
- (b) no answer to any question put for the purposes of this Act; and
- (c) no report, abstract, working sheets or other documents containing particulars of statistical information so arranged as to enable identification with any person, undertaking or business,

shall be published, admitted in evidence or shown to any person not employed in the execution of a duty under this Act unless previous consent in writing has been obtained from the person making the return or giving the answer.

Offences and penalties.

**13.** (1) Any person being a person employed in the execution of any duty under this Act who comes into possession of any information by virtue of such employment and who –

- (a) without lawful authority publishes or communicates it to any person otherwise than in the ordinary course of such employment;
- (b) knowingly falsifies or misrepresents it; or
- (c) attempts to use it for his own pecuniary advantage,

is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five hundred dollars and to imprisonment for six months.

(2) Any person, being in possession of any statistics which to his knowledge have been obtained or disclosed in contravention of this Act, who publishes or communicates them to any person not authorised by the Statistics Authority or someone acting on his behalf to receive or obtain such information, is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five hundred dollars and to imprisonment for six months.

(3) Any person who –

- (a) hinders or obstructs the Statistics Authority or any person acting on his behalf in the execution of any power conferred under this Act;
- (b) refuses or neglects –

- (i) to fill or otherwise supply particulars of information in any schedule or form prescribed under the authority of this Act;
- (ii) to answer any questions or inquiries lawfully asked of him under the authority of this Act;
- (iii) to comply with the requirements laid down in section 10(3);
- (c) knowingly makes a statement, when answering any question asked him under the authority of this Act, which is untrue in any material particular;
- (d) without lawful authority destroys, defaces or otherwise mutilates any documents containing particulars collected under this Act; or
- (e) knowingly and willingly makes frivolous, indecent or derogatory remarks on any returns, form or other document lawfully left with or sent to him; or
- (f) contravenes any other provisions of this Act,

is liable on summary conviction to a fine of two hundred dollars and to imprisonment for three months.

**14. The Minister may make Regulations as he considers necessary** Regulations.  
for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

**15. The Minister may from time to time by Order add to, delete** Power to amend Schedule.  
from or otherwise amend the Schedule or substitute a new Schedule therefor.

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## SCHEDULE

(Sections 3(c), 7,  
10(2), 11, 15).

1. Population.
2. Housing.
3. Births, deaths and morbidity.
4. Immigration and emigration.

*L.R.O. 1/1991*

5. Manpower and labour force.
  6. Employment, unemployment and under-employment.
  7. Agriculture.
  8. Livestock.
  9. Forestry.
  10. Fishing.
  11. Mining and quarrying.
  12. Manufacturing.
  13. Construction.
  14. Electricity, gas and water.
  15. Internal and external trade.
  16. Hotels and restaurants.
  17. Tourism.
  18. Transport and connected services.
  19. Communications.
  20. Banking, insurance and related services.
  21. Public finance.
  22. Health services.
  23. Educational services and vocational training.
  24. Recreational and cultural services.
  25. Real estate.
  26. Business and professional services.
  27. Community and social services.
  28. Personal and domestic services.
  29. Wages and prices.
  30. Family incomes and expenditures.
  31. Savings and investments.
  32. Profits, dividends and rents.
  33. International balance of payments.
  34. National income accounts.
  35. Industrial relations and disputes.
  36. Industrial injuries, occupational diseases and compensation.
  37. Hours of work.
  38. Social security and insurance.
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# **SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION**

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## **CENSUS REGULATIONS**

### **ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS**

#### **REGULATION**

1. Short title.
2. Interpretation.
3. Districts and Sub-Districts.
4. Appointment of Supervisors and Enumerators.
5. Authorised Officer.
6. Duties of Supervisors.
7. Duties of Enumerators.
8. Declaration of Supervisor.
9. Declaration of Enumerator.
10. Duty of a person to furnish information with respect to himself.
11. Duty of a person to furnish information with respect to other persons.
12. Duty of a person to give information to prescribed persons.
13. Census forms.
14. Chief Officer of an institution to make returns.
15. Power of authorised persons to enter houses.
16. Enumerators to take oath.
17. Allowances.
18. Revocation.

**FIRST SCHEDULE.**

**SECOND SCHEDULE.**

# SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

## CENSUS REGULATIONS

*made under section 14*

11/1991.

Commencement.

[14th March 1991]

Short title.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the –

CENSUS REGULATIONS.

Interpretation.

2. In these Regulations –

“Act” means the Census and Statistics Act;

“Authorised Officer” means any person authorised in writing by the Chief Statistician under regulation 5 hereof;

“census day” means the date fixed from time to time by a Census Order;

“census forms” means forms prescribed in regulation 13 hereof;

“census information” means all information necessary for making true and accurate entries in census forms in respect of population and housing;

“census night” means the period of twelve hours commencing at 4 o'clock on census day;

“Census Order” means an Order made under section 6 of the Act;

“Chief Statistician” means the “Statistics Authority” as defined in the Act;

“District” and “Sub-District” mean any one such division of the State as may be determined and described by the Chief Statistician under regulation 3 hereof;

“Supervisor” and “Enumerator” mean any person appointed by the Chief Statistician under regulation 4 hereof to perform the duties respectively prescribed by regulations 6 and 7 hereof.

Districts and  
Sub-Districts.

3. The Chief Statistician shall divide the State into Districts and every such District into Sub-Districts and shall prepare a detailed description in writing of every such District and Sub-District and its boundaries.

4. (1) The Chief Statistician may appoint such numbers of suitable persons as he may deem necessary to be Supervisors of Districts and Enumerators of Sub-Districts.

Appointment of Supervisors and Enumerators.

(2) Every Supervisor appointed in pursuance of this regulation shall be assigned to one or more Districts and every Enumerator shall be assigned to one or more Sub-Districts.

(3) Notice of the appointment of every Supervisor shall be published in the *Gazette*.

(4) Where it appears to the Chief Statistician that a Supervisor or an Enumerator is unfit to perform his duties under the Act and these Regulations, the Chief Statistician may terminate his appointment and appoint some fit and proper person in his place to perform such duties.

5. The Chief Statistician may appoint by writing under his hand any fit and proper person to be Authorised Officer and every such person shall perform such duties as the Chief Statistician may direct for the purposes of the Act.

Authorised Officer.

6. It shall be the duty of every Supervisor --

Duties of Supervisors.

- (a) to advise the Chief Statistician on the division of the District or Districts to which he is assigned into Sub-Districts and on the appointment of suitable persons as Enumerators;
- (b) to give all necessary instructions to Enumerators in his District or Districts;
- (c) to issue to Enumerators all census forms and other articles necessary for the taking of the census;
- (d) to examine, before the census date, all entries made in census forms by Enumerators and where it appears upon examination that any census information in any form is defective or has been omitted, to require the Enumerator responsible for filling up the form to take steps to correct the defective information or to supply the missing information before the census date;
- (e) to make emergency arrangements to replace any Enumerator who may be unable to carry out his duties on census night;
- (f) to arrange for the enumeration of persons who may be found in his District on census night on board ships or otherwise not in dwellings;

- (g) following census night to receive, examine and transmit to the Chief Statistician all census forms and other articles delivered to him by the Enumerators of his District;
- (h) to provide at the conclusion of the enumeration a written report on the work of the Enumerators in his District and to witness such declaration by the said Enumerators as the Chief Statistician may require him to do;
- (i) to arrange for the carrying out of any checks on the field found necessary after census date as directed by the Chief Statistician;
- (j) generally to carry out all instructions issued to him by the Chief Statistician for the purpose of taking the census.

Duties of  
Enumerators.

7. It shall be the duty of every Enumerator –

- (a) to notify every permanent change of address to the Supervisor of the District and to the Chief Statistician within two days of his removal;
- (b) to meet the Supervisor of the District at such times and places as the Supervisor may direct;
- (c) to preserve carefully any written instructions, books, forms, documents, or any other articles or things issued to him in connection with his duties and to return them in good condition on the conclusion of the enumeration or when called upon to do so;
- (d) personally to visit within the period or periods specified by the Chief Statistician every building in the Sub-District or Sub-Districts to which he may be assigned, to plot it on a map and to obtain all information necessary for the filling up of the census forms and to fill up accurately and faithfully census forms with respect to every such building;
- (e) to make further visits to buildings if on a first visit where the required information cannot be obtained and on the direction of the Supervisor to revisit any dwelling for the purpose of supplying omissions or correcting or verifying entries in the census forms;
- (f) to visit personally on census night every inhabited dwelling in the Sub-District or Sub-Districts to which he may be

assigned except in any case in which the Chief Statistician might otherwise direct, and by deleting, amending or adding to the entries previously made in the Population Schedule to obtain a true and complete account of all persons who pass census night in the said dwelling;

- (g) to assist the Supervisor in the performance of his duties prescribed by regulation 6(f) and (g) hereof if so directed by the Supervisor;
- (h) to assist any other Enumerator in the performance of his duties in any other District if so directed by the Supervisor;
- (i) generally to carry out such instructions of the Chief Statistician and of the Supervisor of the District as may be issued for the purpose of taking of the census.

Provided that in any Sub-District in which the Enumerator may be assisted at the direction of the Supervisor by any other Enumerator, paragraphs (d) and (f) of this regulation shall be understood to apply jointly to the Enumerator of the Sub-District and to such other Enumerator, and provided also that in any area where the rapid revision on the day after census night cannot be carried out, but only a single enumeration spread over a period of time, can be carried out, the provisions of paragraph (f) of this regulation shall not apply.

8. Every Supervisor shall at the time when he transmits the census forms for his District or Districts to the Chief Statistician make in the presence of the Chief Statistician (or of a Justice of the Peace) a written declaration as to the due and faithful performance of his duties according to Form I set out in the First Schedule hereto.

Declaration of  
Supervisor.  
Form I.

First Schedule.

9. (1) Every Enumerator shall on the acceptance of his appointment and also on the completion of his duties make in the presence of the Supervisor of the District a written declaration as to the due and faithful performance of his duties.

Declaration of  
Enumerator.

(2) Such written declaration shall be according to Forms II and III set out in the First Schedule hereto, save that the form of Enumerators' Declaration at the conclusion of enumeration may be modified to take account of any duties which have been laid upon the Enumerator under regulation 7 hereof.

Forms II and III.  
First Schedule.

Duty of a person to furnish information with respect to himself.

**10.** Every person with respect to whom census information is required by the provisions of the Census Order to be furnished, shall upon demand give to the Enumerator such information with respect to himself or herself as may be necessary for the purpose of taking the census.

Duty of a person to furnish information with respect to other persons.

**11.** Every person who is required by the provisions of the Census Order to furnish census information with respect to other persons shall upon demand furnish to an Enumerator such information with respect to those other persons as may be necessary for the purpose of the taking of the census.

Duty of a person to give information to prescribed persons.

**12.** Every person with respect to whom it is the duty of another person prescribed by the provisions of a Census Order, to furnish census information shall upon demand give such information to such prescribed person as may be necessary for the purposes of taking the census.

Census forms.

**13.** The Census Officer may prescribe and amend census forms.

Chief Officer of an institution to make returns.

**14.** The Chief Officer of every institution shall make such returns with respect to the inmates thereof as may be required of him.

Power of authorised persons to enter houses.

**15.** It shall be lawful for any Enumerator, Supervisor or Authorised Officer appointed under regulations 4 and 5 of these Regulations in so far as it may be necessary for the purpose of taking the census, to enter every house within his district for the purpose of obtaining from any inmate of such house any information or explanation necessary to enable him to complete, verify or correct any account given to or taken by him in respect of the inmates thereof.

Enumerators to take oath.

**16.** Every Enumerator, Supervisor and Authorised Officer or person employed in the execution of any duty under these Regulations shall before entering on his duties make and subscribe to an oath before a magistrate or before a person authorised to take an oath, in the form set out in the Second Schedule hereto.

Second Schedule.

Allowances.

**17.** Persons employed in connection with the taking of the census shall be paid such allowances as may be approved by the Minister.

Revocation.  
16/1981.

**18.** The Census Regulations, 1981 are hereby revoked.

FORM I

SUPERVISOR'S DECLARATION AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE  
ENUMERATION

I, ..... duly appointed under the Census Regulations  
1991 to be Supervisor for the Census District No. ...., do solemnly and  
sincerely declare to the exactness of the record, as revised and corrected, now  
transmitted to the Chief Statistician which record is, to the best of my knowl-  
edge, a true and complete statement of the information required to be furnished  
under the Census and Statistics Act 1986, and the instructions given to me.

Declared before me at ..... this ..... day of ....., 1991.

.....  
*Supervisor.*

.....  
*Justice of the Peace  
or Census Officer.*

FORM II

ENUMERATOR'S ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT

I, ..... hereby accept appointment as Enumerator under  
the Census Regulations 1991, in the Census District No. .... on the terms set  
out in the letter of appointment from the Chief Statistician dated .....  
1991.

I solemnly and sincerely declare that I will faithfully and honestly fulfil my  
duties in accordance with the Census and Statistics Act 1986, and the regula-  
tions and the instructions of my Supervisor and that I will not, without the  
authority, disclose or make known any information which may come to my  
knowledge by reason of my employment as Enumerator.

Declared before me at ..... this ..... day of ....., 1991.

.....  
*Enumerator.*

.....  
*Supervisor.*

FORM III

ENUMERATOR'S DECLARATION AT THE CONCLUSION  
OF ENUMERATION

I, ..... hereby declare that the ..... Census Schedules ..... which are handed over herewith contain to the best of my knowledge a true and faithful record of all persons who were found on the night of 12th May, 1991, in all households in the Sub-District described in my letter of appointment and that all particulars required by the Census Schedules and instructions to be obtained in connection with the said persons, have been obtained.

.....  
*Enumerator.*

Declared before me at ..... this ..... day of ....., 1991.

.....  
*Supervisor.*

(Regulation 16).

SECOND SCHEDULE

FORM OF OATH

I, ..... solemnly swear that I will faithfully and honestly fulfil my duties of ..... in conformity with the requirements of the Census and Statistics Act 1986, and that I will not without due authority in that behalf disclose or make known any matter or thing which comes to my knowledge by reason of my employment as such.

Declared before me at ..... this ..... day of ....., 1991.

.....  
*Supervisor/Enumerator/  
Authorised Officer.*

.....  
*Magistrate/Authorised Person.*