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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka  
EXTRAORDINARY

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PART I: SECTION (I) – GENERAL

Government Notifications

THE CENSUS ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 143)

BY virtue of the powers vested in me by Section 2 of the Census Ordinance (Chapter 143), I, Anura Kumara Disanayake, Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Policy Formulation, Planning and Tourism, direct that the third stage of the Census of Population and Housing – 2024, collection data of individuals and housing units of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka be taken in the end part of the year 2024.

ANURA KUMARA DISSANAYAKE,  
Minister of Finance, Economic Development,  
Policy Formulation, Planning and Tourism.

Ministry of Finance, Economic Development,  
Policy Formulation, Planning and Tourism,  
Colombo,  
16th day of October 2024.

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## THE CENSUS ORDINANCE

Rules enacted by the Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Policy Formulation, Planning and Tourism under section 5 (Chapter 143) of the Census Ordinance.

ANURA KUMARA DISSANAYAKE,  
Minister of Finance, Economic Development,  
Policy Formulation, Planning and Tourism.

Ministry of Finance, Economic Development,  
Policy formulation, Planning and Tourism,  
Colombo,  
16th day of October 2024.

### Rules

#### PART I - PRELIMINARY

- These rules shall be cited as the Population and Housing Census Rules 2024.
- In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires, 'ordinance' means the Census Ordinance (Chapter 143); 'Superintendent' means the Superintendent of Census, 'Commissioner' means the Commissioner of Census, 'Deputy Commissioner' means the Deputy Commissioner of Census 'Assistant Commissioner' means the Assistant Commissioner of Census (Superintendent of Census and Commissioners of Census have been published by the *Extraordinary Gazette Notification* No. 2264/8 dated 25th January 2022.) In addition to that, the officers who are involved in the census duties are also meant as 'Census Officer'.

#### PART II - GENERAL

- Enumeration stage of the Population and Housing Census - 2024 shall be conducted as follows.

Process	Time Frame
(i) Collecting information about persons according to the usual place of residence and collecting housing information by using tablet computers or "Android" mobile devices or a web form	October 2024 - December 2024
(ii) Date of Census	19 December 2024
(iii) Revision Round Enumeration by revising the information of usual residents based on date of the Census and the Census moment.	19 December 2024 - 23 December 2024

2. Information related to the enumeration stage should be provided by every person, to the Census Officers appointed to the area concerned by the Superintendent or Commissioner.
3. Supervising officers appointed by the Superintendent or Commissioner shall check the status of the information entered in the devices and other forms related to the enumeration stage.

### PART III - DUTY OF THE CENSUS OFFICERS

1. Any power or duty delegated or entrusted on the Superintendent by the Ordinance or any rule made there, under the general or special direction of the Superintendent, may be exercised or performed by a Deputy Superintendent of Census throughout the Island or by a Deputy / Assistant Superintendent of Census in the area of his / her authority.
2. Any power or duty delegated or entrusted on a Commissioner by the Ordinance or any rule made thereunder may be exercised or performed by a Deputy / Assistant Commissioner within the area for which he/she is appointed, under the general or special direction of the Commissioner of that area.
3. Every Census Officer shall attend the instruction classes or inspections on the dates and at times and places directed by the in charge of Superintendent or Commissioner or the Deputy / Assistant Commissioner of the area for which he/she is appointed as a Census Officer.
4. A Census Officer employed for the purpose of enumeration duties shall not, except in connection with that usual service, divulge or communicate to any other person, without lawful authority, any information obtained by him for the purpose of completing a schedule.
5. A Census Officer employed for the purpose of enumeration duties shall not disclose the information contained in the tablet computer or mobile devices or forms or other documents relating to the enumeration duties, devices or other documents to any unauthorized person until those are in his/her custody.
6. Every Census Officer employed for the purpose of taking any Census duties should make and sign the following oath or affirmation.

I, ....., sincerely and truly affirm and declare that I will faithfully and honestly fulfill my duties as ..... in conformity with the requirements of the Census Ordinance and all rules made thereunder, and that I will not, without due authority on that behalf, publish or communicate any information which I may obtain in the course of my employment as a Census Officer.

.....  
Signature

Before me.

Place : .....

Date : .....

.....  
Signature & Designation

7. Every Census Officer holding a post which is not below the rank of a Supervising Officer may obtain the oath or certificate statement mentioned under the preceding article from any other Census Officer.

#### PART IV: INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR CENSUS PURPOSES

1. Particulars regarding which information shall be obtained on the Census Schedules for the census purposes are given below.

##### a. Population and Housing Schedule

##### (i) The following information regarding persons:

Name: .....  
 National Identity Card Number: .....  
 Relationship to the head of household: .....  
 Status of clergy/priest: .....  
 Sex: .....  
 Year and month of birth: .....  
 Whether the birth is registered in Sri Lanka: .....  
 Marital Status: .....  
 Religion: .....  
 Ethnic group: .....  
 Citizenship: .....  
 When you are born your mother's usual residence district / country: .....  
 Current period of residency in the usual district or residence (in years): .....  
 District/country of previous (last time) usual residence: .....  
 Reason for migrating to the current usually residing district: .....  
 District of permanent residence: .....  
 Divisional Secretariat of permanent residence: .....  
 Non-communicable disease conditions: .....  
 Education activity involve in the last 30 days: .....  
 Highest educational qualification obtained: .....  
 Whether it is possible to do any work alone using a smart mobile phone or tablet: .....  
 Whether it is possible to do any work alone using the computer: .....  
 Physical and mental difficulties: .....  
 Ability to speak languages: .....  
 Ability to read and write languages: .....  
 Whether you have obtained vocational training or qualification (with a certificate): .....  
 Have you engaged in any economic activity at least for one hour during last week? .....  
 Main occupation engaged in the last week (economic work done): .....  
 Category of occupation: .....

Name of the institute: .....

The main economic activity of the work place or the organization where you are employed : .....  
.....

The nature of the economic activities carried out work place or the organization where you are employed:  
.....

The district in which you are working or engaged in an economic activity: .....  
.....

In the last week you were no engaged in any economic work but whether you hope to get a paid employment or start a self-employment: .....

Whether you have taken any steps to obtain a paid job or start a self-employment in the last 4 weeks: .....  
.....

If you get a job opportunity in the next two weeks whether you are ready to take it up/ or start a self-employment: .....

The main reason of why don't you hope / ready to take up a job/ start a self-employment: .....  
.....

Whether a live birth has ever been given: .....

Total number of live births: .....

Total number of children currently alive: .....

Year and month of the last live birth took place: .....

**(ii) For persons belonging to the household category but having usual residence elsewhere in the country (except for permanent residence)**

Name: .....

Relationship to the head of the household: .....

Sex: .....

Age in years as at the last birthday: .....

Name and code of the district of current residence: .....

The main reason for usually living elsewhere: .....

**(iii) For persons belonging to the household category but have gone abroad for more than 6 months or who have gone abroad intending to stay abroad for more than 6 months. (Except for permanent residence)**

Name: .....

Relationship to the head of the household: .....

Sex: .....

Age in years as at the last birthday: .....

Name and code of the country of current residence: .....

Main reason for living in abroad: .....

Time spent in abroad: .....

**(iv) Information about household category:**

Number of usual residents in the household: .....

The main source of drinking water: .....

Whether you have access to drinking water in your household category within your house: .....

Availability of water throughout the year from the main source of drinking water: .....

Months in which drinking water was not available in the last year (2023): .....

Main type of energy/fuel used for cooking: .....

Secondary energy/fuel type used for cooking: .....

The main source of lighting: .....

Secondary source of lighting: .....

Toilet facilities: .....

Type of toilet: .....

The main system of disposal of solid waste: .....

Disposal of liquid waste: .....

Tenure of the house: .....

Available communication technology equipment, facilities (currently in use) and vehicles for the use of household category: .....

Whether any member of this household group died in 2023.: .....

Number of deceased people: .....

The number of registered deaths: .....

**(v) Information on Housing Unit**

Whether the housing unit is an ordinary housing unit or whether it is a chamari (co - housing) / boarding house where occupants are not relatives: .....

Structure of housing unit: .....

Year of completed: .....

Main materials used for construction: .....

Whether the housing unit is a single room or the number of rooms in the unit is more than one: .....

Number of bedrooms: .....

Total number of rooms in the housing unit: .....

**b. Whether the questionnaire has been completed or a part has been completed: .....**

2. A Census Officer may obtain the information necessary for the Census by asking questions relating to the particulars prescribed in rule I in this Section from all persons within his/her area regarding themselves as the persons constituting their respective households or by arranging the particulars to be entered by such persons on prescribed forms.

3. It is acceptable for a Census Officer to ask any person the necessary questions to ensure that the Schedule for Population and Housing, the Schedule for Special Institutions and the Schedule of Persons without a shelter have been completed correctly.
4. A Census Officer may inquire and revise the information collected regarding usual residents and housing units as per the place of usual residence at any appropriate time as directed by the Superintendent.
5. A Census Officer may in order to satisfy him/herself that the particulars referred to in rule I in this Section regarding any person had been recorded and ask personal questions relating to his/her name and the place where he/she usually resides for recording all or some of the particulars referred to in rule I in this Section, and it shall be the duty of that person to answer these questions.
6. Every person is required to complete a schedule under the provisions of the Ordinance or any rules made thereunder may amend the particulars entered by him on behalf of any person whose name appears in that schedule or in any other schedule, if necessary during the revision round and to include certain matters which are not currently included under rule I in this Section.

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