



CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM - INDIA



Anil Sant
Joint Secretary and Addl. Registrar General
Office Of The Registrar General, India

CRS - Background

- Civil Registration System (CRS) in India is the unified process of continuous, permanent and compulsory recording of the vital events (births, deaths, still births) and characteristics thereof.
- The Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969 provides for the compulsory registration of births and deaths.
- For the country, the requirement of an effective Civil Registration System is a must as it has important administrative and statistical uses.
- The data generated through a complete and up-to-date CRS is essential for socio-economic planning and to evaluate the effectiveness of various social sector programmes.
- The data also serves as the cornerstone of public health system by providing various vital statistics like Sex Ratio, Infant Mortality Rate, Still Birth Rate.
- Statistics derived henceforth help in targeted policy formation.
- ORGI is the single source of statistics related to events of death.
- Absence of an effective CRS will lead to absence of multiple vital statistics of the country, no status on finding addition/deletion to census.

CRS – Major Highlights

The Registration of Births and Deaths is being done under Registration of Birth and Death Act, 1969

Purpose of CRS is two-fold:
Event Registration and generation of Vital Statistics

Implementation of the Act is the responsibility of the State Governments through State Rules

Registration has to be done at the place of occurrence of the event

Provides a legal document for the general public – birth /death certificates

CRS - Status



- India comprises of 36 States and Union Territories
- Chief Registrar belongs to
 - Health Department- 21 States/UTs
 - Planning, Economics & Statistics Deptt.-12 States /UTs
 - Panchayat, Local Administration & Revenue - 3 States/UTs
- 2.7 lakhs registration units
- Estimated births per year - 26 million
- Estimated deaths per year- 8 million
- Level of Registration of birth-88.3%
- Level of Registration of death – 76.6%

Recent Initiatives

- Transformation of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS)-Revamping of CRS
- Nationwide database of medical Institutions where births and deaths occur.
- Unified software for online and offline registration of births and deaths and generation of statistical tables.
- Training Manual for Civil Registration functionaries in 13 local languages.
- Increment in digital penetration.
- Increased cooperation with other stakeholders like health department, Women and Child Development etc.

Status Update- India

- ◆ Main national stakeholders (*Who are the national stakeholders engaged in CRVS activities?*)
 - ◆ Department of Health & Family Welfare
 - ◆ Department of Women & Child development
 - ◆ Department of Panchyat & Local Administration
 - ◆ Department of Statistics and Programme Implementation
 - ◆ Department of Information Technology
 - ◆ Training Manual for Civil Registration Functionaries has been developed in collaboration with UNICEF . It is printed in 13 languages .