Progress in Civil Registration System-India

Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India
Ministry of Home Affairs
Government of India
India is signatory to the UN convention of child rights which mandates compulsory registration of birth to acquire a nationality.

Universal Civil Registration is a part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)-2030

India’s Vision document envisaged by ORGI -100% registration by 2024

Universal Civil Registration by 2024
Administrative Divisions

- 36 States and Union Territories
- 718 districts

Population

- 136 Crore*
- About 18% worlds population

* Population Projection based on 2011 Census
Civil Registration System (CRS)-India

- CRS is universal, continuous, compulsory and permanent recording of vital events
- CRS falls under Concurrent list (sr. no. 30) of the Constitution
- Done under a central Act “Registration of Birth and Death Act (RBD), 1969”, enforced from 1st April 1970
- The Act is administered by Central Government and implemented by State Governments
- Based on the model Rule, 1999, each state has prepared its own rules for implementation of the act in the state
Registration Hierarchy

Registrar
General, India

Chief Registrar
(belongs to Health Dept (21), Planning, Eco & Stat dept (13) & others(2))

District Registrar

Registrars

Central Authority to Coordinate and unify the activities of Chief Registrars and provide general directions.

Implementing the provisions of RBD Act and Rules and securing an efficient system of registration in the respective State.

Supervision the registration of births and deaths work in the District and executing the provisions of the Act & order of Chief Registrar.

Registration of births and deaths took place in his jurisdiction and submission of statistical Information.

In addition, Notifiers such as mid-wife, Health workers etc at grass root level reports the events to Registrar.
Present Registration Status

- Total Registration Units (RUs): 290 thousands
- Level of Birth Registration: 92.7%
- Level of Death Registration: 92.0%
- Total Medically Certified deaths: 20.7% of registered deaths

Achievements in CRS-Births

Number of Registered Births, 2014-2019

- 2014: 23.0
- 2015: 23.0
- 2016: 22.5
- 2017: 22.0
- 2018: 23.5
- 2019: 24.8

Number of Registered Live Births (in Millions)
Achievements in CRS-Births  Contd..

Level of Registration of Births, 2014-2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Level of Registration (in %)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>86.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>86.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>84.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>83.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>87.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>92.7</td>
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Achievements in CRS-Deaths

Number of Registered Deaths, 2014-2019

Number of Registered Deaths (in thousands)

- 2014: 6,138.2
- 2015: 6,300
- 2016: 6,500
- 2017: 6,700
- 2018: 7,000
- 2019: 7,641.1
Achievements in CRS-Deaths  Contd..

Level of Registration of Deaths, 2014-2019

- 72.5 (2014)
- 75.3 (2015)
- 76.8 (2016)
- 78.3 (2017)
- 84.6 (2018)
- 92.0 (2019)
Issues/Challenges in CRS

➢ No unified portal for registration of births and deaths
➢ Real time data on registration is not available
➢ Various Sections of RBD Act are obsolete and required to be amended to accommodate changes and new developments in the society during last 50 years
➢ Lack of awareness among 8%-10% public
➢ Non-linking of basic services/benefits (such as Passport)
Issues/Challenges in CRS Contd..

➢ All medical institutions (Govt. and Private hospitals) are not providing information on Cause of death (CoD)

➢ Lack of importance by the medical practitioner to assign CoD

➢ Capacity building
Way Forward to achieve VISION 2024

➢ Amendment of RBD Act, 1969 and Review of Rules

➢ Revamping of present CRS software with an objective to promote accuracy, reduce delays and improve reporting

➢ To enhance Public /Stakeholder awareness

➢ Capacity building for Registrars, Informants and Notifiers, medical practitioner
Challenges during Covid-19 pandemic

➢ Lockdown at different intervals in various parts of the country during the last one and a half year
➢ Additional Load on CRS due to abnormal increase in deaths and certification of cause of death during the pandemic
➢ To receive various government benefits due to Covid death, the family members of deceased require death certificate.
➢ Medical Certification of Cause of Death needs to be strengthen in the country
Steps for death registration and CoD during pandemic

➢ Necessary instructions to State for timely and hassle free registration of death and recording of cause of death
➢ Directions for State to collect and certify information on CoD as per emergency code created by WHO for Covid-19 in ICD-10
➢ In addition, specific guidelines for appropriate recording of CoD due to Covid-19 issued by Ministry of Health (ICMR)
Thank You