CASTE CENSUS: Empowerment or Political Agenda?



Context:

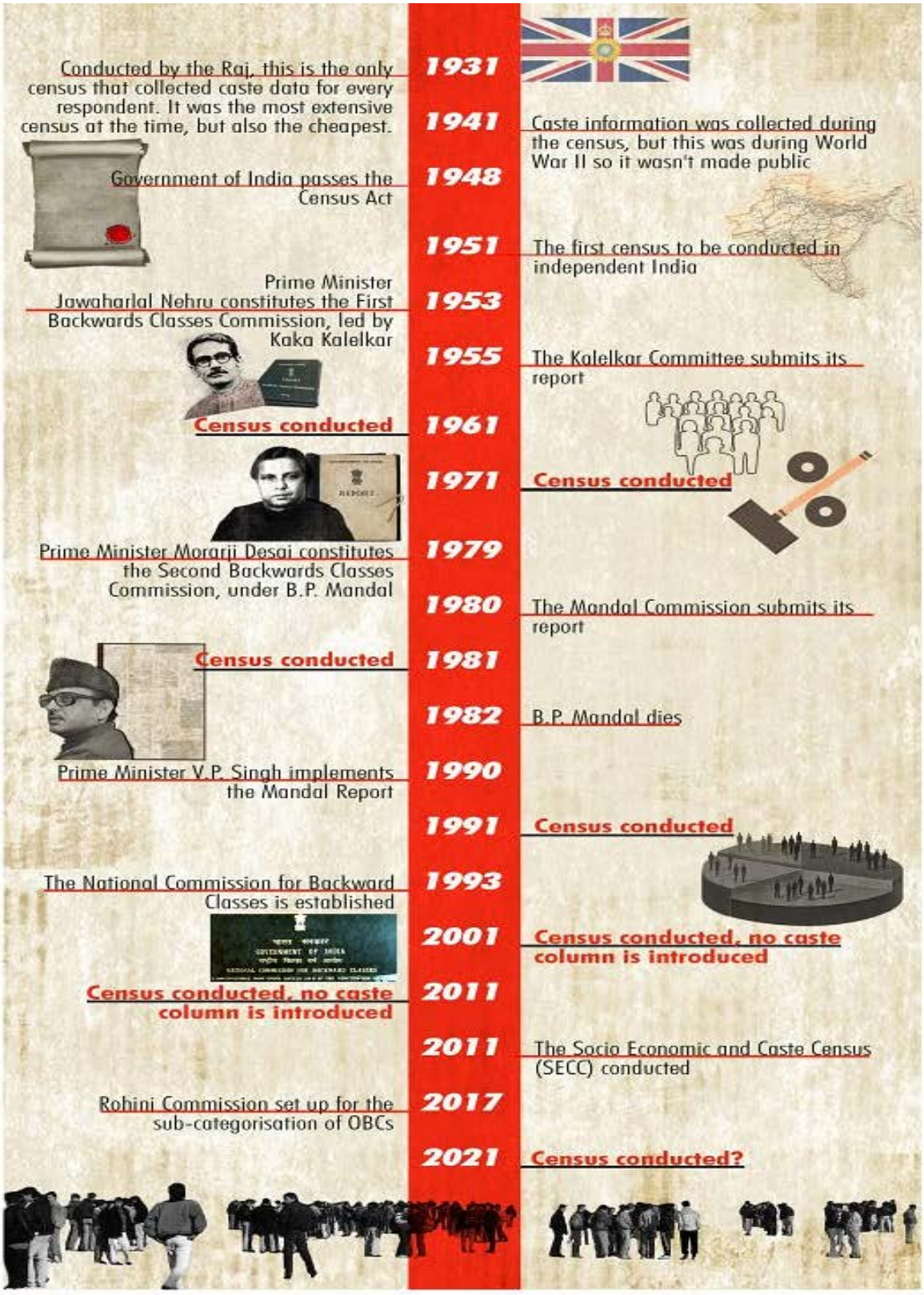
- The **Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA)** headed by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has approved the enumeration of **castes in the upcoming Census.**

1. What Is Caste Census?



- A **caste census** systematically collects data on **individuals' caste identities during a nationwide census.**
- It is nothing but an **official survey** conducted by the Central government.
- The government will collect **data on the population, details of caste, sub-caste, and socio-economic status**, etc.
- It is **different from the general census** that **counts total population, literacy, etc.**
- The collected data helps the **people in power to understand the distribution and conditions** of different social groups.
- In short, the caste census gives **granular data on caste groups** which could **reshape political strategies** as the parties will try to woo numerically larger groups.

2. What is the history of Caste Census?



- **Caste enumeration** was a **regular feature of census exercises** during **British rule from 1881 to 1931.**
- However, with the **first census of independent In**dia in 1951, the government chose to **discontinue the practice**, except for **Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs)**.



History of Caste Census	Description
British India (1881–1931)	• **Caste enumeration** was a regular feature of **censuses** in **British India**, conducted every **decade between 1881 and 1931.** • The **colonial government** collected detailed information on **caste, religion**, and **occupation** to better understand and **control India's diverse society.**

Post-Independence Changes (1951)	• In **India's first census in 1951**, the government, led by **Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru,** decided to end caste enumeration **except for Scheduled Castes (SCs)** and **Scheduled Tribes (STs)** to **promote national unity** and **avoid reinforcing caste divisions.**
1961 Directive to States	• Although the **central government refrained** from **conducting caste censuses,** it **allowed states in 1961** to **prepare** their **own lists of Other Backward Classes (OBCs)**, supporting affirmative action efforts at the state level.

3. Enlist key findings of 1931 Caste Census?

- The **1931 Census** that **counted castes** was conducted by the **colonial British government**, and was the **first such exercise after the 1901 Census**.
- The caste section put the numbers of **Other Backward Classes (OBC) at 52%** of the then **total 271 million population** of the country.
- **J H Hutton**, the **Census Commissioner** at the time, **countered** those who **argued against adding caste** to the Census exercise saying that ***"the mere act of labelling persons belonging to a caste tends to perpetuate the system"***.
- Hutton's logic was that ***"it is impossible to get rid of any institution by ignoring its existence like the proverbial ostrich".***

1931 Census: Largest communities across British India

Community	Population
Brahman	15,010,584
Jatav	12,323,136
Rajput	8,100,735
Kunbi (including Maratha)	6,434,861
Ahir	5,682,437
Teli	4,258,499
Goala	4,054,424
Kayastha	3,896,004
Kurmi	3,682,869
Kumhar	3,543,415

1931 Census: Largest community by province

Province	Community	Population
Bombay	Kunbi (including Maratha)	6,434,861
United Provinces	Chamar	6,312,203
Bihar and Orissa	Goala	3,455,141
Bengal	Kaibartta	2,733,338
Madras	Brahman	1,473,836
Assam	Kayastha	1,365,590
Punjab	Arain	1,334,629
Mysore	Vakkaliga	1,312,264
Central Provinces and Berar	Mehra	1,307,962
Hyderabad	Jatav	1,281,092
Central India Agency	Jatav	929,847
Rajputana Agency	Brahman	854,634
Baroda	Kanbi	502,888
J&K	Rajput	256,020
North West Frontier Province	Arora	61,402
Coorg	Kodaga	41,026
Ajmer-Merwara	Gujar	35,063
Sikkim	Bhotia	15,192

4. What is the need for Caste Census?



Key Points	Analysis
Accurate Representation	• India's **last full caste census** was in **1931** (British era) and the current policies rely on **outdated data**, leading to **inaccurate reservation** quotas and welfare schemes.
Better Policy-Making	• Helps **identify most backward castes** (OBCs, SCs, STs) needing affirmative action. Ensures resources reach the truly disadvantaged, not just dominant groups. • Reveals which **castes dominate** certain sectors (e.g., manual labor vs. white-collar jobs). • Helps **design job quotas**, **scholarships**, and **welfare schemes** more effectively.

Reforms in Affirmative Action and Welfare Policies	• Accurate caste data will allow for a **reassessment of reservation policies** and welfare schemes. • There will be **strong pressure** to **align reservations** in education, jobs, and political representation **with the actual population** share of marginalized groups. • This could lead to **demands** for **increased quotas** and targeted welfare measures, making **social justice** a **central electoral issue**.
To Tackle Social Inequality	• Caste-based discrimination still exists in many regions of India. • A caste census helps **identify marginalised communities** that need more support. • With **accurate data**, governments can **design targeted schemes** to uplift those who are socially and economically disadvantaged.
To Evaluate Affirmative Action Policies	• Policies **like reservations for OBCs** and other backward classes aim to ensure equal opportunity. • But to **assess whether** these policies are **working**, we need accurate caste-based data. • A caste census **helps monitor their impact** and allows for better planning and adjustments.
To Understand India's Social Structure	• Caste plays a major role in shaping India's society, economy, and politics. • A **caste census** gives a deeper understanding of the **population's composition**. • This helps **researchers**, social scientists, and policymakers analyse **how** different **communities interact** and where inequalities lie.

To Fulfill a Constitutional Purpose	• The Indian Constitution supports the idea of identifying backward classes. • **Article 340** empowers the government to appoint a **commission** to **examine** the **conditions** of **socially and educationally backward groups**. • A caste census is a step in fulfilling this constitutional directive.

5. What are the legal requirements for caste enumeration?

- To include **caste enumeration** in the next Census, the **government** does **not need to amend the Cen**sus Act.
- The **Registrar General and Census Commissioner (RG&CC)** is already empowered under **existing law to design the census proforma and** the **standardised forms** used during the house listing and population enumeration phases to collect information from **households and individuals, respectively.**
- While finalising the **questions for the second phase** (population enumeration), the **RG&CC** can simply **add a question** that **goes beyond the existing categories of General, Scheduled Castes (SC), and Scheduled Tribes (ST)** to ask whether a person belongs to the **Other Backward Classes (OBC)**, and if so, which **specific class within that category.**
- This addition would have to be **included in the final proforma,** which is notified through a **formal gazette notification**.

6. Which list will be used for OBC enumeration?

- The **most crucial** question the government must now address **is which list to use while enumerating OBCs.**
- In the last Census, for **SCs and STs**, the proforma relied on the **official lists** notified under the **Constitution (Scheduled Castes)** Order, 1950, and the **Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950.**

- These lists currently comprising 1**,170 castes und**er SC and **890 communities under ST** are **periodically updated** through **amendments passed by Parliament.**
- However, for **OBCs, there is no single, consolidated list**.
- A central list maintained by the **National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)** is used for **reservations in central government jobs** and **educational institutions.**
- Separately, each **state maintains its own OBC list**, which **often differs from the central list** and in many cases, **includes many more communities.**
- The key decision now before the government is **whether to rely solely on the central list**, which currently includes **2,650 communities**, or to **merge it with the various state lists,** thereby significantly expanding the **scope of enumeration.**
- Either way, the **choice is likely to be politically sensitive.**

7. What will be the impact of caste census on Indian politics?

Key Points	Analysis
Intensification of Caste-Based Political Mobilization	• **Parties** may **increase caste-based outreach**, promising proportional representation and welfare benefits to win over key groups. • This could **intensify identity politics**, leading to both greater **empowerment** for **marginalized communities** and concerns about deepening social divisions. • The **Bihar caste census**, for example, had **triggered demands** for **similar exercises** nationwide, sparking political upheaval and energizing marginalized voter blocs.

Increased Transparency and Accountability in Governance	• With **comprehensive caste data**, policymakers will be **better equipped to identify gaps** in **governance** and **resource allocation**, potentially **leading to more effective** and **equitable government interventions**.
Mandal Commission	• The **Mandal Commission's** recommendations to **reserve 27 percent** of **central government jobs** for OBCs highlighted the need for **updated caste data.** • However, the absence of **comprehensive figures complicated** the **implementation of policies aimed at social justice.**
Weakening of Religion-Based Identity Politics	• Critics have often said that the BJP was not in favour of a caste survey as it may **go against** its politics of **unifying Hindus** where **caste divisions** are **underplayed**. Hindutva politics focused on intra-Hindu inequalities. • Thus weakening the religion-based mobilization. • It shifts the narrative to caste-based justice.
State-Level Surveys	• With **no national caste census available**, states like **Bihar, Telangana, and Karnataka** conducted their **own caste surveys**. • **Bihar's 2023 caste survey** notably revealed that **OBCs and Extremely Backward Classes (EBCs)** made up **over 63 percent of the state's population.**
Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) 2011	• In **2011**, the **UPA government** initiated the **SECC**, **aiming** to gather **extensive caste-based data.**

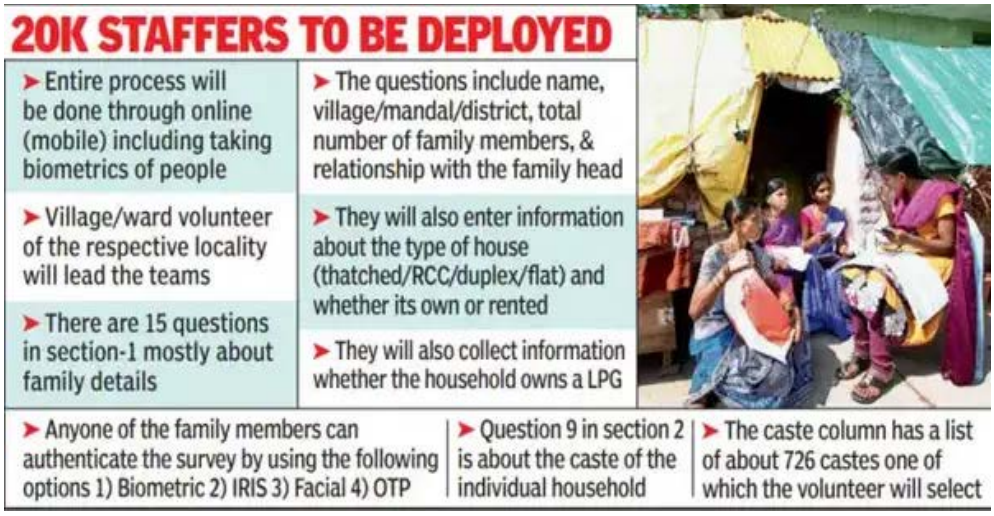
	• However, the **caste data was never fully released or officially utilized,** drawing criticism from **opposition parties and social organizations.**

8. How is Caste Census different from Caste Survey?

- A **survey** is a **method of collecting data** from **only a portion** of the total population.
- It selects a **sample** to **represent the entire population**.
- On the other hand, in a **census**, information is **collected from every single member of the population**.
- Since a census includes everyone, the collected data is more precise and detailed.

9. Which states have conducted a caste survey?

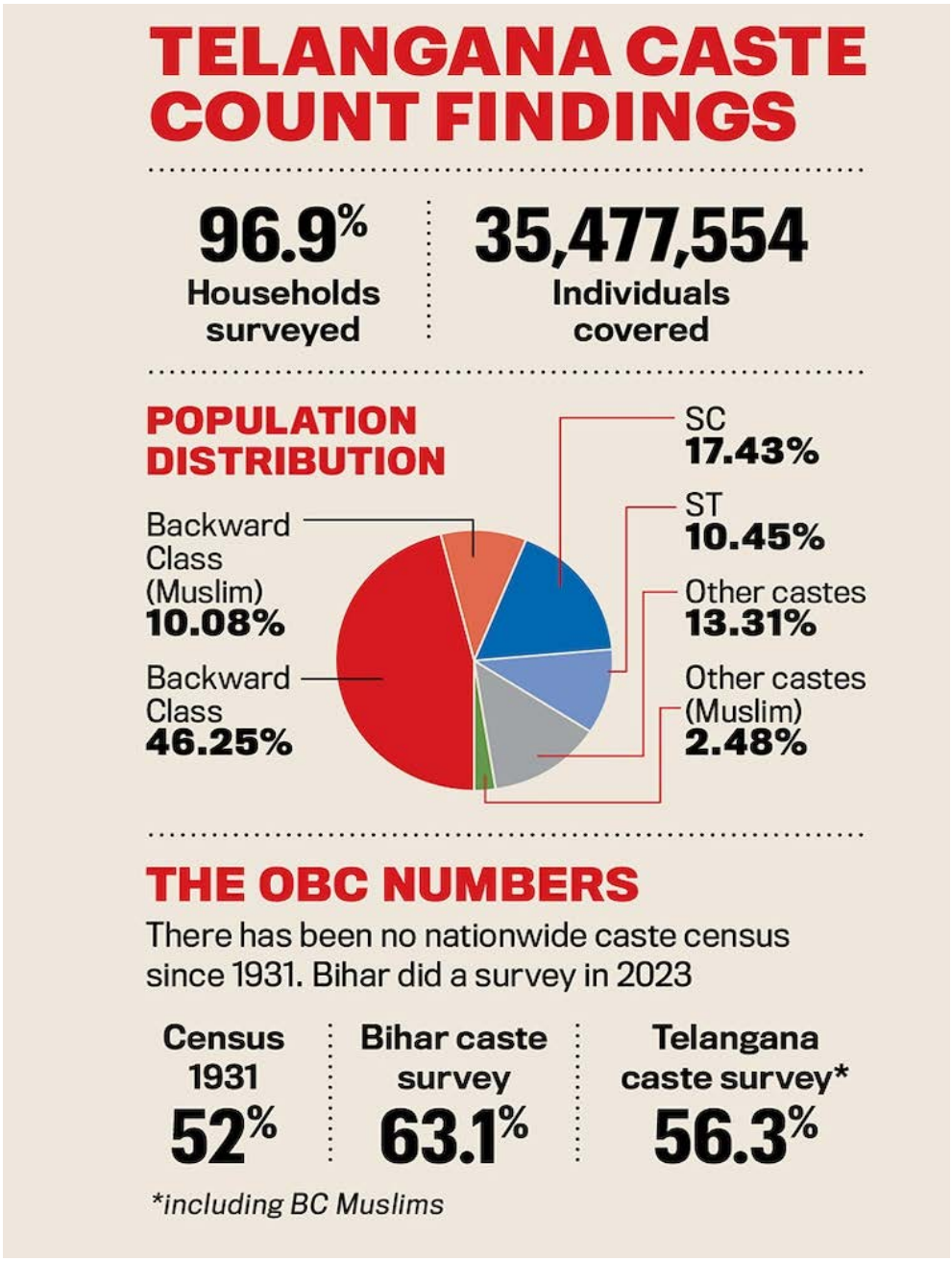
States	Caste survey
Bihar	• The **Bihar caste survey** was the **first in independent India** to **successfully** enumerate **all castes and subcastes.** • The survey, conducted in 2023, found that **OBCs comprise 63.13%** of the state, SCs formed 19.65% and STs 1.68%. • **"Upper" castes** were found to be **15.52% of the population.**
Andhra Pradesh	• On January 19, 2024 the **Andhra Pradesh government kick started** an exercise **aimed at creating a comprehensive database** of people based on their castes.

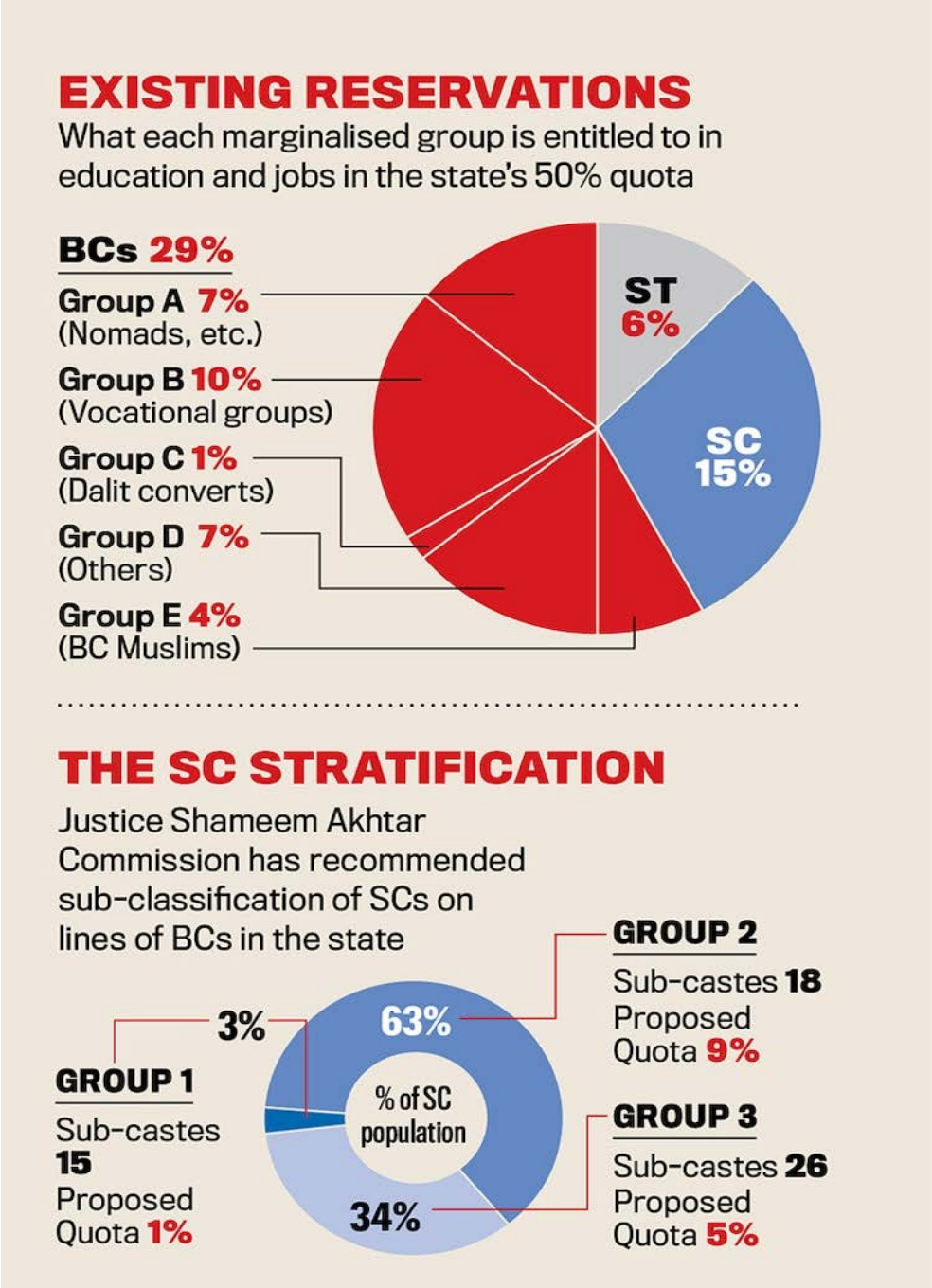
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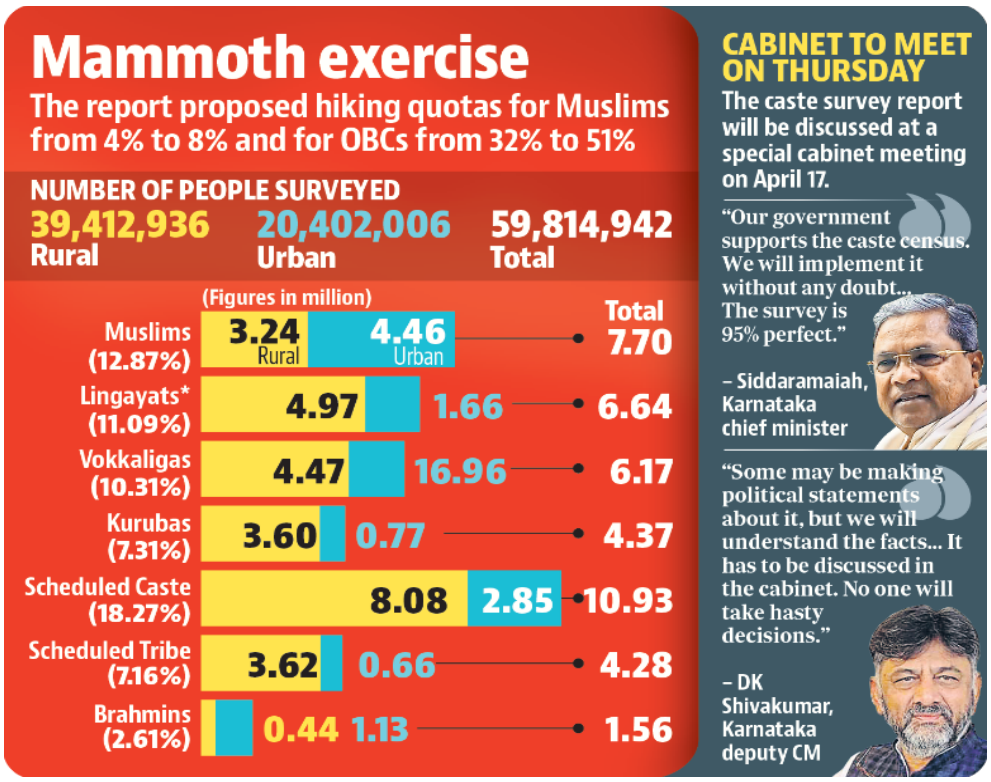
In November 2024, 3.54 crore people in Telangana were surveyed to determine their Social, Economical, Education, Employment, Political and Caste statuses.
The survey also had “no caste” and “no religion” categories.
Released this year, the survey revealed that Backward Classes (BCs) make up 56.33% of the state's population.
The survey also suggested that Scheduled Castes (SCs) account for 17.43%, Scheduled Tribes (STs) constitute 10.45%, and other castes make up 15.79%.

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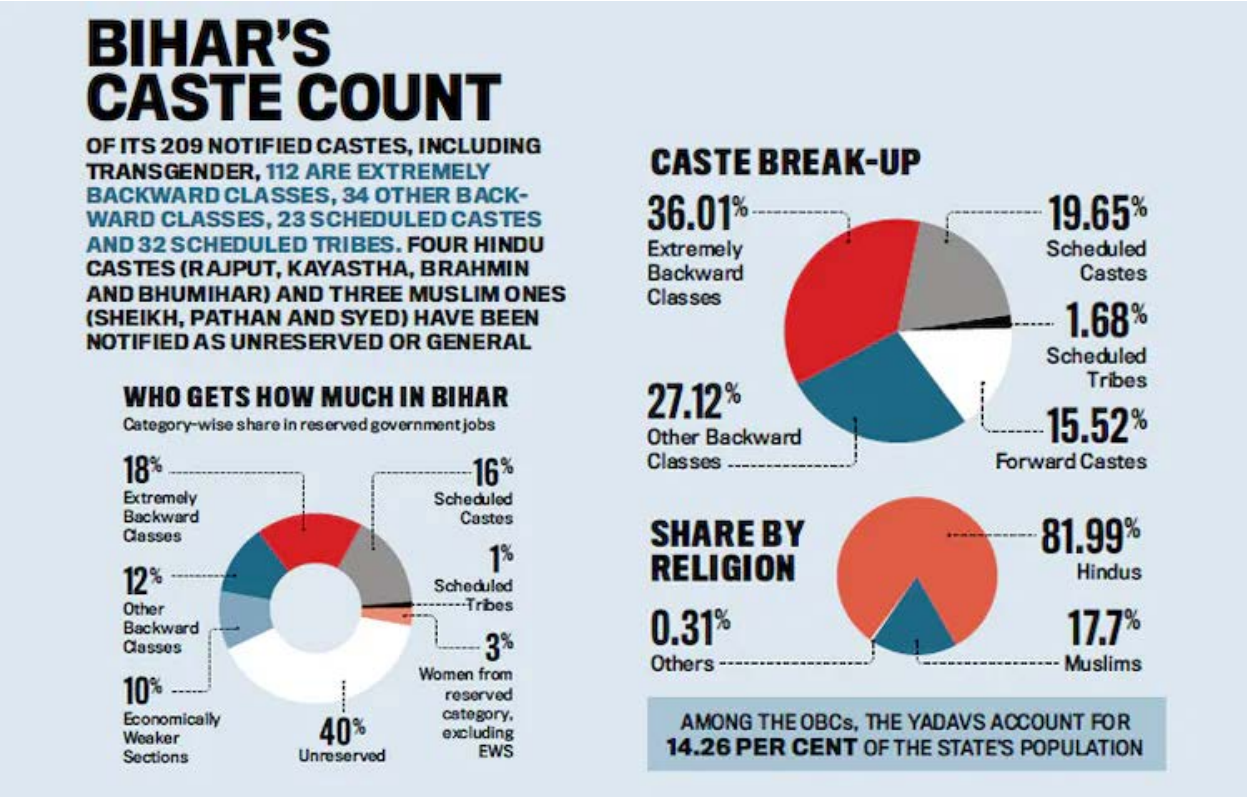

TELANGANA CASTE COUNT FINDINGS
96.9%
Households surveyed
35,477,554
Individuals covered
POPULATION DISTRIBUTION
SC 17.43%
ST 10.45%
Other castes 13.31%
Other castes (Muslim) 2.48%
Backward Class (Muslim) 10.08%
Backward Class 46.25%
THE OBC NUMBERS
There has been no nationwide caste census since 1931. Bihar did a survey in 2023
Census 1931
52%
Bihar caste survey
63.1%
Telangana caste survey*
56.3%
*including BC Muslims



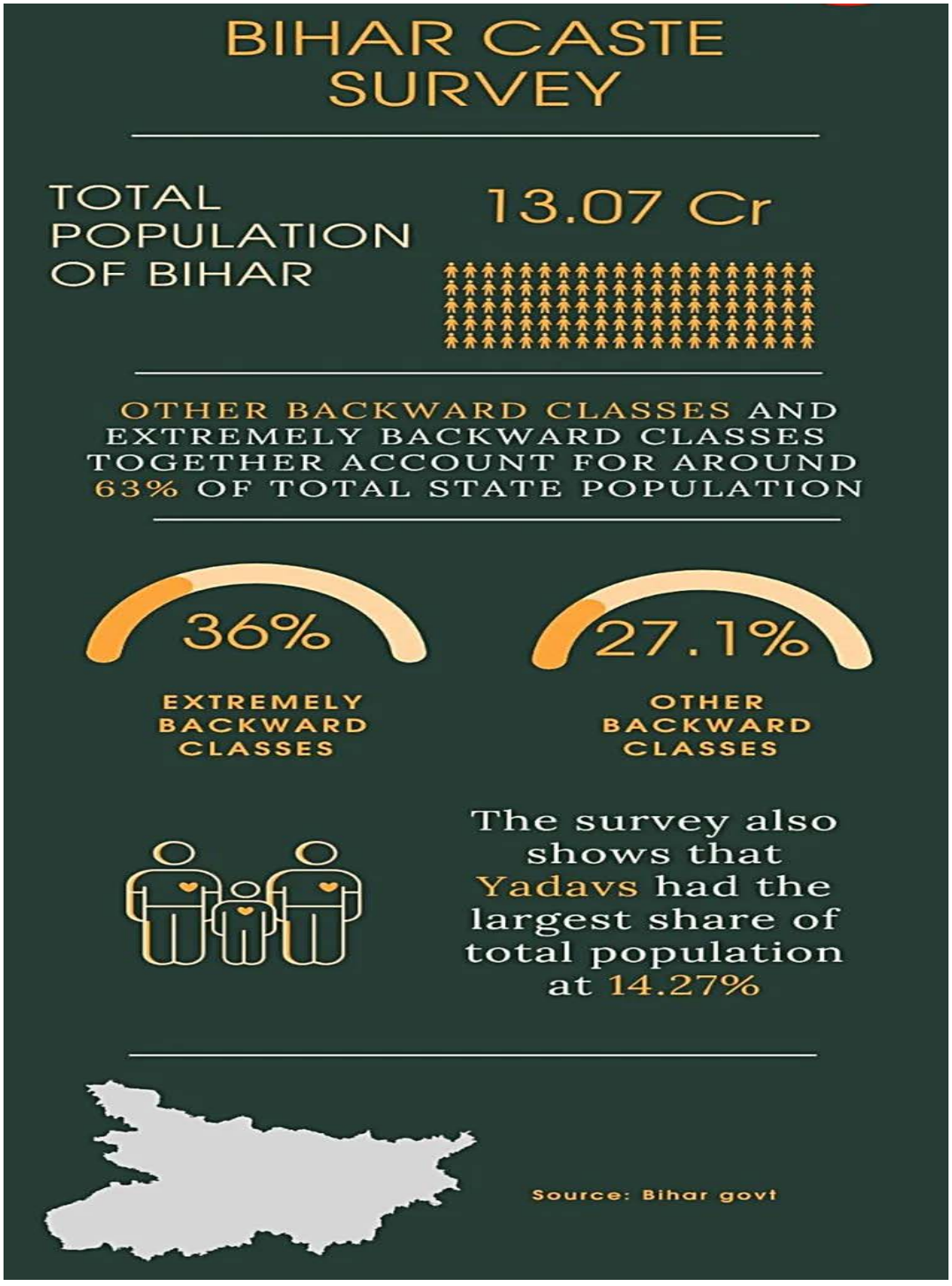
Karnataka	• On **April 11,2025**,a nearly **10-year-old Socio-Economic and Educational Survey** (popularly called the caste census) prepared by the **Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes**, was **accepted** by the **Chief Minister Siddaramaiah-led Cabinet.**

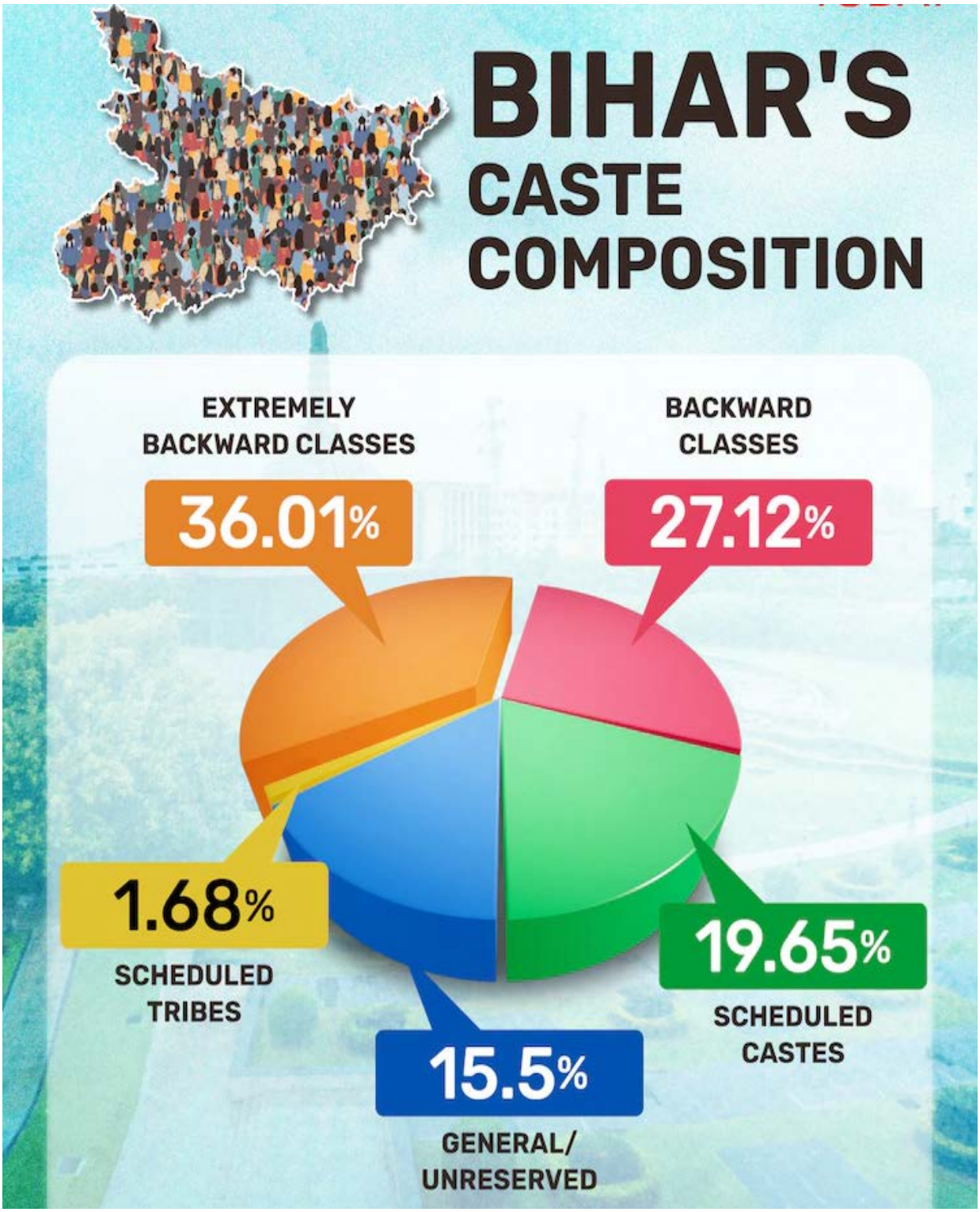


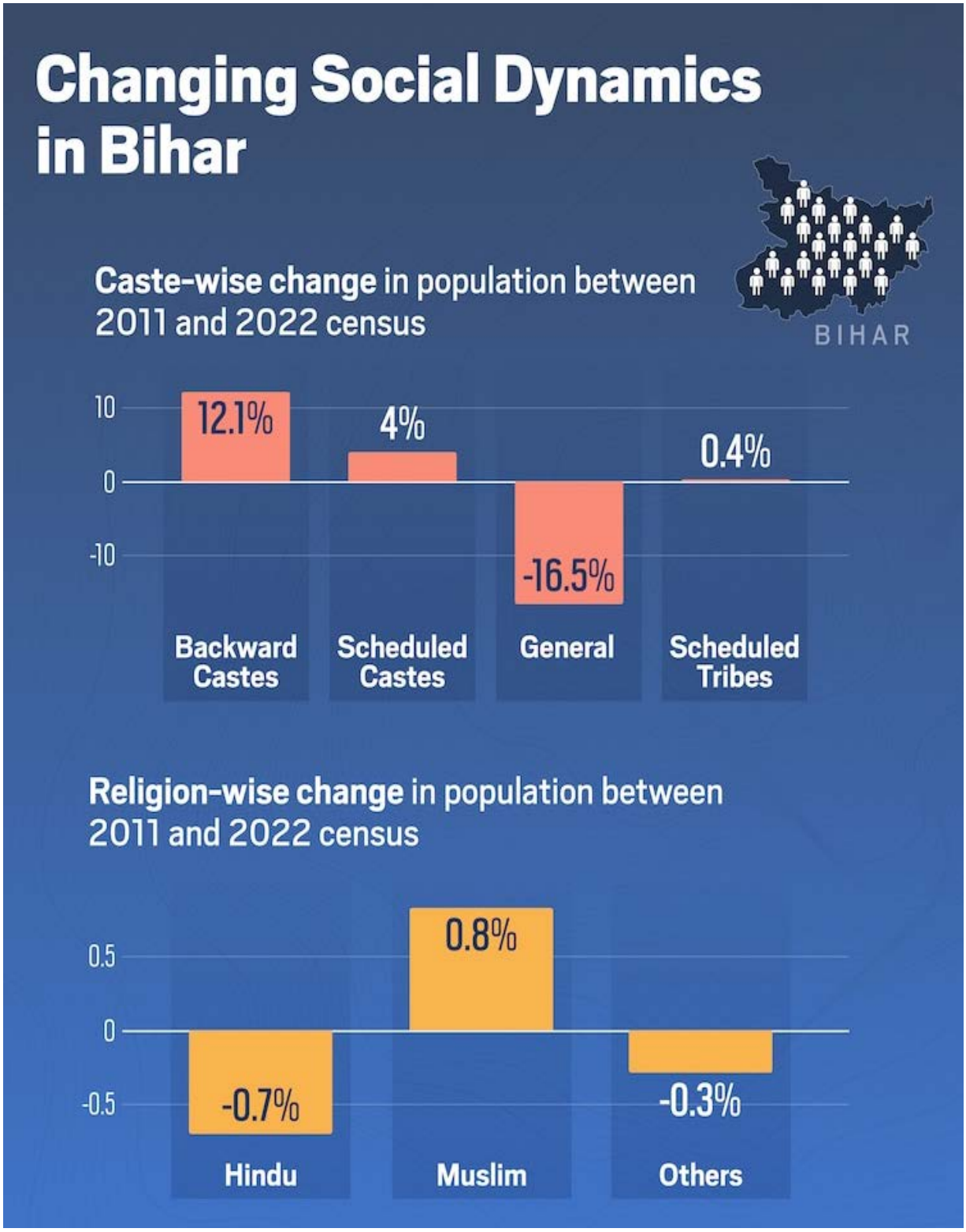
10. What were the key findings of Bihar Caste Census?



- According to data released by **Development Commissioner Vivek Singh**, **Bihar's total population** now stands at a **little over 13.07 crore**, up from **10-odd crore in the 2011 Census.**
- The **EBCs make up 36.01% of this and OBCs an additional 27.13%.**




BIHAR'S
CASTE
COMPOSITION
EXTREMELY BACKWARD CLASSES
36.01%
BACKWARD CLASSES
27.12%
1.68%
SCHEDULED TRIBES
19.65%
SCHEDULED CASTES
15.5%
GENERAL/ UNRESERVED


Changing Social Dynamics in Bihar
BIHAR
Caste-wise change in population between 2011 and 2022 census
10
0
-10
12.1%
4%
-16.5%
0.4%
Backward Castes
Scheduled Castes
General
Scheduled Tribes
Religion-wise change in population between 2011 and 2022 census
0.5
0
-0.5
-0.7%
0.8%
-0.3%
Hindu
Muslim
Others

11. What was the controversy over the Karnataka caste census?

Karnataka reservations at present

Backward Classes

CATEGORY I – **4%** – Backward Classes

CATEGORY–II (A) – **15%** – Other Backward Classes

CATEGORY–II (B) – **4%** – Muslims

CATEGORY–III (A) – **4%** – Vokkaligas, etc

CATEGORY–III (B) – **5 %** – Lingayats, etc

Total Backward classes quota - **32%**

SCs – **15 %**

STs – **3 %**

Total SC/ST – **18%**

Total reservations – **50 %**

With the addition of 10 % EWS quota – **60 %**

SC ceiling on reservations – **50 %**

- The **survey**, which cost **Rs 165 crore**, ran into **controversy in 2016** with a **purported leak of its findings**.
- The leaked data suggested that the **populations of large caste groups**, such as **Lingayat** and **Vokkaliga**, were **smaller** than what had been **previously extrapolated.**
- **Lingayats and Veerashaiva (a sub-sect)** together have a population of about **77 lakh** while **Vokkaligas have a population of about 62 lakh.**
- Since these two dominant communities have also been categorised as **Other Backward Classes (OBCs)** along with **Muslims**, the **total number of OBC population** now stands at **70 per cent of Karnataka's total population.**

- The **SCs** are about **1.10 crore** and the **STs** are about **43 lakh,** according to **leaked data**.
- The general category, including **Brahmins, is 30 lakh.**
- The **Muslim population**, which is about 76 lakh, is **higher than the Lingayats and Vokkaligas.**
- These new revelations have ruffled the **feathers of Lingayat leaders**, who fear it will **threaten their political dominance.**
- The Vokkaligas have voiced the same concerns.

Recommended reservations after caste survey

CATEGORY I (A) **6%** – Backward Classes	Population – **5.84 %** – Most Backward
CATEGORY I (B) (New category) **12%** – Backward Classes	Population – **12.35 %** – (from II A for backwardness)
CATEGORY-II (A) **10%** – Other Backward Classes	Population – **13 %**
CATEGORY-II (B) **8%** – Muslims	Population – **12.56%**
CATEGORY-III (A) **7%** – Vokkaliga, etc	Population – **12.2%**
CATEGORY-III (B) **8%** – Lingayat, etc	Population – **13.6 %**
Total Backward Classes quota - 51%	Population – **69.60%**

SCs – **15%** – Population – **18.27 %**

STs – **3%** – Population – **7.15%**

Total SC/ST quota – **18%** Total new reservations – **69%**

With the addition of 10% EWS quota – **79%**

SC ceiling on quota – **50%**

12. How will the Centre's Caste Census differ from the State's Caste Survey?

- **Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw** announced the **Centre's decision** to include **caste data in the forthcoming census.**
- The Caste Census by the Centre and Caste Surveys by States differ primarily in **authority, scope, legal backing, and political implications.**

Caste Census	Key Differences
Centre's Caste Census	• The **census** at the **national level** will be conducted through the **Office of the Registrar General** and **Census Commissioner** under the **Ministry of Home Affairs**, and governed by the **Census Act, 1948.** • It will have a **strong legal backing** and will be **applicable across the entire country.** • It will offer a **uniform and comprehensive dataset across states.** • It would likely **influence nationwide reservation policies**, welfare programmes, and social justice measures. • Being conducted under a central law, it will be **recognised for policy formulation at the Central level.**
State Caste Surveys	• **Caste surveys** conducted by **states** are carried out using **administrative machinery** and are **limited in scope to that specific state.** • They act as **administrative exercises** to **guide regional policy making.**

	• They vary in terms of methodology, detail, and accuracy, **depending on the resources and priorities of the individual state**. • They **aim to capture** detailed **caste data within** a single state, but their **findings are not standardised** or **comparable across states.** • **State caste** surveys, while **influential within a state**, may **face legal challenges** regarding their **jurisdiction or methodology.**

13. What are the Challenges associated with conducting a Caste Census according to Social Scientists?

Social scientists	Views
H. H. Risley (Census Commissioner, 1901)	• Tried to rank castes using **varna hierarchy**, which **triggered protests** and identity movements. • It Led to **people trying** to **move up the social ladder** via Census claims. • It Created long-lasting confusion for future Census officers.
J.H. Hutton (1931 Census Commissioner)	• Argued against the idea that recording caste perpetuates the system; rather, **ignoring caste doesn't eliminate its impact**. • Highlighted that caste plays a central role in Indian society — influencing occupation, marriage, and social life. • Faced **serious disruptions** during the Census due to the **Salt March**, **non-cooperation**, and **Congress-led boycott**.

	• Rejected the earlier **varna-based classification** (introduced by Risley in 1901), calling it flawed and politically sensitive. • Adopted an **occupation-based classification**, but this had problems: ▪ Same occupation had different caste associations in different regions. ▪ Many castes had **multiple or non-traditional occupations**, which didn't fit neatly into categories. ▪ The approach couldn't capture the **fluidity** and **regional variations** of caste identities.
Sekhar Bandyopadhyay (Historian)	• Census was not just a **demographic tool**, but a social and political exercise. • Communities saw it as a way to **assert or upgrade their social status**. • This led to widespread agitation, both organized and spontaneous
R. B. Bhagat (Demographer)	• Many **lower-caste individuals** claimed **higher caste identities** during the Census in hopes of improving social standing. • Census became a tool for **aspirational identity formation**.
Ayan Guha (Research Fellow, University of Sussex)	• It's **hard to define what counts as a caste** — the traits that make a group a caste vary. • **Caste identities** can **change** between **Censuses** (e.g., a group calling itself Rajput earlier might now claim to be Brahmin).

	• **Same caste** can have **different names** across regions, and groups may claim different identities in different provinces. • **Classification** was left to the **subjective judgment** of **provincial Census commissioners**, so there was no uniform approach. • If a caste census were held today, similar issues would arise — such as **caste fusion, fission, and groups shifting identities** (e.g., Meiteis wanting tribal status or communities merging into 'Yadavs').

14. What are the arguments against caste census?

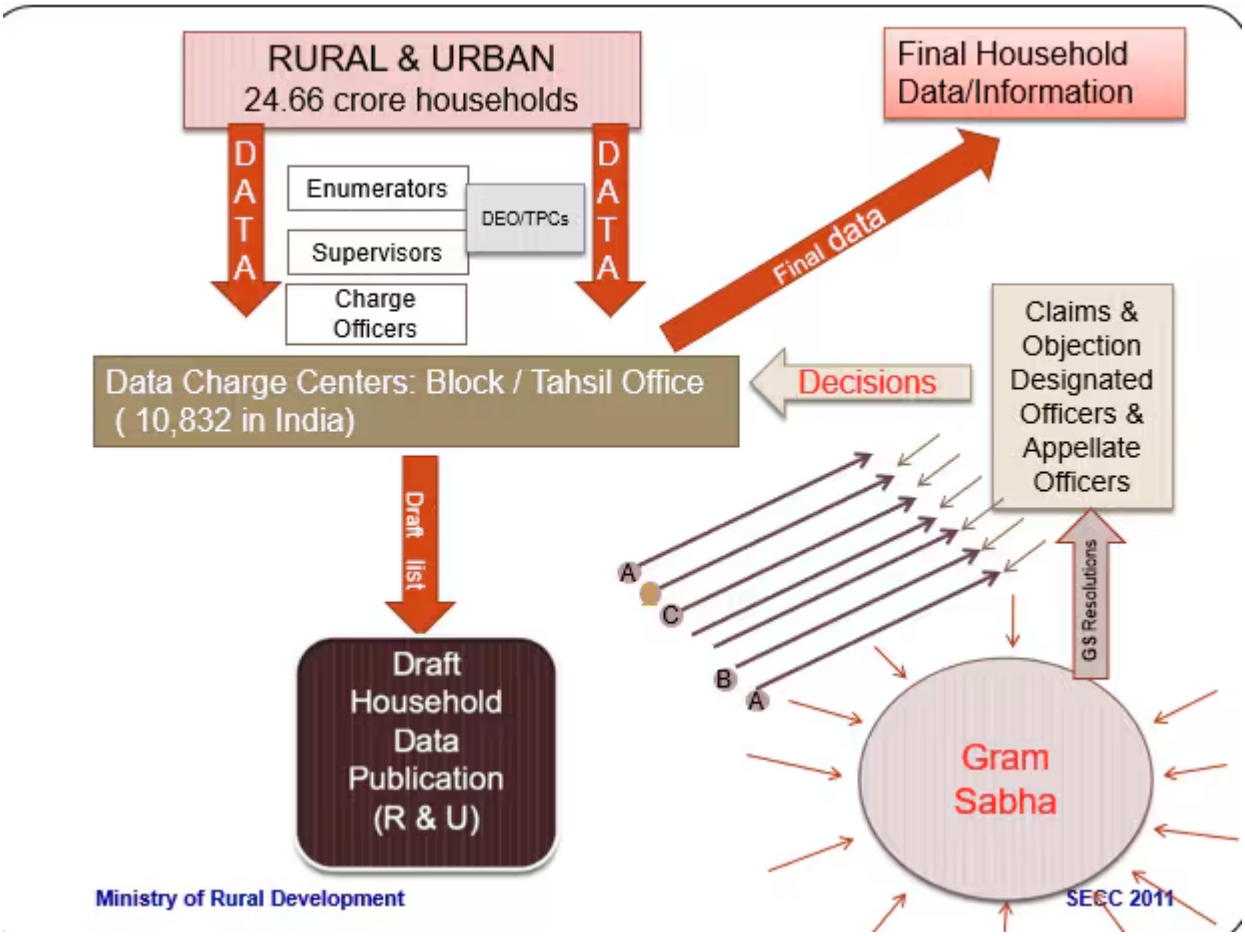


Arguments	Analysis
Political Competition	• Detailed caste data may **prompt political parties** to recalibrate electoral strategies to **woo specific caste groups**, especially among OBCs (Other Backward Classes).

	• This could result in i**dentity-based populism**, where policy decisions are guided more by electoral gains than by real socio-economic needs. • It may **marginalize smaller** or less politically active **castes**, as larger or more vocal groups dominate attention. • It could **fragment** the **political landscape**, making governance more about caste appeasement than inclusive development.
Social Tension	• **Publicly categorizing** and ranking people by caste **could reinforce caste consciousness** instead of diminishing it. • Groups may **start demanding greater privileges**, reclassification (e.g., from OBC to SC/ST), or even claim higher status based on historical narratives. • This could **weaken social cohesion**, especially in **mixed communities** or states with a history of caste-based conflict. • It may undermine efforts towards casteless identity, pushing people back into rigid social categories.
Logistical Burden	• India's **caste system** is **extremely diverse** and **region-specific**, with thousands of jatis (sub-castes), many of which have multiple names or overlapping identities. • Accurate **enumeration** would require **massive training** of enumerators,a well-defined and **standardized classification framework**.

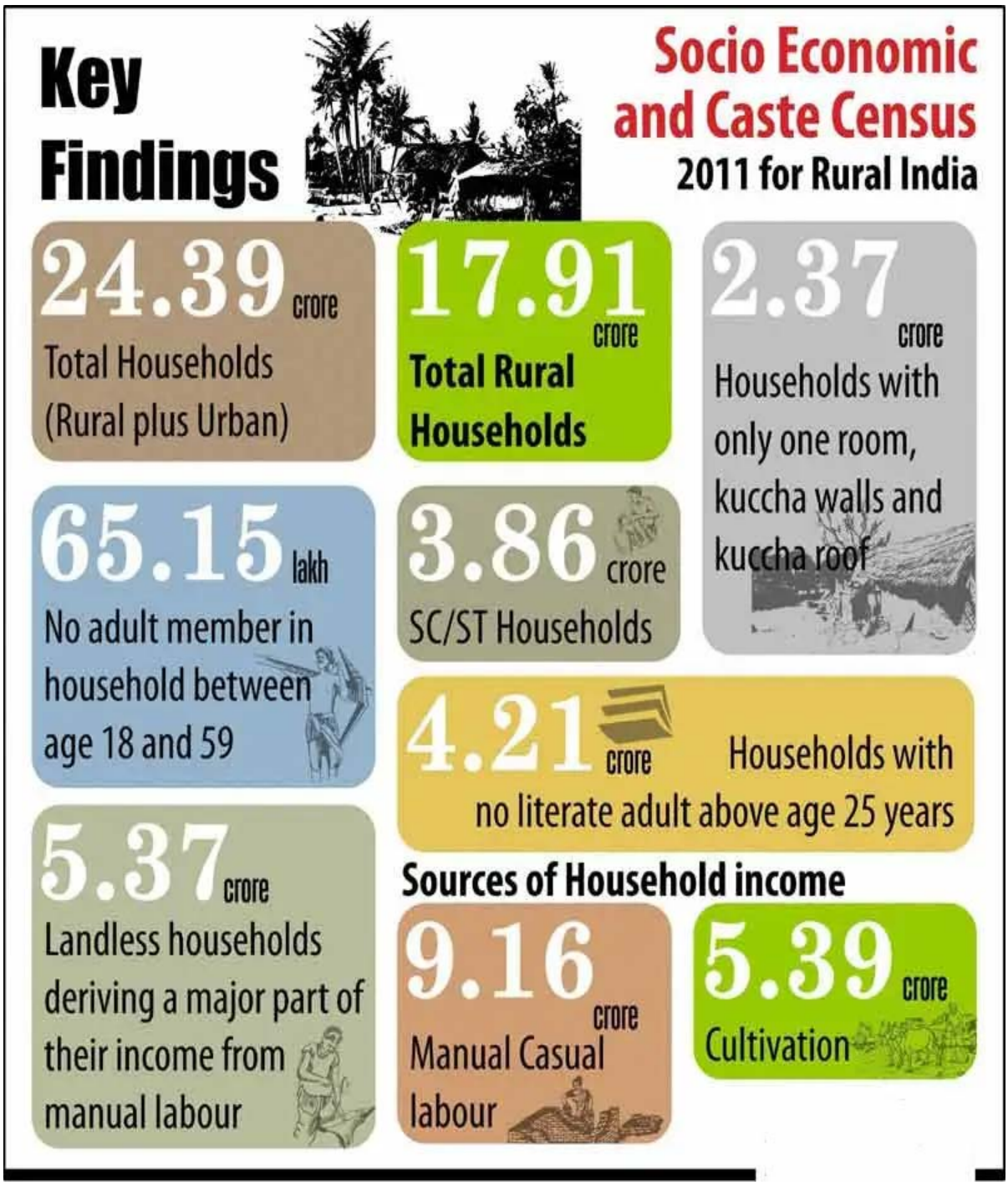
	• The effort would involve **huge costs**, delays, and potentially controversial outcomes, especially if communities are unhappy with how they're categorized. • **Past attempts** (like the Socio-Economic and Caste Census, **SECC 2011**) **faced delays**, **inconsistencies, and rejection** by several state governments and experts.
Data Sensitivity	• **Comparisons** between **caste groups** (e.g., population size, poverty levels, literacy) could **spark tensions** if one group appears disadvantaged or disproportionately benefited. • **Data can be politicized**, misused in media or public discourse, or interpreted as a basis for increasing or denying reservations. • There is also a **risk of fake narratives** being built using selective or manipulated data, undermining trust in the state. • In societies where caste pride and hierarchy still matter, such comparisons could **reignite inter-caste rivalries**.

15. What is SECC?



- In **September 2010,** Prime Minister **Manmohan Singh-led Union Cabinet** decided on a separate **Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC).**
- The data from the **SECC,** which cost around **₹4,900 crore**, was published by the **Ministries of Rural Development and Urban Development** in **2016**, but the **caste data were excluded.**

16. Enlist key findings of SECC 2011?



Socio Economic and Caste Census 2011 Rural India

Disable Member Households

W Bengal	1249713
UP	1172189
Bihar	1094708
Maharashtra	937004
Rajasthan	884709
MP	879673
Odisha	639859
Karnataka	485033
Tamilnadu	419522
Chhattisgarh	379800
Kerala	370789
AP	356139
Assam	343723
Jharkhand	336397
Gujarat	332951
Telangana	284263
Punjab	171354
Haryana	148339
J&K	135451

All India 10911196



Himachal	74875
Uttarakhand	60789
Tripura	36515
Delhi	21820
Meghalaya	21584
Manipur	18098
Nagaland	10872
Goa	10104
Sikkim	9423
Arunachal	8789
Puducherry	6811
A&N Islands	3833
Mizoram	2266
D&N Haveli	1563
Lakshadweep	1219
Daman- Diu	580
Chandigarh	439

Socio Economic and Caste Census 2011 Rural India

Female Headed Households

UP	2722533
W Bengal	1879902
Tamilnadu	1763304
Bihar	1711057
Kerala	1651205
Maharashtra	1648883
Karnataka	1494471
AP	1443682
MP	1063131
Odisha	1061481
Telangana	916179
Rajasthan	889395
Assam	767604
Gujarat	741166
Chhattisgarh	592425
Jharkhand	527578
Punjab	484279
Haryana	348328
Uttarakhand	319155

All India 22994576



Himachal	271599
J&K	149590
Meghalaya	118635
Tripura	94471
Delhi	94353
Manipur	58813
Goa	54654
Nagaland	34434
Puducherry	22776
Arunachal	22274
Mizoram	14575
Sikkim	12253
A&N Islands	9108
Lakshadweep	4441
D&N Haveli	3114
Daman-Diu	2800
Chandigarh	928

Socio Economic and Caste Census 2011 Rural India

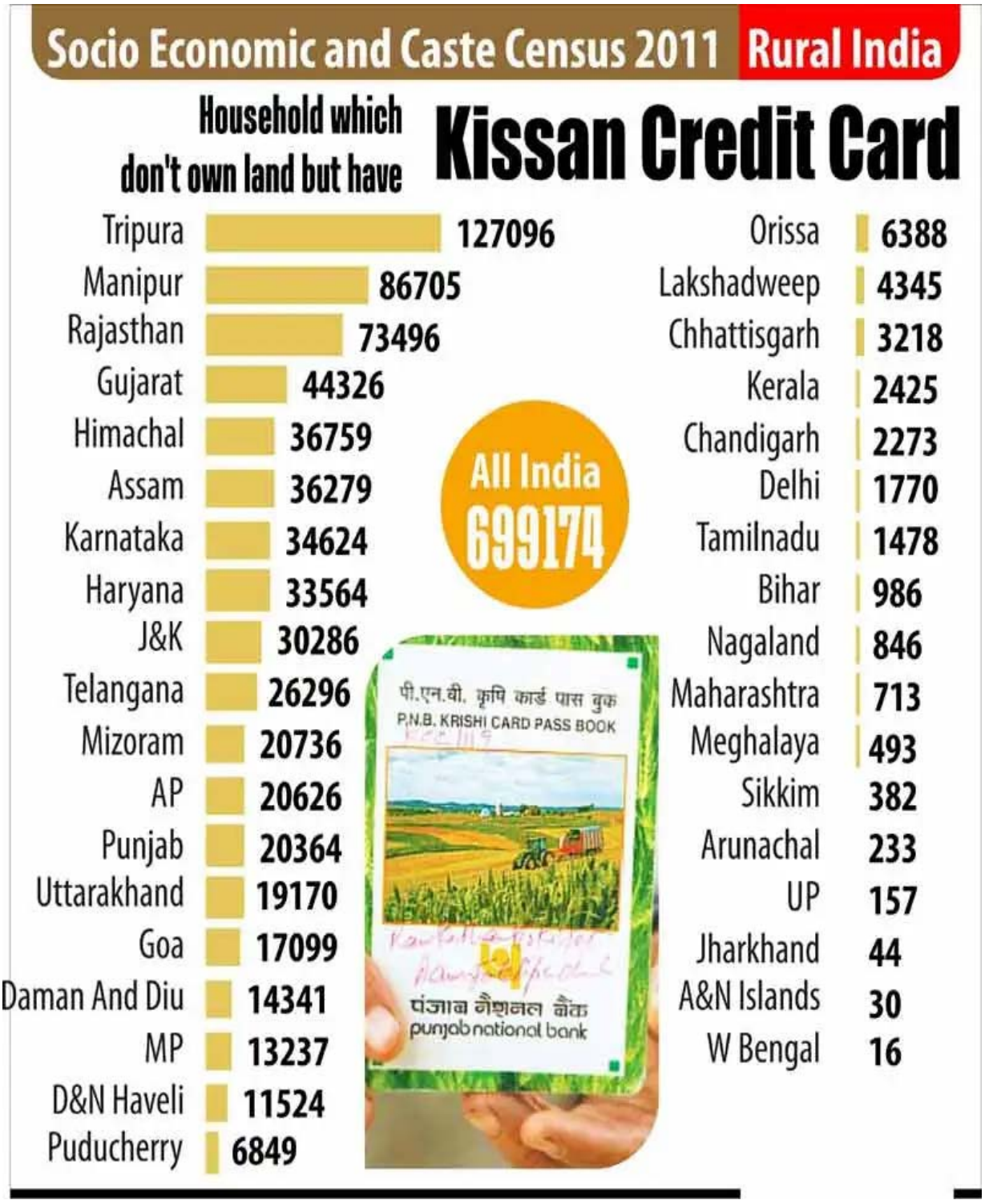
Households owning irrrigated land

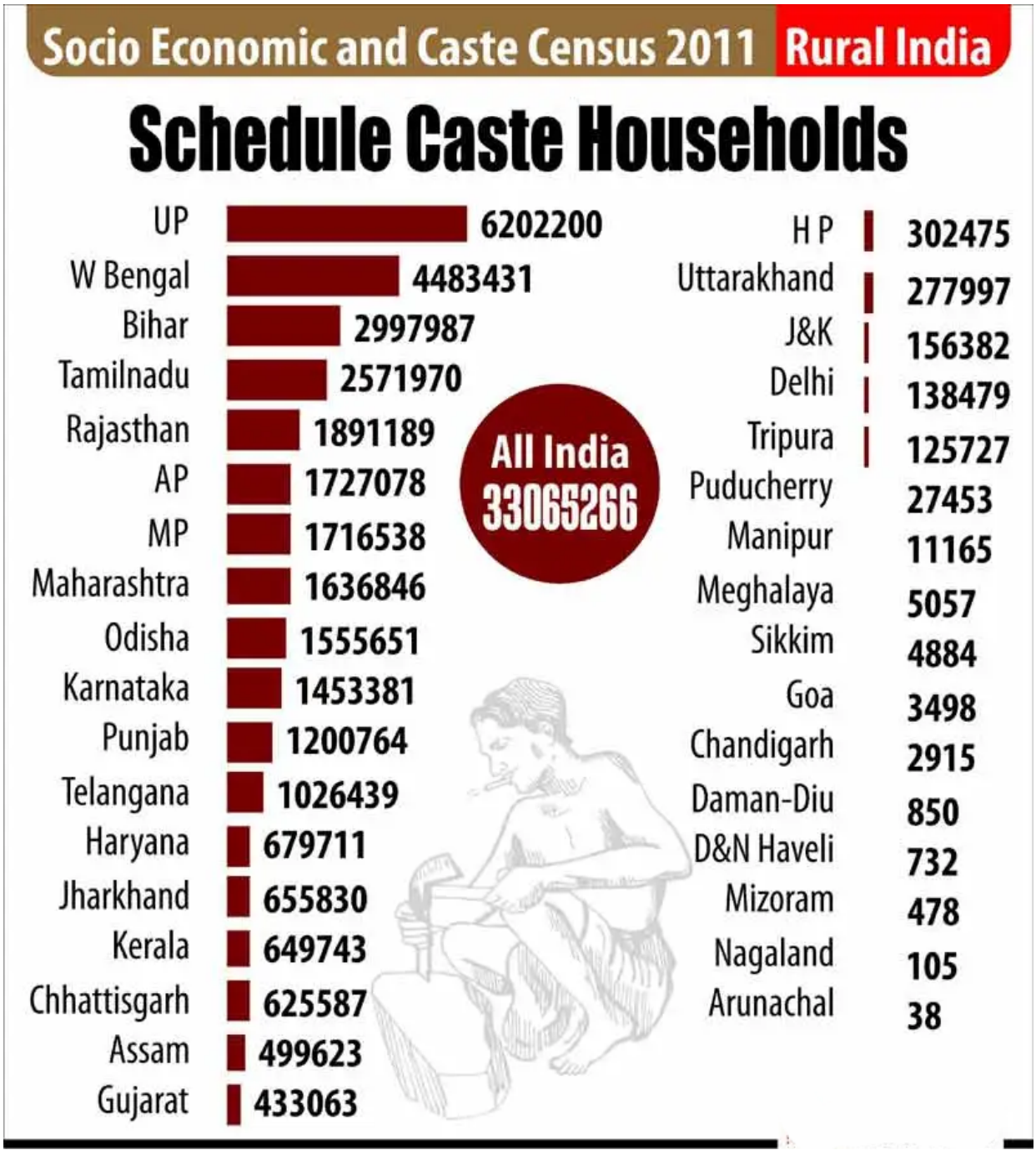
UP	13068741
Bihar	5057805
Rajasthan	3386205
MP	2848640
W Bengal	2699692
Maharashtra	2697613
Karnataka	2129750
Gujarat	2013957
Telangana	1633653
AP	1531846
Jharkhand	1457859
Tamilnadu	1218191
Haryana	1175529
Assam	1052341
Orissa	863342
Punjab	609773
J&K	531396
Himachal	492707
Uttarakhand	471192

All India 45920265



Kerala	364422
Chhattisgarh	276019
Nagaland	75066
Delhi	62587
Meghalaya	51488
Arunachal	42446
Sikkim	29816
Manipur	24472
Tripura	20123
Goa	8936
Mizoram	7303
D&N Haveli	6080
Puducherry	4899
A&N Islands	4339
Daman-Diu	1282
Lakshadweep	421
Chandigarh	334


Socio Economic and Caste Census 2011
Rural India
Household which don't own land but have
Kissan Credit Card
Tripura 127096
Manipur 86705
Rajasthan 73496
Gujarat 44326
Himachal 36759
Assam 36279
Karnataka 34624
Haryana 33564
J&K 30286
Telangana 26296
Mizoram 20736
AP 20626
Punjab 20364
Uttarakhand 19170
Goa 17099
Daman And Diu 14341
MP 13237
D&N Haveli 11524
Puducherry 6849
All India 699174
Orissa 6388
Lakshadweep 4345
Chhattisgarh 3218
Kerala 2425
Chandigarh 2273
Delhi 1770
Tamilnadu 1478
Bihar 986
Nagaland 846
Maharashtra 713
Meghalaya 493
Sikkim 382
Arunachal 233
UP 157
Jharkhand 44
A&N Islands 30
W Bengal 16
पी.एन.बी. कृषि कार्ड पास बुक
P.N.B. KRISHI CARD PASS BOOK
पंजाब नैशनल बैंक
punjab national bank



17. What is the relevance of the topic for UPSC CSE?

- **For Prelims:** Census, Socio-Economic and Caste Census, Rohini commission.
- **For Mains:** Significance of Caste Census, Challenges Related to Caste Census, Sub categorisation of OBCs.

Some previous years prelims questions.

Q1. Consider the following statements: **(2009)**

1. Between Census 1951 and Census 2001, the density of the population of India has increased more than three times.
2. Between Census 1951 and Census 2001, the annual growth rate (exponential) of the population of India has doubled.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (d)

Some previous years mains questions.

Q1. Intercaste marriages between castes which have socio-economic parity have increased, to some extent, but this is less true of interreligious marriages. Discuss. **(2024-10 Marks)**

Q2. Why is caste identity in India both fluid and static? **(2023-15 Marks)**

Q3. Analyse the salience of 'sect' in Indian society vis-a-vis caste, region and religion. **(2022-15 Marks)**

Some questions from this year and previous years interview transcripts.

Board Suman Sharma mam:

- What are your views on Caste census in Bihar?

Board B B Swain sir:

- Why is the census needed?
- Do you favour caste census? Why?

Board Sheel Vardhan Singh sir:

- What is the frequency of census in India?
- What kind of data will we get through the Census?
- Should caste census be conducted?
- What's the use of caste census?
- Should reservation be continued?
- What changes would you suggest to make it more effective?

Board Lt Gen Raj Shukla sir:

- What is socio economic caste census?
- Why do we need it?
- What are the underlying challenges?

Board Dinesh Dasa sir:

- What is your view on the Caste census in Bihar?

Some questions for QUIZ.

Q1. Justice G Rohini commission is related to which of the following.

(a) Border Management
(b) Urban Forestry
(c) Sub Categorization within Other Backward Classes (OBCs)
(d) Reforms in the agriculture sector.

Ans: (c)

Some questions for POLL.

Q1. Should there be a Caste Census in India?

(a) YES
(b) NO
(c) Can't say.

Q2. Will Caste Census make our society more inclusive?

(a) YES
(b) NO
(c) Can't say.

■■■■