

## Section Two

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### Concepts, Definitions and Procedures

2.1 **Household:** A group of persons normally living together and taking food from a common kitchen constituted a household. The members of a household might or might not be related by blood to one another.

2.1.1 Each inmate (including residential staff) of a hostel, mess, hotel, boarding and lodging house, residential institutions for disabled, etc. constituted a single member household. If, however, a group of persons among them normally pooled their income for spending, they together were treated as forming a single household. For example, a family living in a hotel was treated as a separate single household by itself.

2.1.2 Undertrial prisoners in jails and indoor patients of hospitals, nursing homes etc., were excluded but residential staff therein were listed while listing was done in such institutions. The former persons were considered as normal members of their parent households and were counted there. Convicted prisoners undergoing sentence were outside the coverage of the survey.

2.1.3 Floating population, i.e. persons without any normal residence, were not listed. But households residing in open spaces, roadside shelters, under a bridge, etc., more or less regularly in the same place, were listed.

2.1.4 Foreign nationals were not listed, nor their domestic servants, if by definition the latter belonged to the foreign national's household. If, however, a foreign national became an Indian citizen for all practical purposes, he/she was covered.

2.1.5 Persons residing in barracks of military and paramilitary forces (like police, BSF etc.) were kept outside the survey coverage in view of difficulty in conduct of survey therein. However, civilian population residing in their neighbourhood, including the family quarters of service personnel, were covered, for which, permission might have to be obtained from appropriate authorities.

2.1.6 Orphanages, rescue homes, *ashrams* and vagrant houses were outside the survey coverage. However, the students staying in hostels and the residential staff (other than monks/nuns) of *ashrams* were listed. In orphanages, although orphans were not to be listed, the persons looking after them and staying there were considered for listing.

**2.2 Household size:** The number of normally resident members of a household was its size. It included temporary stay-aways but excluded temporary visitors and guests.

**2.3 House:** Every structure, tent, shelter, etc. was considered as a house irrespective of its use. It might be used for residential or non-residential purposes or both or might even be vacant. Households living more or less regularly under bridges, in pipes, under staircase, in purely temporary flimsy improvisations built by the road side (which are liable to be removed at any moment) etc., were considered to have no house.

**2.4 Pucca structure:** A pucca structure was one whose walls and roofs were made of “pucca materials”.

**2.4.1** In the present survey, cement, concrete, oven burnt bricks, hollow cement/ash bricks, stone, stone blocks, jack boards (cement plastered reeds), iron, zinc or other metal sheets, timber, tiles, slate, corrugated iron, asbestos cement sheet, veneer, plywood, artificial wood of synthetic material and polyvinyl chloride (PVC) material constituted the list of pucca materials. All other materials were considered as “non-pucca materials”. Non-pucca materials included unburnt bricks, bamboo, mud, grass, leaves, reeds, thatch, etc.

**2.5 Katcha structure:** A structure which had walls and roof made of non-pucca materials was regarded as a katcha structure. Katcha structures could be of the following two types:

(a) **‘Unserviceable katcha’** which included all structures with thatched walls and thatched roof, i.e. walls and roof made of grass, leaves, reeds, etc., and

(b) **‘Serviceable katcha’** which included all katcha structures other than unserviceable katcha structures.

**2.6 Semi-pucca structure:** A structure which could not be classified as a pucca or a katcha structure as per definition was a semi-pucca structure. Such a structure had either the walls or the roof, but not both, made of pucca materials.

**2.7 Building:** A building was a free-standing structure comprising one or more rooms or other spaces, covered by a roof and usually enclosed within external walls or dividing walls which extended from the foundation to the roof. Dividing walls refers to the walls of adjoining buildings, e.g., dividing walls of a row of houses. These houses could be practically independent of one another, built at different times and owned by different persons. If more than one physically separated structure constituted one living unit, all of them together also formed a building. Usually, a building would have four external walls. But in some areas the nature of construction of buildings was such that they had no walls. Instead, they had a roof which almost touched the ground and was provided with an

entrance. Such structures and also structures standing only on pillars were also to be treated as buildings for the purpose of the survey.

**2.8 Dwelling unit:** This is the accommodation availed of by a household for its residential purpose. It might be an entire structure or a part thereof or consist of more than one structure. There might be cases of more than one household occupying a single structure such as those living in independent flats or sharing a single housing unit, in which case, there would be as many dwelling units as the number of households sharing the structure. There might also be cases of one household occupying more than one structure (i.e. detached structures for sitting, sleeping, cooking, bathing etc) for its housing accommodation. In this case, all the structures together constitutes a single dwelling unit. In general, a dwelling unit consists of living room, kitchen, store, bath, latrine, garage, open and closed veranda etc. A structure or a portion thereof used exclusively for non-residential purposes or let out to other households does not form part of the dwelling unit of the household under consideration. However, a portion of a structure used for both residential and non-residential purposes was treated as part of the dwelling unit except when the use of such portion for residential purposes was very nominal. The dwelling unit covered all pucca, semi-pucca and katcha structures used by a household. Households living more or less regularly under bridges, in pipes, under staircases, in purely temporary flimsy improvisations built by the roadside (which were liable to be removed at any moment). etc., were not considered as dwelling units.

**2.9 Independent house:** An independent house was one which had a separate structure and entrance with self-contained arrangements. In other words, if the dwelling unit and the entire structure of the house were physically the same, it was considered as an independent house. In some parts, particularly in rural areas, two or more structures together might constitute a single housing unit. While the main residence might be in one of the structures, the other structures might be used for sleeping, sitting and for store, bath, etc. In all such cases, all the structures together would form a single housing unit and would be treated as an independent house.

**2.10 Flat:** A flat, generally, means a part of a building that has one or more rooms with self-contained arrangements and normal housing facilities like water supply, latrine, toilet, etc., which are used exclusively by the household residing therein or jointly with other households. It also includes any detached room or rooms with or without other housing facilities.

**2.11 Slum:** Certain areas notified as slums by the respective municipalities, corporations, local bodies or development authorities were treated as “**notified slums**”. Apart from these, any compact area with a collection of poorly built tenements, mostly of temporary nature, crowded together, usually with inadequate sanitary and drinking water facilities, in

unhygienic conditions, was considered as a “**non-notified slum**” if at least 20 households lived in that area. Notified and non-notified slums together made up the category of “slum” for the purpose of this survey. For this survey, only slums in urban areas were considered. Slum dwellings are commonly known as ‘*jhopad patti*’ in Bombay and ‘*jhuggi jhopri*’ in Delhi. It may be noted that the definition of “slum” followed in the current survey conforms to the one adopted in the previous NSS survey.

**2.12 Squatter settlement:** Sometimes an area develops into an unauthorised settlement with unauthorised structures put up by “squatters”. A Squatter settlement was a slum- like settlement where number of households living in the area was less than 20, the number stipulated to classify that area as a “non-notified slum”.

2.12.1 Squatter settlements were not considered within the coverage of slums in the present survey. However, in a more detailed enquiry on housing condition conducted through individual enquiry at the level of households, households living in both slums and squatter settlements have been considered.

**2.13 Room:** A room is a constructed area with walls or partitions on all sides with at least one doorway and a roof overhead. Wall/partition means a continuous solid structure (except for the doors, windows, ventilators, air-holes, etc.) extending from floor to ceiling. A constructed space with grill or net on one or more sides in place of wall or partition was not treated as a room. In case of conical-shaped structures in which the roof itself was built to the floor level, the roof was also regarded as wall.

**2.14 Living room:** A room with floor area (carpet area) of at least 4 square metres and a height of at least 2 metres from the floor to the highest point in the ceiling, used for living purposes, was considered a living room. Thus, rooms used as bedroom, sitting-room, prayer room, dining room, servant’s room - all were considered as living rooms provided they satisfied the size criterion. Kitchen, bathroom, latrine, store, garage, etc. were not living rooms. A room used in common for living purposes and as kitchen or store was also considered as living room.

**2.15 Other room:** This was a room which did not satisfy the specification of 4 square metres floor area and 2 metres height from the floor to the highest point of the ceiling or a room which though satisfying the specification, was not used for living purposes. A room satisfying the size criterion, when shared by more than one household or when used for both residential and business purposes, was also treated as ‘other room’.

**2.16 Veranda:** This is a roofed space, often without a door, adjacent to living/other room. It is generally used as an access to the room(s) and is not walled from all sides. In other words, at least one side of such a space is either open, or walled only to some height, or

protected by grill, net, etc. A veranda is considered as a 'covered veranda' if it is protected from all sides and an 'uncovered veranda' if not protected from at least one of the sides. A covered veranda might have a door also. A corridor or passage within the dwelling unit is treated as a portion of a room or as a veranda depending on its layout. However, the term veranda does not cover a common corridor or passage used mainly as an access to the dwelling itself.

**2.17 Household principal industry and occupation:** Out of all the occupations pertaining to economic activities pursued by the members of the household excluding those employed by the household and paying guests (who in view of their staying and taking food in the household are considered as its normal members) during the one-year period preceding the date of survey, no matter whether such occupations were pursued by the members in their principal or subsidiary (on the basis of earnings) capacity, the one which fetched the maximum earnings to the household during the last 365 days preceding the date of survey was considered as the principal household occupation. It was quite possible that one or more members of the household might have pursued the household occupation in different industries. In such cases, the particular industry, out of all the different industries corresponding to the principal occupation, which fetched the maximum earnings was to be considered as the principal industry of the household.

**2.18 Household monthly per capita expenditure:** Household consumer expenditure is measured as the expenditure incurred by a household on domestic account during a specified period, called reference period. It also includes the imputed values of goods and services which were not purchased but procured otherwise for consumption. In other words, it is the sum total of monetary values of all the items (i.e. goods and services) consumed by the household on domestic account during the reference period. The imputed rent of owner-occupied houses is excluded from consumer expenditure. Any expenditure incurred towards the productive enterprises of the households is also excluded from household consumer expenditure. Monthly per capita expenditure (MPCE) is the household consumer expenditure over a period of 30 days divided by household size. A person's MPCE is understood as that of the household to which he/she belongs.

**2.19 Land possessed:** The area of land possessed includes land 'owned', 'leased in' and 'land neither owned nor leased in' (e.g. encroached upon) by the household, but excludes land 'leased out'. The total land area possessed by the household as on the date of survey was taken into account. A piece of land is considered to be owned by a household if permanent heritable possession with or without the right to transfer the title vests in a member or members of the household. Land held in owner-like possession, say, under perpetual lease, hereditary tenure, long-term lease for 30 years or more, etc., is also considered as land owned. For a piece of land under the possession of the household, if the household lacks title of ownership and also does not have lease agreement for the use of land transacted,

either verbally or in writing, such land is considered as 'neither owned nor leased in'. In collecting information regarding land possessed, the actual position as obtained on the date of survey was considered. It may be noted that the 'area of land possessed' recorded did not include the area of land owned, leased in, etc., by the servants/paying guests who were normal members of the household.

**2.20 Distance (in km) to the place of work normally travelled:** It is the one-way actual distance (in kilometres and in whole number rounded to the nearest integer) from residence to place of work normally travelled by an earning member of the household.

**2.21 Movement of household to the village/town of enumeration during the last 365 days:** If all the household members, as being enumerated, moved to the place of enumeration during the last 365 days preceding the date of survey, it was considered to be a movement of the household. If one member of the household moved ahead of other members of the present household and the others joined later (but all of them during the reference year), such cases were also considered. Within a village or town, shifting of residence from one locality to another was not considered as a movement of this kind.

**2.22 Nature of movement:** Movement of a household, as defined above, to the place of enumeration was considered a temporary movement if the household intended to move again to the original place or another place within six months of coming to the place of listing. It was considered as a permanent movement if the household intended to stay (or had stayed) at the place of enumeration for more than six months. A temporary movement could be a seasonal movement or non-seasonal.

**2.23 Movement of a member into the household during last 365 days:** Only movement involving a change in village/town of one's residence is taken into account here. For each household member, whether such movement had taken place or not was determined as follows. The usual place of residence (**upr**) of a person is defined as a place (village or town) where the person has stayed continuously for a period of six months or more. Clearly, a person's upr may change during his/her lifetime. If any member of the household being surveyed had a different upr at some time during the last 365 days, he/she was considered to have moved into the present household during the last 365 days. Thus female(s) of other villages/towns married to the member(s) of the household being surveyed during the last 365 days were included here. However, visits of daughters to their parents place for childbirth or for treatments etc. were not considered even if it was for more than six months.

**2.24 Movement of a member out of the household during last 365 days:** Only those persons who were members of the household at the time of their departure and were alive and staying elsewhere at the time of survey were considered. Persons who had gone

out for purely temporary purposes for short periods, say, for meetings/conferences or official tours or tourism purpose, participation in games, sports, etc. were not considered. Similarly, those who had only moved from one locality to another within the same town/village were not considered.

**2.25 Major source of drinking water:** If a household depends, for its drinking water supply, on an arrangement made by corporation, municipality, panchayat or other local authorities or any private or public housing estate or agency to supply water through pipe for household uses, then “tap” is considered to be its source of drinking water. Drinking water transported to the dwelling units through pipe from sources like well, tank, river, etc. by individual owners/occupants for their own convenience is not, however, regarded as tap water. Instead, the well/tank/river from which water was carried through pipe is considered the source. If a household gets drinking water from more than one source, the one which is used more is regarded as its source. In this connection, it may be mentioned that the source of drinking water, particularly in rural areas, may be different in different seasons. In such cases, the household’s major source of drinking water is ascertained considering all the seasons during the last 365 days. If the source is for the use of households in two or more buildings in the locality, it is considered as “community use”.

**2.26 Garbage disposal:** This aspect was studied for urban areas only. In the urban areas, some arrangements usually exist to carry away the refuse and waste of households to some dumping place away from the residential areas. In some places, public bodies collect the garbage from the premises of the household or from some fixed points in the locality where the residents put their garbage. In some places, a body of residents themselves make an arrangement for carrying the garbage to the final dumping place away from residential areas without participation of any public body.

**2.27 Animal shed:** Animal shed, for the purpose of this survey, was a structure where livestock (cattle, buffalo, horse, goat, pig, etc. but not poultry and pets) are sheltered.

**2.28.1** If there was no animal shed within 100 feet of the house (even on the adjacent plots) it was considered as having no animal shed. If there was an animal shed in the house or attached to the house, it was considered as a house with attached animal shed. If there was an animal shed within 100 feet of the house but not within/attached to it, it was identified as a house having a detached animal shed. It was not necessary that the animals and/or the shed be owned or possessed by any household in the house.

**2.29 Experience of flood:** If rain water during monsoon and/or water from the sea, rivers, etc. entered the ground floor of the house, then the house was said to have experienced flood.

**2.30 Direct opening to road:** If, from the plot of the house, one could approach a road/lane/constructed path without passing through another plot, the house was regarded as having a direct opening to a road. If, on the other hand, one had to pass through another plot to approach a road/lane/constructed path, the house was regarded as having no direct opening to a road. A road/lane/constructed path was treated as having street lights if it had some lighting provision on the date of survey.

**2.31 Monthly rent:** The actual amount (in whole number of rupees) payable per month by the household on account of its stay in employer's quarters or other hired accommodation is regarded as the monthly rent. If the household resides in employer's quarters, the amount deducted from the salary of the household member to whom the quarters were allotted, on account of rent for the dwelling unit, plus the house rent allowance the person might have received if he/she had not been provided the accommodation, was considered to be the rent of the dwelling unit. Rent does not include any *salami/pugree* or any kind of cess payable to local bodies or government or monthly maintenance charges payable to the housing society etc.

**2.32 Adjustable and non-adjustable deposit:** Besides the monthly payment of rent, a prospective tenant is frequently required to make an initial payment to the landlord as "deposit" - a pre-condition for moving into his new lodgings. Sometimes the deposit is recoverable. Usually a recoverable deposit is adjusted against the rent payment for the first few months or years. Deposits which are not adjustable in this way have been referred to as "non-adjustable".

**2.33 Imputed monthly rent:** Information on imputed rent for those dwellings which were not hired, like owner-occupied dwellings, etc. was collected in this round. Imputation was done on the basis of the prevailing rate of rent for similar accommodation in the locality, through proper probing and local enquiry to ascertain the rent the dwelling unit might have fetched at the prevailing market rate.

**2.34 Married couple:** All married couples were counted irrespective of their ages. A man with two wives in a household constituted two married couples. But one woman with two husbands in a household formed a single couple.

**2.35 Separate room available to each married couple:** If a married couple of the household had a separate room for their use, it was considered that they had a separate room irrespective of whether it was a "living room" or "other room" as defined earlier, and even when children of age 10 years or below were also using the room along with the couple. A couple living in a single room-cum-kitchen was considered to have a separate room.

2.36 **Possession of durable goods:** A durable good was recorded as possessed by a household even when not in usable condition on the date of survey, provided it required normal repairing. However, if the item was out of use and its repair was either not feasible or uneconomical, then it was not considered as a possession.