

The Eleventh Agricultural Census (2021-22)

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In news– Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has launched the Eleventh Agricultural Census (2021-22) recently.

The Agricultural Census in India-

- Agricultural Census is the **main source of information on a variety of agricultural parameters at a relatively minute level**, such as the number and area of operational holdings, their size, class-wise distribution, land use, tenancy and cropping pattern, etc.
- The Census provides basis for development of a comprehensive integrated national system of agricultural statistics.
- **Agriculture Census is conducted every 5 years.**
- Recognizing importance of agriculture sector in the economy, the **Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare is implementing Agriculture Census Scheme since 1970-71.**
- Agriculture Census in India has been Conducting **following broad guidelines of decennial World Census of Agriculture (WCA) evolved by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** of United Nations conducted at an interval of five years.
- In Agriculture Census, operational holding has been taken as statistical unit at micro-level for data collection as operational holding is the ultimate unit for taking agriculture-related decisions.
- Agriculture Census Scheme was converted from a Centrally-Sponsored Scheme to a Central Sector Plan Scheme in 2007-08.

About Eleventh Agricultural Census (2021-22)-

- The field work of agricultural census will start in August 2022.
- **This is the first time that data collection for agricultural census will be conducted on smart phones and tablets, so that data is available in time.**
- Most of the States have digitized their land records and surveys, which will further accelerate the collection of agricultural census data.
- **The use of digitized land records and the use of mobile apps for data collection** will enable the creation of a database of operational holdings in the country.
- It includes complete enumeration of all villages in states with non-land records during Phase-I as done in states having land records, and real time monitoring of progress and processing.