

An Endless Census

- (1) The government of India has discovered that it is not an easy task to take a census.
- (2) When the project was started two and a half years ago, it was expected to take just over a year to account for all the people in the nation.
- (3) However, census officials told newspapers last week that they didn't know how much longer it would take to finish the job.
- (4) The delay has been caused by unusual problems facing census-takers in this large country.
- (5) Some officials traveling in remote areas have to deal with illiteracy.
- (6) Others have been chased away by suspicious villagers who were afraid the census-takers were tax collectors.
- (7) And one large village in western India refuses to give any information at all.
- (8) It seems that many census-takers are females; because of tribal beliefs, the leaders won't speak to them.

語注

- (1) census 人口調査、国勢調査
- (2) account for …の割合を占める
- (4) delay 遅延 unusual 独特の
- (5) remote 辺ぴな、人里はなれた illiteracy 非識字
- (6) chase away 追い払う suspicious 疑い深い tax collector 収税官、税務署員
- (7) refuse 拒絶する、断る
- (8) tribal 部族の