

# THE HINDU

Online edition of India's National Newspaper

Saturday, Feb 26, 2011

## ECIL begins digitalisation of National Population Register

Staff Reporter

*It is set to start biometric enrolment in Bolangir district*

*Demographic data of 13.5 lakh population have been digitalised*

*4,200 operators will be deployed by ECIL for data entry and biometric enrolment*

Photo: Lingaraj Panda



**ON A MISSION: Digitisation work in full swing at the National Population Register (NPR) in Bhubaneswar on Friday. —**

BHUBANESWAR: Electronics Corporation of India Limited (ECIL) is set to start biometric enrolment in Bolangir district from the first week of March as part of its massive digitalisation of demographic data of National Population Register (NPR) in Orissa.

Addressing a press conference here on Friday, ECIL's Chairman and Managing Director Y. S. Mayya said, "The primary data collected by Census Directorate, Orissa for National Population Register will be digitised by ECIL at 4 centres such as Bhubaneswar, Rourkela, Berhampur and Balasore."

Thereafter the teams comprising of ECIL, officials of Census Directorate and representatives of the State government will be deployed to various camps for biometric enrolment, Mr. Mavya said adding that after this process finger prints, photograph and Iris image of usual residents of age more than 5 years would be collected.

Since the State government wanted to give priority to KBK region, the digitalisation of demographic data of Bolangir district collected in the first leg of Census Operation was taken up and it would be completed by February 28. Biometric enrolment will start in first week of March.

According to Santosh Kumar Sahoo, CEO of Computer LAB, the IT service provider for the project, demographic data of 13.5 lakh out of about 15 lakh population of Bolangir district have already been digitalised. Similar exercise would be taken up for remaining districts.

#### Unique ID Number

“The demographic as well as biometric data, after necessary correction, will be sent to office of Registrar General of India (RGI). RGI office will collect the Unique ID Number from Unique Identity Authority of India (UIADI). Subsequently ECIL will personalise and generate Smart Cards, which will be issued to all usual residents of Orissa of age more than 18 years,” said Mr. Mavya. He further said the basic demographic data collected by Census Directorate is called KYR data. “The State Government, however, needs some more data to be collected from the field like driving license number, EPIC number, Bank A/C number etc. This data is called KYR PLUS data.”

As per plan the demographic data of a population of 4.07 crore of Orissa has already been collected by Census Department. This data is being digitised by English and Oriya. A total of 4,200 operators will be deployed by ECIL for data entry and biometric enrolment in 138 towns and 51,349 villages in the State.