

## **Field operation of the 2011 National Population and housing Census in Iran Launched on Monday 24 October 2011.**

This year, 23 October 2011, the Statistics and Planning day in Iran was coincided with the pre-census day and it was celebrated with a particular focus on the 2011 National Population and Housing Census. In this occasion, the launching date of the field operation of the census was announced officially.

The celebration ceremony was attended by Dr. Azizi, Vice-presidency for Strategic Planning and Supervision of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Dr. Adel Azar, Head of the Statistical Centre of Iran. The representatives of the regional and international organizations stationed in Tehran including Representative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and Deputy General Secretary and Director for Projects Economic Research & Statistics of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) as well as Governor of Tehran Province and a number of Iranian professors, academics, scholars and statisticians were among the participants of the event.

It is noteworthy that in the 2011 National Population and Housing Census, more than 114000 headquarters and executive staff have been recruited and 54000 of the Census enumerators have embarked on the field operation of the Census on Monday 24 October 2011. They will complete their substantial task within 21days through face to face interviews with about 21200000 Iranian households and will collect 70 data items on these households.

Moreover, in order to trace the rapid demographic and social developments in Iranian society and to capture an updated image of it, the census implementation has been shifted from decennial base to *quinquennial* one for the first time.