

# Abroad Sourashtra Digital Survey - FAQ

## 1. Does this survey cover NRI only or OCI Card holders as well?

Yes. It covers OCI card holders also. The title or description of the survey is broader as “ **Abroad Sourashtra**” / Diaspora and not restricted to any country of residence. Any one globally with Sourashtra as Mother Tongue / One who has a Sourashtra Family name, which is a unique identifier of ethnicity can and is urged to

### Who is the Indian Diaspora?<sup>6</sup>

Press Information Bureau, Govt of India

The Government of India recognises the importance of the Indian Diaspora as it has brought economic, financial, technological and global benefits to India. Today, ‘diaspora’ is commonly understood to include Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), who are citizens of India and [Persons of Indian Origin \(PIOs\)](#), including [Overseas Citizens of India \(OCI\)](#), who are foreign nationals. PIO and OCI cardholders have been merged under one category OCI in 2015.

**India has a large diaspora in the world with over 32 million including over 13 million NRIs and 18 million PIOs spread across the globe**, as on December 25, 2021.<sup>7</sup> The Indian diaspora is known for their talent, exemplary discipline and hard work, and they have made significant contributions to science, technology, music, literature, politics and business. To know more about the population of India Diaspora, [click here](#) .

## 2. Why is this survey needed?

As per 1891 AD headcount , there were 1.04 lakhs Sourashtras in larger British India then and after that official count is available. As significant migration abroad has taken place for employment/business / family support, this survey is aimed at arriving at Sourashtra head count abroad.

## 3. What about privacy ?

- One contact email ID or Phone number of your choice alone is asked for. If you have concern, you are free to declare a Secondary Email ID, You are in control. No data on address or names of family members, gender or any such is asked for. The survey questions have been arrived at after extensive pretesting across all global geographies and concerns have been addressed and made as such easy to declare.

## 4. What if a family member includes Non-Sourashtra?

No issues. This question came up in extensive testing also. The form can be filled by any member having a Sourashtra Family name. In the question of the number of family members, it is the respondent who can take the call. Kindly note this is exclusively for **Abroad Sourashtra Digital Survey purpose only**.

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## 5. How long does it take to fill ?

Being Google Form, you need a Gmail ID to access the form from the link. Most took just 3 minutes only to fill up and submit.

## 6. What document do I need to fill up ?

Nil. Absolutely no document / card is needed whatsoever. It is designed so that any one in the family can fill up and just extempore.

## 7. Who is Collecting this data and what are the credentials?

BVK Foundation is set up by a fellow Sourashtrian ( [www.bvkawards.com](http://www.bvkawards.com)) and the foundation has been conducting the most prestigious Sourashtra Achievers Award since 2013 and the 7 th event was held on August 15,2024 as Sourashtra Global Achievers Award. This galvanised our global diaspora, appreciation of talent/ achievements and awardees came from across the globe regardless of hometown/ country of residence/ profession/ gender / age group etc. This was the first global event where 4500+ Sourashtras watched online in Youtube live , the 3 hour programme held at Madurai in a packed ( 550+) Auditorium. This abroad survey is a natural offshoot to global awards to further cement the diaspora.

## 8. How will the data be useful ?

We will have a global headcount and also Country Wise / Region Wise / City wise / Age group wise / Migration frequency wise ; In addition, the likely interest in learning Sourashtra language if taught online on a global level both for adults and kids. The data will help the diaspora cement relationships locally and also at macro level. Community projects can be targeted to specific groups globally or regionally to improve our standing, collaboration and competitiveness.

## 9. After filling, What Should I do ?

Google Forms automatically sends you a copy of the response filled to you to the same mail ID. After submitting, spread the message across your contact and social media and encourage more Sourashtras to participate.

**Thank You !**