

Action Taken Report on the Recommendations of the National Statistical Commission in its Annual Report for 2009-10

Recommendations made by National Statistical Commission	Action Taken
<p>General Problems in compiling indices</p> <p>Para No.4.9</p> <p>The NSC recommended that the years 2009-10 and 2014-15 may be taken as the base years for all the indices and national accounts compiled by the official agencies at the Centre and in the States.</p>	<p>The 66th round of NSS (July 2009-June 2010), was not considered to be the normal year and hence, it was decided to have the next quinquennial round of Consumer Expenditure Surveys (CES) in 2011-12 i.e. 68th round of NSS. The base year of the new series of CPI (U) and CPI(R) would be revised after the availability of the results of 68th round of CES from the present base year 2004-05 which is based on 61st round of CES.</p> <p>On the single price data collecting agency, a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Sudipto Mondal, Member, NSC has been constituted. The Committee held two meetings. In the first meeting held on 26th august, 2010, two Sub-committees respectively on integration of price data collection and deseasonalisation of price indices were constituted. Both the sub-committees have submitted their reports. These reports were considered by the committee in the second meeting held on 27th January, 2011. The committee recommended integration of price data collection under a single agency (Field Operations Division). The committee also accepted the recommendation on deseasonalisation of price indices.</p>
<p>Separate CPI for Government Employees</p> <p>Para No.4.24</p> <p>The NSC recommended that the CSO (NAD) may compile an index at state level leaving out the 274 poor category quotations and then combining the</p>	<p>Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Statistics of Prices and Cost of Living (SPCL) in its 49th meeting held</p>

<p>state level indices using the number of Government employees at state level as the weights. It was decided that after looking at the indices so computed, the NSC would take a final view in the matter.</p>	<p>on 10th November, 2010, decided to have the base year as 2010. So far, indices for one month (January 2011) have been released. This exercise will be taken up after indices for adequate number of months become available.</p>
<p>NSC taking over the functions of the Governing Council of NSSO</p> <p>Para No.4.31</p> <p>NSC decided to directly take over the role of the Governing Council of the NSSO. It was also decided that all policy related and administrative/ monitoring issues would be deliberated and decided by the NSC. As and when a subject matter for study is decided by the NSC, a Working Group would be constituted by it for formulating the methodology and sampling design.</p>	<p>NSC had directly taken over the role of the Governing Council of the NSSO. The subject matter for the 68th Round of NSSO has been decided and working group has been constituted.</p>
<p>Use of population projections in bringing out general reports on NSS</p> <p>Para No.4.36</p> <p>The NSC recommended that the information on population projections may be used by the NSSO in bringing out general reports.</p>	<p>Population projections have been obtained from RGI and the feasibility of bringing out a general report on Employment and Unemployment using the Population projections is being examined.</p>
<p>NSS Report No. 530 (Household Consumer Expenditure, 64th Round)</p> <p>Para No.4.38</p> <p>The NSC gave clearance to the release of the NSS Report No. 530 (Household Consumer Expenditure, 64th Round) and the unit-level data used in preparing the report.</p>	<p>Report No.530: Household Consumer Expenditure in India, 2007-08 based on NSS 64th Round has accordingly been released. Unit level data of relevant schedule 1.0 canvassed in the round was also released.</p>
<p>NSS 67th round Survey on Unincorporated Enterprises in the sectors of Manufacturing, Trade and Other Services</p> <p>Para No. 4.44</p> <p>The NSC noted the aforesaid facts and concurred the survey launch of the 67th Round NSS.</p>	<p>The 67th round survey on Unincorporated Enterprises in the Sectors of Manufacturing, Trade and other Services in accordance with survey design and instruments</p>

	finalized by the Working Group and concurred by NSC has been launched on 1 st July, 2010.
<p>Need for a separate Department of Statistics at the Centre</p> <p>Para No. 4.52</p> <p>The Commission recognized the requirement of effectively discharging the nodal role by the CSI on full-time basis and accordingly recommended that the Statistics Wing in the MOSPI be made as a separate administrative Unit under the control of the CSI as a separate Department of statistics and to take away the PI wing from his control.</p>	<p>This issue is also under examination in the Cabinet Secretariat. Comments of this ministry were sought by them and this ministry has also recommended for two separate Departments of Statistics and Programme Implementation.</p>
<p>Nodal Role in the official statistical system</p> <p>Para No.4.62</p> <p>The NSC reiterates its earlier recommendation to institutionalize the coordinating and nodal role of the Statistical Advisers through appropriate administrative measures. The MOSPI may issue orders immediately on this issue. With reference to other line Ministries where higher level posts of ISS are not available, a detailed reference may be made to the NSC.</p>	<p>This issue was discussed in the meeting held by CSI with statistical service officers posted in different Ministries/Departments. It was decided to request all the ministries to nominate an officer of JS level as the nodal officer for statistical matters. Ministries have been requested in this regard. Response is awaited.</p>
<p>Review of the ATRs submitted by the Government to Parliament</p> <p>Para No.4.65</p> <p>The NSC recommended that the MOSPI may, in future, insist upon the other Departments to forward their part of the ATRs only after obtaining the approval of their concerned Ministers. The Commission also desired that the latest status in respect of all the recommendations may be obtained from the concerned Departments and placed before it. It was also recommended by the NSC that the ATRs should be circulated by the concerned Ministries to the department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees and Consultative Committees.</p>	<p>The NSC recommendation have been communicated to the concerned ministries/departments and action on their part is awaited.</p>

Follow-up action on the Report of the High-level Committee on Savings & Investment

Para No.4.67

The NSC decided that the NSSO would take up a pilot survey during 2010-11 as recommended by the Committee. Chairman desired that the expertise available with the NCAER and the Ministry of Agriculture (in respect of farm income) in directly surveying income of households may be utilized for the purpose. To workout the methodological details for the pilot study, the NSC recommended for constituting an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Shri Suman K. Bery, Member of the NSC with the representatives of the NCAER, Ministry of Agriculture, NSSO, CSO (NAD), and the RBI as Members. The Commission also recommended that the CSO (NAD) may coordinate with the other agencies for implementation, workout resource requirements, if any, needed in the process in the NSSO and other Govt. Departments and place the material before the NSC.

An expert group on the estimation on savings and investments through household surveys has been set up to evolve methodology and survey instruments for conduct of pilot study critically. One meeting of the expert group has been held. A sub-committee consisting of ADG, NAD and ADG, SDRD prepared a paper giving operational guidelines for the survey which was discussed in a meeting recently. The operational guidelines/schedule finalized in the meeting was again discussed in a meeting of the NCAER, Delhi. This meeting was chaired by DG, NCAER. Other members who attended the meeting were, ADG (NAD), ADG (SDRD) and Shri N.S. Sastry, former DG, NSSO. ADG (SDRD), NSSO was requested to bring up finalized version of survey instruments and instructions for the field staff to the next meeting of the committee to be held in April, 2011.

Report of the Committee on periodical labour force surveys

Para No.4.71

The NSC recommended that a Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. Amitabh Kundu (subject to his acceptance) may be constituted for looking into the aforesaid issues. The views of experts and the comments of the NSSO thereof may be submitted to this Committee, so that further simplifications in the methodology could be considered. The Committee may submit its report for consideration of the NSC.

A new Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof. Amitabh Kundu. to address the issues of simplification in conduct of Pilot Survey to generate quarterly indicators of labour force in the light of the report of the Committee on Periodic Labour Force The Committee deliberated the matter at length in its meetings and finalised its report for submission to NSC. Further, an Agenda note detailing operational issues of launch of the survey is being submitted for deliberation by the NSC.

<p>Committees appointed for various purposes in MOSPI</p> <p>Para No. 4.74</p> <p>NSC decided to nominate Prof. Shibdas Bandyopadhyay, Member of the NSC in the Advisory Committee on National Accounts chaired by Prof. K. Sundaram and Prof. Anil P. Gore, Member of the NSC in the Standing Committee on Industrial Statistics chaired by Prof. Goldar.</p>	<p>The Advisory Committee on National Accounts Statistics has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof. K. Sundaram. Prof. Shibdas Bandyopadhyay, Member of NSC has been nominated in the Advisory Committee. The first meeting of this reconstituted Advisory Committee was held on 22nd December, 2010. The methodology adopted for compilation of quarterly GDP by production approach was discussed. It was decided in the meeting that methodology for compilation of quarterly GDP by expenditure approach will be discussed in the next meeting of the Advisory Committee. Prof. Anil P. Gore, member of the NSC has been nominated as a Permanent Invitee in the Standing Committee on Industrial Statistics chaired by Dr. B. Golder vide O.M. No. M-12012/2/2010 –ESD dated 13th May, 2010.</p>
<p>Methodology for statistical audit</p> <p>4.79 The NSC considered the aforesaid views of the Rangarajan Commission and decided to have a statistical audit conducted by Dr. N.S. Sastry, former DG of the NSSO (subject to his acceptance) on the all India IIP compiled by the CSO, as a test case, before laying down comprehensive methodology for the purpose. Dr. Sastry would be requested to take up the work as a Consultant and the concerned organisations would be requested to extend all cooperation to him and to make available to him relevant files, records, data and reports. The terms of reference for the audit shall include studying deficiencies, if any, in the following aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Planning process undertaken for producing the indices (ii) Action plan, if any, prepared for achieving different milestones in the process (iii) Basis for weighting diagram and selection of item basket and computation criteria adapted for the purpose (iv) Data collection mechanism (v) Data processing and dissemination mechanism 	<p>Dr. N.S. Sastry has been appointed for conducting statistical audit on the all India Index of Industrial Production (IIP). The audit is under progress</p> <p><u>The Steps taken till date</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. A meeting with the data producers of the IIP i.e. the source agencies was held on 25th August'2010 in the Sardar Patel Bhawan, New Delhi-110001 under the Chairmanship of Prof. T.C.A. Anant, Chief Statistician of India and Secretary, M/o Statistics and Programme Implementation. 3. A second meeting with the users of Index of Industrial Production (IIP) was held on 2nd December 2010, under the Chairmanship of Prof. T.C.A. Anant, Chief Statistician of India and

	<p>Secretary, M/o Statistics and Programme Implementation.</p> <p>4. A third meeting between the Auditor, Dr. N. S. Sastry and the concerned officers from the Economic Statistics Division (CSO) was held on 4th January, 2011. Dr Sastry was provided with all the details he sought about the practice being followed in the compilation of IIP along with the discussion on methodological issues, receipt of data from source agencies etc.</p> <p>5. Meanwhile NSC also circulated an Audit memo amongst all source agencies with a copy to ESD, CSO with a request to provide certain technical information about IIP. ESD, CSO has already supplied the requisite information.</p>
<p>Setting up official statistics unit in the ISI</p> <p>Para No.4.87</p> <p>The NSC felt that setting up an Official Statistics Unit at the ISI would help improving the statistical system. Chairman of the NSC addressed a letter to the Chairman of the Governing Council of the ISI requesting him to fulfill the aforesaid wishes and advice of the Prime Minister. The MOSPI has been requested to take further follow-up action with the ISI.</p>	<p>With a view to help improving statistical system and to fulfill the aforesaid wishes and advice of the Prime Minister, the Institute is planning to set up a unit “Applied and Official Statistics” under the applied Statistics Division at Tezpur Centre to impart training to the people of North-East States involved in the Official Statistics Work and support collaborative research between ISI and official statisticians or topics relating to ‘official statistics’.</p>