

Action Taken Report

on recommendations of Annual Report of the National
Statistical Commission for the year 2017-18

Action Taken Report on the relevant para on which recommendations were made in the NSC Annual Report for the year 2017-18

Reference para nos. in the Annual Report	Recommendation (s) in brief	Whether recommendation (s) accepted or rejected	If accepted, action taken and if rejected, reason thereof
Reference Manual on ISS Probationary Training			
Para 2.2 to 2.5	To review the Reference Manual on probationary training of ISS officers.	Accepted	The National Statistical Commission (NSC) in its 100 th Meeting held on 28 th February, 2018 has approved the Reference Manual for ISS Probationers Training which is available on the website of the Ministry at www.mospi.gov.in . The ISS probationary training is being conducted as per the NSC approved reference manual.
Time Use Survey (TUS)			
Para 2.16	The Commission agreed that with the large proportion of informal sector and a wide gender gap in Labour Force Participation Rate in the country, a nation-wide TUS was necessary to draw inferences for employment and welfare programmes with specific attention to the different sections of society in the country. The pilot done in 1998-99 had generated a lot of interest amongst the policy makers and social scientists and a nation-wide Time Use Survey should be launched at an early date.	Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The NSC during its 103rd meeting held on 7th September, 2018 at New Delhi was apprised that Proposal for Nationwide Time Use Survey (TUS) has been included under the Capacity Development Scheme. ii. The TUS will be conducted once in three years. iii. The data collection for Nationwide TUS would commence from January, 2019. iv. During the 9th Meeting of the Standing Committee for Labour Force Statistics (SCLFS) held under the Chairmanship of Prof. S.P. Mukherjee on 31.08.2018

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			<p>at Delhi, it was decided that the technical support for the Nationwide TUS would be provided by SCLFS. During the said meeting, schedule for TUS was finalized.</p> <p>v. All India Trainers of Trainers for TUS was held on 29.09.2018 at Guwahati.</p>
NSS 74th Round's Estimation Procedure & Tabulation Plan			
Para 3.5 to 3.9	The NSC made suggestions on standards on tabulation plan, generation of estimates, preparation of Relative Standard errors (RSEs) of estimates while approving the NSS 74 th Round's Estimation procedure & Tabulation Plan.	Accepted	The relevant reports based on the NSS 74th round are being finalized in accordance with the approved estimation procedure and tabulation plan.
NSS 76th round Survey subject coverage			
Para 3.10 to 3.16	To deliberate upon the subject coverage and related issues for NSS 76 th round. Data on disability to be collected during NSS 76 th round. Also to retain the subjects of 69 th round of NSS viz., Drinking Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Housing Condition for NSS 76 th round. The TOR for	Accepted	<p>The issues on subject coverage were deliberated and items of data collection finalized. As recommended, the subjects to be covered during NSS 76th round are Drinking Water, Sanitation, Hygiene & Housing Condition and Persons with Disabilities.</p> <p>The Working Group on NSS 76th round was constituted vide order No. 19 (1)/NSC/2017 dated</p>

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	Working Group for NSS 76 th round to be framed to oversee various technical issues on collection, processing and finalization of data. In addition, the Working Group should also to take a call on other issues of determination of sample size with optimum resources.		11.10.2017 and action has been taken on the issues highlighted.
Approval of survey Instruments			
Para 3.17 to 3.21	Along with the suggestions on pertinent issues of conduct of survey (like work load of field staff, participation of States/UTs etc.,) recommendations were made on design of the survey and related instruments for improvement.	Accepted	Action has been taken while finalizing the Survey Instruments for the NSS 76 th round.
Finalization of subject of NSS 77th Round Survey			
Para 3.22 to 3.26	Based on the discussions, the NSC recommended that NSSO may take up Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households, All India Debt and Investment Survey (AIDIS) and Survey on Land and Livestock Holdings during the NSS 77th round during calendar year 2019 (January–December, 2019).	Accepted	Action has been taken. The subjects to be covered during the NSS 77 th round are Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households and All India Debt and Investment Survey and Land and Livestock Holdings.

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	It also recommended the constitution of a working group with experts from all relevant fields and to be chaired by an eminent agricultural economist.		
Para 3.27	The Commission discussed and concurred with the TOR and composition of the Working Group for NSS 77th round. The Commission also decided that for both NSS 76th and 77th rounds, Dr. G.C. Manna, former Director General, CSO will be Co-Chairman and will chair the Working Group meetings in the event of non-availability of the Chairman.	Accepted	The Working Group for NSS 77 th round was constituted vide order No.M-12011/9/2017-NSSO (CPD) dated 23.05.2018.
Preliminary discussion on the subject of NSS 78th Round Survey			
Para 3.28	The National Statistical Commission in its 91st meeting held on 3rd February, 2017 had decided that the NSS 78th Round would be a six-month survey round to be conducted during the period January–June, 2020. NSSO proposed survey on Tribals in its NSS 78th round. The Commission suggested for holding consultations with	Accepted	Central Ministries/ Departments have been requested to send the proposed subject (s), if any, for inclusion during NSS 78 th Round.

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	various stakeholders for finalizing the subjects to be considered during the 78th Round and place it before NSC, as per time indicated.		
NSS 72nd Round: Report No. 580 (Domestic Tourism in India)			
Para 3.29	The Report no. 580 (NSS 72 nd round, Domestic Tourism in India) was approved by the Commission with the remark that all the tables generated (final version), whether printed in the report or not, may be archived for future reference.	Accepted	NSS Report no. 580 titled Domestic Tourism in India has already been uploaded on the website of the Ministry. The recommendation regarding achieving all the tables generated (final version), whether printed in the report or not, for future reference has been noted for necessary compliance.
Review of Activities of SDRD and DPD			
Para 3.33 (i)	The Commission suggested that Consolidated Field Query (CFQ) should be uploaded on the website along with the Manual of Instructions for easy access by all the field offices and field investigators. This will also be useful to the researchers in understanding the tabulated results better.	Accepted	Noted for compliance.
Para 3.33(ii)	Archiving of data and all other survey materials should be made a part of	Accepted	Noted for compliance.

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	regular activity in SDRD/DPD.		
Para 3.33 (iii)	The technique of PERT/CPM is not being made use of by SDRD and DPD in planning and execution of NSS rounds. Activities not dependent on preceding activities should be processed in parallel and not sequentially.	Accepted	Noted for Compliance. It is worth a mention here that in NSS 75 th Round the outsourcing process has started much before compared to the earlier rounds. However, the application of the technique of PERT/CPM to reduce time lag is being worked out.
Para 3.33(iv)	The time taken for entry/validation of data should be minimized by using online data collection techniques like Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) etc. Sharing of best practices in data capture from states where it is being used may be encouraged.	Accepted	Noted for compliance. The data collection in PLFS is being done through CAPI Solutions developed by NSSO with the technical assistance of the World Bank. Based on the success of the CAPI solution in PLFS, suitable solution would be used in other socio-economic surveys of NSSO.
Para 3.33 (v)	The time taken by each activity should be critically examined and efforts should be made to reduce it further. NSSO should prepare a plan for this to NSC within two months suggesting ways for reducing the time taken in preparation of reports for different types of surveys.	Accepted	Noted for compliance. NSSO is examining the time taken by each divisions of NSSO on each activity and a note would be submitted accordingly.
Para 3.33 (vi)	Data warehousing technology should be tried so that tables can be generated by users in an interactive mode. This will	Accepted	NSSO (DPD) validates round-wise NSS data. DPD uses ORACLE RDBMS mainly to hold the data till validation. Thereafter, validated data is

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	provide flexibility to users. Software like Graphina may be used for visual representation of data. NSSO may prepare an approach paper on Data Warehousing and submit to the Commission.		transformed into text data files for multiplier preparation and table generation. After finalization of data, DPD sends unit level data in text format to Computer Center for dissemination. Computer Center disseminates unit level data after remapping the identification particulars. Since Computer Centre is entrusted with dissemination of Survey data, such system of intelligent database with data warehousing may need to be placed in Computer Center
Digitization of Urban Frame Surveys			
Para 3.41	The commission was of the view that the UFS work should be done as per the suggested new methodology and technology of digitization.	Accepted	Noted for compliance.
Para 3.42	Considering the fact that the urban boundaries will be redrawn after the census and ward boundaries may remain frozen during the census operations, it is recommended that the new phase of UFS work be completed before the next census in 2021. This may be done by augmenting resources for the required period.	Accepted	The work could not start at full swing due to delay by National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) in completing the remaining work of the development of this application. The Cabinet approval for continuing the scheme of strengthening of survey capabilities of NSSO has already been received. The augmentation of resources for completing the work before next Census would be taken up.

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Para 3.43	As for updating of UFS during the inter-censal period, the Commission is of the view that complete updating may not be necessary, updating may be restricted to areas of new urbanization and urban development. Assistance of NRSC can be taken to identify such areas through satellite data. This is expected to release resources in the long term.	Accepted	The matter would be examined in consultation with the NRSC.
Approval of Tabulation Plan of Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)			
Para 3.44 to 3.47	The Tabulation Plan of PLFS was approved by the Commission and recommended for specifications on preparing annual Report of the Survey. Also, strategy for dissemination of unit level data of PLFS should also be developed and put in public domain.	Accepted	Noted for compliance
Reduction of Time Lag in release of Reports and Digitization of NSSO Surveys			
Para 3.58	Commission considered the issues flagged by NSSO on the Reduction of Time Lag in release of Reports and Digitization of NSSO Surveys together. Commission suggested that as a generic solution web based API would be the right approach for capturing the data. The committee on	Accepted	Noted for compliance. However, details of the issues proposed by the committee regarding WEB-based central RDBMS database, Application software to communicate with that database, acquiring and setting up of WEB server and uploading of XML file etc. for digitization of NSS surveys and also reduction of time lag need to be taken up and

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	<p>Online Reporting set up by the Commission should be approached for further guidance on digitization of survey data. NSS does a range of different types of Surveys and these surveys are repetitive and standardized. These surveys require considerable planning and developmental work. In many cases, the field investigator elicits the data through a conversation which is a structured conversation and has been developed with a lot of expertise over the years. For those, a pragmatic solution of evolving digital data entry and transmission may evolve but it may need a lot of developmental work and it will get standardized after some time.</p>		<p>discussed threadbare with the committee on Online Reporting. As suggested by the commission, a meeting involving the stake holders of the proposal may be planned with the said committee to move ahead with the initiative.</p>
<p>Conduct of Statistical Survey by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS) for Compilation of Data on International Trade in Services</p>			
4.3	<p>NSC approved the proposal for Conduct of All-India Sector Specific Regular Statistical Surveys on International Trade in Services by DGCIS to meet the requirement of</p>	Accepted	<p>A proposal for constitution of a Technical Committee / Working Group to provide technical advice and necessary guidance to DGCIS in conduct of periodic statistical surveys is currently under consideration.</p>

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	<p>disaggregated level statistics on services. It suggested that the Department of Commerce may constitute a Technical Committee/Working Group who may provide technical advice and necessary guidance to DGCIS on all aspects in conducting periodic Statistical Surveys on International Trade in Services and release of results thereof.</p>		