

M-12014/1/2016-CAP
Government of India
Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation
Central Statistics Office
(Coordination & Publication Division/IIC Unit)

Sardar Patel Bhawan
Sansad Marg, New Delhi - 01
Dated 20.02.2017

Subject: Minutes/Recommendations of 24th Conference of Central and State Statistical Organizations (COCSSO) held at Nagpur

Please find the minutes/recommendations of 24th COCSSO held at Nagpur, Maharashtra during 19-20th January, 2017 for information and necessary follow-up action. Action Taken Report on recommendations relating to your Ministry/Division/State/UT etc. may please be sent to CAP Division of CSO.

2. The requisite information may be sent through post as well as e-mail to manojk.gupta@nic.in and ritu.chaudhary@nic.in so that the progress could be reviewed in the next COCSSO.

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Encl: As above

To

1. Secretary, M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
2. DDG (Coord), NAD; DDG (CPD), NSSO
3. Officer-in-charge, Department of Statistical & Information Management, RBI
4. Directors, DES of all States/UTs

Copy for information to:

1. PPS to Chairman (NSC)
2. PPS to Secretary (S&PI)
3. PSO to DG, CSO

Minutes/Recommendations of 24th Conference of Central and State Statistical Organizations (COCSSO) held on 19-20 January 2017 at Nagpur, Maharashtra

The 24th COCSSO was held during 19-20 January 2017 at Nagpur, Maharashtra, in collaboration with the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Maharashtra. The theme of the Conference was "Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare". The Conference was inaugurated by Shri D.V. Sadananda Gowda, Hon'ble Union Minister for Statistics and Programme Implementation in the presence of Shri S. S. Mungantiwar, Hon'ble Minister for Finance & Planning, Forest, Govt. of Maharashtra, Shri C.K. Bawankule, Hon'ble Minister for Energy, New & Renewable Energy, State Excise, Govt. of Maharashtra and Guardian Minister of Nagpur, Dr. Radha Binod Barman, Chairman, National Statistical Commission (NSC) and Dr. T. C. A. Anant, Secretary (S&PI) and CSI, Govt. of India. Members of the NSC, Senior Officers from MoSPI and other Central Ministries, NITI Aayog, ISI, ICAR, NABARD, RBI and Principal Secretaries / Heads and other officers of the Directorates of Economics and Statistics (DESS) from the States and UTs participated in the Conference. List of the participants is annexed.

2. Since the inaugural session finished late, it was decided to upload the Action Taken Report on the Recommendations of the 23rd COCSSO on Ministry's Website for information of the participants and other concerned officials. The following agenda items were discussed during the Conference:

- a) Papers on the theme "Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare"
- b) Presentation by the State/UT Governments on data availability and gaps in agriculture sector or success stories/innovations
- c) Support to State Statistical Strengthening

3. Based on the presentations and intensive discussions on the above agenda items, recommendations there on were prepared and presented during the Conference. Details are as follows:

4. **Technical Session 1 chaired by Dr. R. B. Barman, Chairman, NSC**

Review/Presentations

4.1 The following presentations were made:

- 4.1.1 Overview of the Agriculture Statistics System in India - by Shri Rajeev Lochan, Adviser, DES, M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
- 4.1.2 Doubling Farmers' Income by 2022 and Information Gaps - by Shri B.V.S Prasad, General Manager, DEAR, NABARD.
- 4.1.3 Findings of ICS Scheme - by Shri Preet Singh, DDG, NSSO.

Recommendations:

4.2 To improve agricultural statistics, States may consider deploying an exclusive field functionary for collection of primary data from the field. The field functionary will have to work in close coordination with the Patwari. Staff engaged under TRS can supervise the primary work done by the field functionaries. In the States covered under EARAS, the agricultural statistics work is already being done by especially recruited field investigators.

(Action: All States/UTs, DES-M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare)

4.3 To address the issue of divergence in the estimates of production of crops as maintained by the State Governments and DES, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, there has to be closer coordination between the two agencies. A committee may be constituted by MoSPI to suggest remedial measures.

(Action: M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare & MoSPI)

4.4 It was noted that present agriculture statistics system has been in place for a long period. There is a need to update this system keeping in view the technological advancement. A specialised seminar is required to deliberate on the matter in depth.

(Action: DES, M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare)

4.5 Increase in the frequency of survey on Access to Credit and Indebtedness Status conducted by NSSO needs to be considered.

(Action: NSSO, MoSPI)

4.6 IBA compiles annual returns on agricultural credit disbursements and outstanding credit from other branches. This may be generated through the Core Banking Solutions.

(Action: Statistics Division, RBI)

4.7 To improve the statistical robustness of the estimates, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare may consider enhancing the sample size under ICS.

(Action: DES, M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare)

5. Technical Session 2 Chaired by Dr. Manoj Panda, Member, NSC:

Review/Presentations

5.1 The following presentations were made:

- 5.1.1 Climate Change and Adoption of Agriculture In India - by Shri M.P. Johnson, Statistical Adviser, M/o Environment & Climate Change.
- 5.1.2 Crop Area and Yield Estimation under Mixed Cropping - by Dr. U. C. Sud, Director ICAR
- 5.1.3 Bank Credit to Agriculture - Trends And Progress - by Shri Rajeev Kumar, Research Officer, Reserve Bank of India.

Observation:

5.2 In the paper of ICAR, it was observed that sampling of harvest unit along with farmer's prediction of the yield as auxiliary variable was found to give good estimates. Gold standards can be replaced by relatively inexpensive alternate method. However the alternative method should be close to gold standard in terms of low CV etc.

6. Technical Session 3 Chaired by Dr. T. C. A. Anant, CSI and Secretary, MOSPI

Review/Presentations

6.1 The following presentations were made:

- 6.1.1 Heavy Metal Fractionation, Bio-availability & Crop Response in Municipal Solid Waste Amended Soil - by Shri Pradeep Bhattacharya, Professor, ISI.
- 6.1.2 Crop Sector in National Accounts: Some Suggestions for Improvement - by Shri Sunil Jain, DDG, CSO, Shri Sahoo Director, Shri K. Sundaram, DD & Shri Pramod Kumar DD
- 6.1.3 Issue of Comparability of Estimates of SAS 2003 with the Estimates of SAS 2013 - by Shri Joseph C.F., Director, SDRD

Recommendations:

6.2 Poolability of NSS data at sub-state level fails when the sample size is very small. Since this issue concerns most States, it was suggested that this issue may be included as an agenda in the next Seminar of NSS.

(Action: NSSO, MoSPI)

6.3 In the paper on suggesting shifting from agriculture year to financial year for GVA estimation in agriculture sector, a comparison had been done only for New Series. It was suggested that the exercise be extended to the Old Series as well so that the results could be studied for a larger time frame.

(Action: NAD, CSO, MoSPI)

- 6.4 Ministry of Agriculture should update the Crop Calendar with the help of SASAs.

(Action: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare)

7. **Technical Session 4 Chaired by Dr. Rajiv Mehta, Member, NSC:**

Review/Presentations

- 7.1 The following presentations were made:

- 7.1.1 Revitalising Rain-Fed Agriculture in India - by Dr. J.P.Mishra, Adviser (Agriculture), NITI Aayog.
- 7.1.2 Paradigm Shift in Agriculture - An Experience of SRI, A Farmers Technology - by Shri Pabitra Banik and Shri Pradeep Bhattacharya, Professor, ISI
- 7.1.3 Monitoring Sustainable Development of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, FAO Perspective - by Shri Ashok Vishandass, CTA, AMIS-India Project, FAO

Recommendations:

- 7.2 There is a need for strong database for rain fed farming and farmers' irrigation systems (other than major and minor irrigation projects), seed scenario and infrastructure along with separate estimates for rain fed crops and other commodities/activities.

(Action: Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare)

8. **Technical Session 5 Chaired by Dr. G. C. Manna, DG, CSO**

Review/Presentations

- 8.1 Presentations on the following topics were made by the States on availability of and gap in agricultural data:
- 8.1.1 New Initiatives and Success Stories on Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare- Andhra Pradesh
 - 8.1.2 Success story & Policy Issues of Farmers' Welfare in Himachal Pradesh
 - 8.1.3 Presentation on Crop-Insurance Scheme and success story of a Gauri Mahila Samuh - DES Uttarakhand
 - 8.1.4 Successful Stories on Horticulture (Litchi, Mango etc. Cropping)- DES, Bihar

8.1.5 Availability and Data Gaps in Agriculture- DES, Assam

8.1.6 Improving Agriculture Statistics at sub-state level from NSS data -
Issues and Challenges, - DES, Odisha

Recommendations:

8.2. DESs of Uttarakhand and Assam brought out the issue of inadequate coverage of hilly areas in the estimation of production of horticulture and other crops for the state as a whole. The issue of inadequate coverage of hilly areas needs to be examined for evolving a reliable methodology.

(Action: DES, M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare)

8.3. M/o Agriculture and Farmers Welfare may come up with indicators to measure farmers' welfare.

(Action: M/o Agriculture & Farmers Welfare)

9. Technical Session on SSSP

Review/Presentations

9.1 Joint Director, ISSP Unit, CSO made a presentation on overview of Support for Statistical Strengthening Project and recent developments in the implementation of the project. She talked about the mid-term modifications made in the scheme and current status of implementation of the scheme both in the currently implementing States as well as the new States. She also briefed the participating States/UTs of the Operational Guidelines that have been approved by the Ministry of Finance for Implementation of the Scheme and the requirements for new States.

9.2 Director, ISSP Unit in his presentation emphasized on the stipulation of M/o Finance regarding release of funds through PFMS only and briefed the States about the steps to be taken by them in this regard. He also informed about the achievements, so far, under the scheme.

9.3 States also shared their experiences in the implementation of the scheme which are briefly listed below:

9.3.1 Gujarat has developed an integrated statistical system which would act as a central data repository.

9.3.2 Telangana has initiated the work for shifting the Base Year of CPI (IW) to 2015 and compilation of CPI at district level.

9.3.3 Karnataka has developed an application and a database on industrial statistics to be used in ASI and IIP.

9.3.4 Sikkim has strengthened statistical infrastructure in all respects for smooth operation of the activities of DESM&E.

Recommendations:

9.4 Considering the usefulness of the local level data base [village level/block level] and State level Integrated Databases across sectors, demonstrated by some of the States, it was recommended that the new States may also consider creation of local level database [village /block level] and State level integrated database across sectors.

(Action: All States/UTs)

9.5 In view of the imperative need to generate Core statistics at the national level, all States/UTs must endeavour to prepare credible and robust State Level estimates of major core indicators.

(Action: All States/UTs)

9.6 As Line Departments bring out important administrative statistics and contribute towards State level database, the State DES should, therefore consider the requirement of these line departments, for surveys/studies etc. to address data gaps in their sectors, while finalizing their State Programme.

(Action: All States/UTs)

List of Participants

S. No.	Name	Designation	Organisation
1	Shri R. B. Barman	Chairman	NSC
2	Dr. Rajiv Mehta	Member, NSC	NSC
3	Dr. M. K. Panda	Member, NSC	NSC
4	Shri T C A Anant	Secretary	MoSPI
5	Dr. G. C. Manna	DG	CSO, MoSPI
6	Shri S. D. Teshring	Secretary	DES, Sikkim
7	Shri B. S. Manral	Addl. Secretary	Planning Govt. of Uttarakhand
8	Shri Rakesh Kumar	DDG	NSSO, S. P. Bhawan, New Delhi
9	Shri V. K. Gupta	DDG	RPU, CSO, S.P. Bhawan, New Delhi
10	Dr. Davendra Verma	DDG	SSD, CSO, S. P. Bhawan, New Delhi
11	Shri Krishan Kumar	DDG	SSD, CSO, S. P. Bhawan, New Delhi
12	Shri Kuldeep k. Lamba	DDG	PI Wing, MoSPI, New Delhi
13	Shri K. Tirunids	DDG	ITI, Indipur
14	Shri S. K. Jana	DDG	FOD, Bhopal
15	Shri S. Mukherjee	DDG	NSSO, FOD, AP(E), Vijaywada
16	Shri M. Madhusudhan	DDG	NSSO (FOD), Regional Office, Trivandrum
17	Shri E. V. Gangadhara Rao	DDG	NSSO (FOD), RO, Raipur
18	Shri T. K. Basu	DDG	DPC, NSSO, Nagpur
19	Shri Vidya Prakash	DDG	FOD, Hqrs., NSSO
20	Shri Ajay Mishra	DDG	FOD (HQ), New Delhi
21	Shri Sunil Jain	DDG	PSD, CSO, MoSPI
22	Shri A. K. Toprani	DDG	NSSO (FOD), Mumbai
23	Dr. S. Durai Raju	DDG	NSSO (FOD), Chennai
24	Shri A. K. Gupta	DDG	CAP, CSO, MoSPI
25	Smt. G. S. Lakshmi	DDG	ESD, CSO
26	Smt. S. A. Bhayar	DDG	NSSO (DPD), Kolkata
27	Shri P. C. Sarkar	DDG	NSSO, DPD, Kolkata
28	Shri J. Poddar	DDG	NSSO (FOD), Kolkata
29	Shri Rajeev Lochan	DDG	M/o Agriculture, DES
30	Shri Harbinder Singh	DDG	NSSO (FOD), RO, Chandigarh

31	Shri T. K. Sanyal	DDG	CSO (IS Wing)
32	Shri S. Dhar	DDG	ISSP, CAP, CSO, MoSPI
33	Shri S. L. Menaria	DDG	NSSO (FoD)
34	Shri Inderjeet Singh	DDG	FoD (HQ), New Delhi
35	Shri Preet Singh	DDG	NSSO (FoD), Faridabad
36	Shri P. S. Bose	DDG	NSSO (SDRD)
37	Shri Awadhesh Kr Mishra	DDG	NSSO (FoD), CZ, Lucknow
38	Shri Ahamed Ayub B	DDG	NSSO(FoD), Bangalore
39	Shri M.P. Johnson	Statistical Adviser	M/o Environment & Forest & Climate Change
40	Shri Ashok Vishandass	Chief Technical Officer	FAO
41	Dr. J P Mishra	Adviser (Agriculture)	NITI Aayog
42	Shri B. V. S. Prasad	General Manager	Nabard HO, Mumbai
43	Dr. U C Sud	Director	IASRI
44	Shri Pradip Bhattacharya	Asst. Professor	ISI
45	Shri Rajeev Kumar	Research Officer	PBI, Mumbai
46	Smt. R. Savithri	Director	CAP, CSO, MoSPI
47	Dr. P. C. Mishra	Director	DGFT
48	Smt. P. Bhanumati	Director	DPC, Delhi
49	Shri R. Rajesh	Director	ISSP, CAP, CSO, MoSPI
50	Shri Dhrijesh Tiwari	Director	FoD (HQ), New Delhi
51	Shri S. Sahoo	Director	CSO, S. P. Bhawan, New Delhi
52	Shri Joseph C.F.	Director	NSSO, SDRD
53	Shri Brijendra Singh	Director	NAD, CSO, MoSPI
54	Shri Rajesh Kumar Sharma	Director	ESD, CSO, MoSPI
55	Shri Junaid Farooqui	Director	IBM, Nagpur
56	Shri Saji George	Director	IBM, Nagpur
57	Shri Kiran Kumar R	Director	DPC, NSSO, Nagpur
58	Shri Sumedh Nagratre	Director	NSSO, FoD, WI, Nagpur
59	Shri Roshan Lal Sahu	Director	DPC, NSSO, Nagpur
60	Shri Altaf Hussain Haji	Director	NSSO (FOD), Regional Office, Srinagar
61	Shri Manoj Kumar Gupta	Joint Director	CAP, CSO, MoSPI
62	Smt. Hema Jaiswal	Joint Director	ISSP, CAP, CSO, MoSPI
63	Shri Anil Kumar Yadav	Joint Director	NSSO, Greater Noida

