

SUMMARY RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS

The list of participants is given in the Annex.

At the outset, Prof. S.D. Tendulkar, Chairman of the Steering Committee welcomed the members and the other participants for the second meeting of the Steering Committee of NSS and requested DG&CEO, NSSO and the Member Secretary to initiate discussions of the Agenda items. The discussion started with the first agenda paper on action taken report on the recommendations of the first meeting and pending items and all the four agenda papers were discussed during the meeting. The important points which emerged from the discussions and decisions taken by the Steering Committee (SC) are indicated in the succeeding paragraphs.

DOC (2007) SC 2(a) : Action taken report on the recommendations of the first meeting and pending items

(i) The issue relating to preparation of the note on optimum sample size at district and state level with reference to North-Eastern States came up for discussion. It was informed that the officers in NSSO (SDRD) were busy with the work relating to preparation of reports of NSS 61st round and as such the work could not be completed. It was decided that the note would be prepared and placed in the 3rd meeting of the Steering Committee.

(Action: SDRD)

(ii) The study on methodology for pooling of Central and State Sample Data has been taken up by the SDRD. It was informed that alternative estimates based on central sample and state sample data for the state of Uttar Pradesh in respect of four variables namely, sex ratio, average MPCE: food, non-food and all by MPCE class have been worked out. The divergences in the alternative estimates for other variables and the poolability of the two sets of data are yet to be examined. It was decided that the detailed findings of the exercise will be placed before the members in the 3rd meeting of the Steering Committee.

(Action: SDRD)

(iii) It was informed that the report on Non-sampling errors in the enterprise surveys by the Group under the Chairmanship of Prof. N. Bhattacharya is yet to be finalised. However, the pilot survey results and draft note based on the survey have been submitted to Prof. Bhattacharya. It was decided that we may pursue with the Chairman, so that the report is finalised at an early date.

(Action: SDRD)

(iv) With regard to the issue of attending to the clarifications on the queries raised by the users of unit level data of NSS, it was decided that the queries may be received by the DDG(CPD) whose e-mail address as DDG(CPD) would be given on the website. DDG(CPD) will act as the nodal officer and he would forward the queries to the concerned divisions through e-mail to ensure timely clarifications. Expected time period within which the clarification may be provided may also be mentioned in the website for the information to the users.

(Action: DPD)

(v) It was informed that the work of the committees to examine the issue of conducting Annual Enterprises survey and Annual Survey on Employment and Unemployment has lagged due to non completion of analysis based on data of recent surveys. It was decided that the RSEs required may be generated by the DPD on priority and be supplied to the concerned Committees.

(Action: SDRD/DPD)

(vi) The progress of the work of the Working Group to suggest appropriate reference period for non- food items was informed. It was observed that the pre-testing of Schedules for the pilot survey has been completed. Sample design, sample size and staff requirement for the pilot survey are yet to be finalised.

(Action: SDRD)

(vii) The issues relating to NSSO raised by Hon'ble Prime Minister during his speech on the occasion of the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of Indian Statistical Institute were discussed along with the status report on those issues. While broadly endorsing to the views expressed by Hon'ble PM, the Committee observed that the issues should be probed further to bring about improvements.

DOC (2007) SC2 (b): Tabulation Plan and Estimation Procedure – NSS 63rd Round

A. Estimation Procedure

Estimation Procedure put up before the Committee has been approved.

B. Tabulation Plan, Schedule 0.0

The tabulation plan for schedule 0.0 is approved with the following modifications:

- (i) Heading of Table 9 may be modified as “Per 1000 distribution of households by household size”. This table will be generated for estimated number of households (with 9.1 as the new table number) as well as for sample number of households (with 9.2 as the new table number). Generation of this table requires data-entry of the main listing block. Since the Bimal Roy Committee found under-listing of large-sized households as per the tabulation based on the sample households, Steering Committee stressed upon the need for generation of these tables. The Computer Centre would examine the feasibility of accepting the data-entry work of the listing block of Schedule 0.0, 63rd round for which pre-data-entry scrutiny work must be undertaken by DPD.
- (ii) In Table 10, the word “listed” may be dropped.
- (iii) Table 15 may be split into two tables with new table numbers as 15.1 (for estimated number of villages) and 15.2 (for sample number of villages).

C. Tabulation Plan, Schedule 2.345

The tabulation plan for schedule 2.345 is approved with the following modifications:

- (i) Formats of Tables 2 and 3 will be suitably modified to have information on total number of enterprises selected, total number of casualties and frequency distribution of casualties by reason for casualty, activity category-wise at all-India level, for the list frame units and area frame (segment 9 units and other units separately) .

- (ii) In the titles of Tables 13 & 14, the words owner/partner may be changed to owner/managing partner.
- (iii) Table 37 may be generated separately for self-help group (NIC 65994) and co-operative credit societies (NIC 65995).

D. Tabulation Plan, Sch. 1.0

Draft tabulation Plan submitted was approved.

DOC (2007) SC 2(c): Sample Design and Schedules of Enquiry for NSS 64th Round

A. Sample Design

The sample design is approved with the following modifications/suggestions:

- (i) Description of second-stage stratum (SSS) 1 for Schedule 25.2 will be modified as “households having any member of age in 5-29 years and enrolled at primary and above level”.
- (ii) Final sample allocation of FSUs over State/UT and sector will be decided by DG&CEO in consultation with SDRD and FOD.
- (iii) FOD will take suitable measures to complete the UFS work by April 2007 for the towns which are yet to be covered in the UFS.

B. Schedule 0.0

The schedule 0.0 is approved with the only change that the description of col.12 of block 5 (i.e. sampling serial number for SSS1 of Schedule 25.2) will be modified as “households having any member of age in 5-29 years and enrolled at primary and above level”.

C: Schedule 25.2: Expenditure on education

- (i) The schedule may be titled as “Participation and Expenditure in Education”
- (ii) As regards adoption of the 6 digit of NCO – 2004, the FOD felt that recording 6 digit code by Investigators will be difficult and in many cases may be wrongly reported. It was decided to use only 3 digit of the NCO – 2004 though it was felt that 6 digit code may be desirable.
- (iii) Discussions took place about the number of courses for which details are to be recorded in block 4 & 5. It was decided to restrict the number of courses to two in block 4 and collect expenditure for 1st course and total expenditure for 2nd course and all other courses taken together in block 5 against expenditure on 2 courses as suggested in the Agenda paper. It was emphasised that the concept of ‘course’ should be properly defined.
- (iv) The methodology proposed for deciding the course 1 & 2 in terms of expenditure on each course in the Agenda paper was approved.

D: Schedule 10: Employment & Unemployment and Migration Particulars

- (i) The number of the schedule with the addition of migration particulars should be changed from 10 to 10.2 to distinguish it from the usual employment-unemployment schedule.
- (ii) As discussed, in the education schedule, only 3 digit of NCO – 2004 will be used in this schedule.
- (iii) Detailed discussions took place about the utility of covering the details of participation in public works in schedule 10 in this survey. While the representative of the World Bank argued in favour of retaining the questions on public works in the schedule, it was clarified that a different sampling design will be required to capture adequately such details. It was informed that in the 61st round, the sample number of persons engaged in public works was found to be very small. If at all such details have to be collected, it can be done through rural listing schedule. The actual evaluation of NREG may essentially require a house-to-house survey on the pattern of population census. It was finally agreed not to include the questions on public works in this schedule. However, to meet the data requirement to a limited extent, it was decided to bifurcate the existing code for *public works* for collection of information in current daily activity and current weekly statuses (Block 5). As such code 41 which was for ‘casual labourers in public works’ has been split in two codes as follows:

41- Casual labourers in *public works* other than National Rural Employment Guarantee (NREG) Scheme - *public works*

42: Casual labourers in National Rural Employment Guarantee (NREG) Scheme - *public works*

- (iv) In the codes for the SAARC countries in block-6, Afghanistan may be also added.
- (v) While discussing about the block 7, it was felt that canvassing the work sheet containing 40 questions is not only time consuming but also will affect the reliability of the data to be collected in the Schedule on employment-unemployment due to respondent’s fatigue. However, it was felt that for the proper analysis of migration and employment data, consumption data should be available in some details. To get the desired consumption data, it was finally decided to reduce the number of items in Block 7 by merging some of the items as suggested below:
 - (a) 3. milk and 4. milk products,
 - (b) 6. vegetables and 7. fruits and nuts
 - (c) 10. salt & spices and 11. other food items,
 - (d) 15. personal care and effects, 16. toilet articles and 17. sundry articles
 - (e) 18. consumer services excluding conveyance and 19. conveyance
 - (f) 20. rent / house rent and 21. consumer taxes and cesses
 - (g) 25. tuition fees and other fees and 26. school books and other educational articles.
 - (h) 27. clothing bedding and 28 footwear
 - (i) 29-36. as durable goods

DOC (2007) SC 2(d): Subject coverage for NSS 65th Round

As per the decision in the first meeting of the Steering Committee, various Ministries were requested to send their requirement of surveys during NSS 65th round (July 2008 to June 2009).

The requests received were discussed in the meeting and the decisions are as follows:

(i) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, as per the decision in the 1st meeting of SC, was required to explore the possibility of conducting a pilot survey by M/O SJ&E on Drug Abuse. The Ministry, however, requested NSSO to carry out the pilot survey on their behalf. The Ministry assured that necessary personnel would be arranged by them for collection of data during the pilot survey. A few investigators will also be associated by NSSO(FOD). To design survey methodology, schedule of enquiry, a Group of officers comprising officers from FOD, DPD, SDRD and Social Statistics Division of CSO will meet with the officers of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the concerned NGOs within two weeks time to finalise the details for the pilot study. The Group will submit the report to DG&CEO, NSSO for further necessary action.

(Action: M/o SJ&E)

(ii) The Ministry of SJ&E has reiterated their request for conduct of the survey on Disability during the period July 2008 – June, 2009 (full year survey) with the change of concept so as to capture disabled with less degree of disability. It was felt that the survey cannot be taken up without a pilot survey as the methodology needs change in the light of the change in concept and international requirement of data on disability. It was decided that the Ministry of SJ&E might explore the possibility of conducting a pilot survey to study the survey methodology and other instruments including listing criterion in the survey. For this purpose, a group of officers from the DPD, SDRD, FOD and MOSJ&E may look into the issue and submit a report for further necessary action.

(Action: M/o SJ&E)

(iii) The Ministry of Women & Child Development requested for conduct of a survey on domestic violence against women, child marriage and time use survey. Considering the type of field staff available in NSSO and type of information required to be collected, NSSO may not be in a position to collect such data. It was, therefore, decided not to accede to their request.

(Action: M/o Women & Child Development)

(iv) It was informed by the representative of Ministry of Labour & Employment that they are going to carry out a census on child labour through a lead institution and other institutions who have requisite experience. They have requested for the technical advice of NSSO in conducting the survey. It was decided that since it will be a census, NSSO's involvement may not be necessary except at planning and designing of questionnaire. However, NSSO will have no responsibility with regard to reliability and validity of such data collected.

(Action: M/o Labour & Employment)

(v) The details of the impact evaluation study on impact of NRGPA in four states was presented by the Ministry of Rural Development/World Bank. It was clarified that impact evaluation of a programme/ scheme may not be undertaken by NSSO. It was clarified by the representative of the Ministry of Rural Development that it is not an evaluation of the programme. It is simply the status of the people participating/not participating in the programme. As such, the name of the study needs to be changed. It was agreed in principle to take up the study in the four States by utilising contract investigators to be appointed by NSSO, FOD. It was decided that the details may be worked out in consultation with NSSO and proposal submitted. The financial implication, its funding may be decided after the proposal is received.

(Action: D/o Rural Development)

(vi) The requirement of the Deptt. of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries was discussed in detail and it was decided that the subjects do not require any large scale survey through NSSO. The data on these subjects can be obtained through small scale sample surveys by State Governments. Further, ADG (NAD) has agreed to provide the data on rates and ratios available with them for use of the Deptt.

(Action: D/o Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries)

(vii) The proposal of the Ministry of Tourism to conduct an annual survey on domestic tourism and international tourism was discussed. The requirement of data on domestic tourism was agreed for collection in principle during 65th round of NSS. As regards data on international tourism, it was observed that it may not be possible for NSSO to collect such data as a part of 65th round in view of a different sampling design to be adopted. However, M/o Tourism might collect the data on international tourism through the Airport Authority of India(AAI)/Private Institutions.

(Action: M/o Tourism)

(viii) It was observed that the data requirement on various minority groups proposed by the Ministry of Minority Affairs can be met by analysing the data on various religious groups which are collected during various NSS rounds. It was felt that they may procure unit level data of 61st round and get data tabulated as per their requirement.

(Action: M/o Minority Affairs)

(ix) The Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation requested for a survey on housing and housing condition, slum, civic amenities and other facilities as the last survey on the subject was conducted during the year 2002 and this sector is witnessing a fast changing scenario in the country. It was decided that this survey may be considered along with the survey on domestic tourism during 65th round of NSS.

(Action: M/o Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation)

(x) The data requirement of the Deptt. of Food and Public Distribution was discussed and it was observed that the requirement of data could be met by analysing reports/unit level data of survey on Consumer Expenditure conducted during NSS 61st round (July 2004 – June 2005) as data on type of ration cards, consumption pattern of rice, wheat and share of consumption through PDS are already collected during the survey..

(Action: D/o Food and Public Distribution)

(xi) ADG(NAD), CSO proposed that survey on Trade may be taken up during the 65th round. The Chairman enquired about the use of data on survey on Trade conducted in the past. ADG(NAD) informed that the data could not be used due to negative value of trade margins. The Chairman desired that a note indicating the methodology for the survey may be submitted by the NAD for consideration and further necessary action.

(Action: NAD, CSO)

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of Participants of 2nd meeting of Steering Committee of NSS

Sl. No.	Name & Designation
1.	Prof S.D. Tendulkar, Chairman
2.	Dr. Pronab Sen, CSI & Secretary, MOS&P.I.
3.	Prof. A.K. Adhikari, Chairman, WG on NSS 63 rd round
4.	Prof. K. Sundaram, Chairman, WG on NSS 64 rd round
5.	Prof S.P. Mukherjee, Kolkata University
6.	Dr. R. Radhakrishna, Director, IGIDR, Mumbai
7.	Prof. T.J. Rao, Retd. Professor ISI
8.	Prof. Dipankar Coondoo, ISI Kolkata
9.	Dr. S.K. Nath, DG, CSO
10.	Shri P.K. Ray, DG&CEO, NSSO
11.	Shri Rajendra Tiwari, Director, DES (UP)
12.	Shri J. Dash, ADG NSSO (FOD)
13.	Shri P. S. Bose, Addl. Director General, Ministry Tourism
14.	Shri Ajay Gupta, Jt. DG, Ministry Tourism
15.	Smt. Amita Sharma, JS, M/O Rural Development
16.	Dr. Puja Vasudeva Dutta, Social Protection Economist, World Bank, New Delhi
17.	Shri Ashish Kumar, DDG, Ministry Social Justice & Empowerment
18.	Smt. S. Jeyalakshmi, Statistical Adviser, Woman & Child Development
19.	Shri O.P. Misra, Advisor, Deptt. of AHD & Fisheries
20.	Shri Shahid Meezan, Director (Child Labour, M/o Labour & Employment
21.	Shri P.K. Jajoria, Director, M/o SJ & Empowerment
22.	Dr. Ashish Joshi, Director, Ministry of Minority Affairs
23.	Shri Satyendra Prakash, Director, NISD
24.	Shri S.K. Das, ADG, SSD
25.	Shri Ramesh Kolli, ADG, NAD, CSO
26.	Dr. R.N. Pandey, DDG, SDRD, NSSO
27.	Dr. V.K. Malhotra, DDG, SDRD, NSSO
28.	Shri G.C. Manna, DDG, SDRD, NSSO
29.	Shri B.K. Giri, DDG, DPD, NSSO
30.	Shri K.S. Prasadarao, DDG, CPD, NSSO
31.	Shri T.K. Dutta, DDG, NSSO (FOD)
32.	Shri P.C. Mohnan, DDG, NSC, Secretariat
33.	Shri T.K. Sanyal, Director, SDRD, NSSO
34.	Smt. Gopa Sen, Director, CPD, NSSO
35.	Shri Vidya Prakash, Director, CPD, NSSO
36.	Shri Ram Kripal, Director, CPD, NSSO
37.	Shri R.A. Dwivedi, Director, CPD, NSSO
38.	Shri Salil Kumar Mukhopadhyay, DD, SDRD, NSSO
39.	Shri Onkar Prasad Ghosh, DD, SDRD, NSSO
40.	Ms. Sunita Bhaskar, DD, M/o Woman & Child Development
41.	Shri Avanish Kr. Mishra, DD, NBO
42.	Smt. Indira Rajaram, Assistant Director, CPD, NSSO
43.	Shri M.C. Sharma Assistant Director, CPD, NSSO
44.	Shri R.S. Mehra, SSO, CPD, NSSO
45.	Shri Ajay Rawat, SI, CPD, NSSO