

# Steering Committee of National Sample Surveys

The National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) used to function under the overall direction of a Governing Council which was constituted as per the Government of India Resolution No. DS/STS/4-69 dated 5<sup>th</sup> March 1970 with Addendum No. M-13011/2/80-NSS-II dated 26<sup>th</sup> March 1984. Consequent to the setting up of National Statistical Commission (NSC) vide Resolution No. A-11011/1/2005-Ad.I dated 1.6.2005, the NSC assumed all the functions being performed by the Governing Council of NSSO. Governing Council was dissolved vide Resolution No. M-13011/1/96-Ad.IV dated 30.8.2006 and on the recommendation of the NSC, Steering Committee of National Sample Surveys was formed vide Office Memorandum No. M-12011/23/2006-NSSO (CPD) dated 15 December 2006.

## **The composition of the Steering Committee is as follows:**

Chairman

Co-chairman

### Non-official Members (6)

Statisticians/ Economists from Universities, Research Institutes and other private organizations

### Official Members (8)

- DG & CEO, NSSO (Convener)
- DG, CSO
- Divisional Heads of NSSO (DPD, SDRD and FOD)
- Representative of Planning Commission
- Two Directors of State Statistical Bureaus

## **The terms of reference for the Steering Committee are as follows:**

1. Make recommendations to the NSC in respect of the following:
  - (i) *Short-term and long-term programmes for National Sample Surveys including topics of surveys, periodicity and subjects to be covered*
  - (ii) *Methodological improvements in the conduct of National Sample Surveys*
2. Finalize for specific round of sample survey: sample design, concepts & definitions, questionnaires, tabulation plan etc
3. Prepare studies for improving- survey methodology, data collection, processing & dissemination and any other issue recommended by NSC
4. Approve survey reports for release
5. Constitute Expert Groups for any specific technical issue that requires expertise beyond the core competency of Steering Committee

As per the O.M., the Steering Committee will have a term of three years except for the two Directors of State Statistical Bureaus for whom the term is two years.

The **Steering Committee** has the requisite independence and autonomy of decision making to ensure that collection, processing and the publication of NSS data are free from undue influence. The autonomy includes the choice of subjects or items on which data have to be collected in a given field of investigation or in a given period, the frequency with which the data on any item are to be collected, the preparatory or pilot work to be undertaken on different subjects, the sample design to be adopted, the tabulation to be prepared, the form in which the data are to be collected and processed and the analysis and publication of results.