

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation came into existence as an independent Ministry on 15.10.1999 after the merger of the Department of Statistics and the Department of Programme Implementation. The Ministry has two wings, one relating to Statistics and the other regarding Programme Implementation. The Statistics Wing consists of the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) and the Computer Centre. The Programme Implementation Wing has four Divisions, namely, (i) Twenty Point Programme Division, (ii) Infrastructure Monitoring Division, (iii) Project Monitoring Division and (iv) Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme Division. The organisational chart of the Ministry is at Annexure- I.

1.2. The Statistics Wing in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation is the apex body in the official statistical system of the country. Its responsibilities include:

- (i) Acting as the nodal agency for planned development of the statistical system in the country.
- (ii) Coordinating statistical work with a view to identifying gaps in data availability or duplication of statistical work in respect of the Departments of the Government of India and State Statistical Bureaus (SSBs) and suggesting necessary remedial measures.
- (iii) Maintaining liaison with international statistical organisations, such as, the United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), etc. in different statistical matters which cover interchange of statistical intelligence, participation in international conferences, seminars, workshops for the development of capabilities for improving statistical system and serving as the clearing house for statistical matters.
- (iv) Laying down and maintenance of norms and standards in the field of statistics, involving concepts and definitions, methodology of data collection, processing of data and dissemination of results.
- (v) Advising the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India on statistical methodology and on statistical analysis of data.
- (vi) Preparing national accounts as well as publication of annual estimates of national product, government and private final consumption expenditure, capital formation, saving, estimates of capital stock and consumption of

fixed capital, as also state level gross capital formation of supra-regional sectors and preparing comparable estimates of State Domestic Product (SDP) at current prices.

- (vii) Compiling and releasing the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) every month in the form of 'quick estimates'; conducting the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI); and providing statistical information to assess and evaluate the changes in the growth, composition and structure of the organised manufacturing sector.
- (viii) Organising and conducting periodic all-India Economic Censuses and Follow-up Enterprise surveys.
- (ix) Conducting large scale all-India sample surveys for creating the database needed for studying the impact of specific problems for the benefit of different population groups in diverse socio-economic areas, such as employment, consumer expenditure, housing conditions and environment, literacy levels, health, nutrition, family welfare, etc.
- (x) Examining the survey reports from the technical angle and evaluation of appropriate sampling design including survey feasibility studies in respect of surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation and other Central Ministries and Departments.
- (xi) Providing an in-house facility to process the data collected through various socio-economic surveys and follow-up enterprise surveys of Economic Censuses conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation and the Central Statistical Organisation as well as providing the computing services to other agencies/ individuals.
- (xii) Disseminating statistical information on various aspects through a number of regular, or *ad hoc* publications distributed to Government, semi-Government, or private data users/ agencies; and dissemination of data, on request, to the United Nations agencies like the UNSD, the ESCAP, the ILO and other international agencies.
- (xiii) Giving grants-in-aid to registered Non-Governmental Organizations and research institutions of repute for undertaking special studies or surveys, printing of statistical reports, and financing seminars, workshops and conferences relating to different subject areas of official statistics.
- (xiv) Functioning as the Cadre Controlling Authority and dealing with the aspects of managing the Indian Statistical Service including all matters pertaining to training, career planning and manpower planning.
- (xv) Acting as the nodal Ministry for the Indian Statistical Institute and ensuring its functioning in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Statistical Institute Act, 1959 (57 of 1959).