

## CHAPTER- I INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation came into existence as an independent Ministry with effect from 15.10.1999 after the merger of Department of Statistics and Department of Programme Implementation. The Ministry is headed by a Minister of State with the Prime Minister as Cabinet Minister. Shri K.V. Irniraya has been the Secretary of the Ministry with effect from 18.10.1999. The Ministry has two wings, viz., Statistics Wing and Programme Implementation Wing. The Statistics Wing consists of Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) and Computer Centre. The Programme Implementation Wing has four Divisions, viz., Twenty Point Programme Division, Infrastructure Monitoring Division, Project Monitoring Division and Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme Division. An 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 Departments of the Government of India and State Statistical Bureaus (SSBs) and to suggest necessary remedial measures.
  - (iii) Maintaining liaison with International Statistical Organisation, such as, UN, ESCAP, SIAP, IMF, ADB, FAO, ILO, etc. in different statistical matters which cover interchange of statistical intelligence, participation in International conferences, seminars, workshops for the development of statistical system capabilities and serving as 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 and regional accounts as well as publication of annual estimates of national product, Government and private consumption expenditure, capital formation, savings, estimates of capital stock and consumption of fixed capital, as also state level gross capital formation of supra-regional sectors, and to prepare 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 of Annual Survey of Industries (ASI); and, providing of statistical information to assess and evaluate the changes in the growth, composition and structure of the organised manufacturing sector.
  - (viii) Organising and conducting of periodic All-India Economic Census and follow-up sample surveys.
  - (ix) Conducting large scale all-India sample surveys for creating data base 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 technical angle and evaluation of appropriate sampling design including survey feasibility studies/techno-analytical studies in respect of surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) 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 surveys of Economic Censuses conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation and the Central Statistical Organisation.
  - (xii) Disseminating statistical information on various aspects through a number of regular or adhoc publications to Government, semi-Government, or private data users/agencies; and dissemination of data, on request, to United Nations Agencies like United Nations Statistical Organisation, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and International Labour Organisation; and other relevant international agencies.
  - (xiii) Giving grants-in-aid to registered non-governmental organisations 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.
  - (xiii) Functioning as the Cadre Controlling Authority and dealing with the centralized aspects of managing the Indian Statistical Service including all matters pertaining to training, career planning and manpower planning.
  - (xv) Acting as a nodal Department for the Indian Statistical Institute and ensuring its functioning in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Statistical Institute Act, 1959 (57 of 1959).
  - (xvi) Processing of voluminous data collected by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) through various Socio-Economic Surveys, follow-up surveys of Economic Census and Annual Survey of Industries conducted periodically by the NSSO and CSO and providing computing services and processing and training facilities.
- 1.3 The Programme Implementation Wing has four Divisions, namely, Twenty Point Programme Division, Infrastructure Monitoring Division, Project Monitoring Division and Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme Division.
- i) **The Twenty Point Programme (TPP) Division** monitors the implementation of Twenty Point Programme (1986). A package of programmes comprising schemes relating to poverty alleviation, employment generation, education and health, etc., called Twenty Point Programme (TPP-86), has been in operation since 1975. This package was restructured twice in 1982 and 1986. The present programme, known as TPP-86, has been in operation since 1st April, 1987 in its present form. Alleviation of poverty and improving the quality of life of the people, specially of those who are below the poverty line, has been the prime objective of planned development in the country. In recent years, the meaning of economic development has shifted from growth in per capita income to that of expansion of opportunities. Expansion of human capability can broadly be seen as the central features of the process of development. Government of India through different programmes/schemes is helping its citizens to expand their capabilities. The 20-Point Programme forms an integral part of both the Plan and Non-Plan schemes of the State Governments / UT Administrations and the Central Ministries/ Departments. It is to be noted that, with globalisation of the Indian economy and adoption of market liberalization process, the TPP - 86 provides much needed safety net to the deprived and adversely affected population. The Twenty Point Programme thus has a vital role to play in ensuring growth with equity and social justice.
  - ii) **The Infrastructure Monitoring Division (IMD)** monitors the performance of the infrastructure sectors with the special focus on removing the bottlenecks in the way of their accelerated growth. In the existing scheme, the Infrastructure Monitoring Division has been collecting relevant statistics of production and productivity from concerned Ministries/Departments and compiling and analysing it in the form of Monthly Progress Reports. This division is entrusted with the monitoring of performance of the country's eleven key infrastructure sectors, viz., Power, Coal, Steel, Railways, Telecommunications, Ports, Fertilizers, Cement, Petroleum & Natural Gas, Roads and Civil Aviation.
  - iii) **Project Monitoring Division (PMD)** monitors all Central sectors projects of the Government costing Rs.20 crores and above and review the impact of Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme. This division has also been charged with the responsibility of monitoring major infrastructure projects in private/joint sector. This Division makes appraisal of the Projects from the point of view of the state of preparedness, examines causes of time and cost overrun of the projects and identifies the bottlenecks in their implementation, thereby playing an important role as coordinator and facilitator. Evaluation of completion reports and carrying out systems studies also fall within its purview. Sometimes, this Division is called upon to examine the causes of time and cost overrun in specific projects for fixing responsibility. Through its studies and evaluation reports the Division has contributed in identifying strengths and weaknesses in the entire system of projects formulation, appraisal, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Besides the constraints of resources, the other serious weaknesses identified by the Division are: incomplete feasibility study, delays in land acquisition, delays in the tie up of technology, delays in preparation of engineering design and drawing etc. It has been observed that pace of implementation of many projects could be improved by better management, as is shown by some projects in PSUs which have been implemented within the gestation period. In the light of experiences gained in different sectors of the economy, this Division has been suggesting various remedial measures required to be adopted by the administrative Ministries and the Project Authorities. The importance of project management has been analysed by the Ministry from time to time. One of the important contributions of the Division has been to bring about improvement in the system of project management.
  - iv) Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) Division monitors the implementation of the various works/activities under the MPLAD Scheme. The Scheme has made a very good impact on the development of various areas throughout the country. The works of different varieties have come up for the benefit of public at large. These works consist of construction of libraries, school buildings, approach roads, small bridges, community centres, installation of computers in the schools, etc.