

## CHAPTER IV

### NATIONAL SAMPLE SURVEY ORGANISATION

#### Organisation and Functions

4.1 The National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) is mandated to conduct nation-wide surveys on various socio-economic aspects, Annual Survey of Industries (ASI), follow-up surveys of Economic Census and supervision of area enumeration and crop estimation surveys of state agencies under the Improvement of Crop Statistics (ICS) scheme, Urban Frame Survey with a view to prepare a frame of compact units of urban areas as the first stage sampling units (FSUs), organising methodological studies and pilot surveys on important subjects and collection of price data from rural and urban sectors. The organisation functions under the overall direction of a Governing Council (GC) with requisite autonomy in the matter of NSS data collection, processing and publication. In addition to the non-official Professional Chairman, the GC is composed of five academicians, five data users from Central and State Governments and senior officers of the Ministry. Director General and Chief Executive Officer (DG&CEO) is responsible for coordinating and supervising all activities of the organization. He is Member-Secretary of the GC and is assisted by one Additional Director General and 4 Deputy Director Generals.

4.2 The NSSO has four Divisions viz (i) Survey Design and Research Division (SDRD); (ii) Field Operations Division (FOD); (iii) Data Processing Division (DPD); and (iv) Coordination and Publication Division (CPD). (i) The SDRD is headed by a Deputy Director General and located at Kolkata is responsible for planning of the survey, formulation of sample design, designing of enquiry schedules and preparation of reports based on survey results. (ii) The FOD is headed by an Additional Director General, with headquarter at Delhi and a network of six Zonal Offices at Bangalore, Guwahati, Jaipur, Kolkata, Lucknow and Nagpur, 48 Regional Offices and 117 Sub-Regional Offices spread throughout the country. The Division is responsible for collection of primary data for the surveys undertaken. (iii) The DPD headed by a Deputy Director General with its headquarter at Kolkata has six Data Processing Centres (Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Delhi, Giridih, Kolkata and Nagpur) and is entrusted with the responsibilities of sample selection, software development, processing and tabulating the data collected through surveys. (iv) The CPD headed by a Deputy Director General, is the secretariat of the GC of the NSSO. Apart from coordinating the activities of different Divisions, it brings out a bi-annual technical journal entitled Sarvekshana.

#### Governing Council

4.3. The Governing Council of NSSO has been reconstituted under the Chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar by the Government with effect from 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2004. The 89<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Governing Council was held during 12-13 January, 2005 at New Delhi. The Council inter-alia discussed and approved (i) tabulation plan and estimation procedure in respect of NSS 60<sup>th</sup> and 61<sup>st</sup> Rounds (ii) tabulation plan and estimation procedure for pilot survey on Non-Profit Institutions Serving Households and (iii) sample design and schedules of enquiry of Baseline Survey of UNICEF.



**Shri Oscar Fernandes, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Statistics and Programme Implementation inaugurating National Seminar on NSS-58<sup>th</sup> Round survey results held on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2004.**

## Working Groups (WG)

4.4 The Working Group(WG) on **60<sup>th</sup> Round of NSS** on Morbidity, Health Care, Employment - Unemployment and Consumer Expenditure finalized the tabulation plan and estimation procedure for this round in its meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2004.

4.5 The fifth meeting of the **WG on NSS 61<sup>st</sup> Round** was held on 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2005. The group finalised the tabulation plan and estimation procedure for the NSS 61<sup>st</sup> Round survey.

4.6 The first meeting of the **WG on NSS 62<sup>nd</sup> Round** was held at Kolkata during 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2004. In this meeting, the draft sample design and schedules of enquiry for the NSS 62<sup>nd</sup> Round were discussed. On the proposal to take up the Family Living Survey (FLS) for urban non-manual employees during this round, the WG recommended that FLS might be taken up in a future round if adequate resources cannot be made available during the survey period of 62<sup>nd</sup> Round. The second meeting of this group was held on 3-4 February 2005 at Kolkata and the group finalised sample design and schedules.

4.7 In the third meeting of the WG for **Pilot Survey on Non-Profit Institutions Serving Households (NPISH)** held during 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2004, the WG finalised the sample design and schedules of enquiry for the pilot survey on NPISH. The fourth meeting of WG was held in New Delhi on 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2004. In this meeting, tabulation plan and estimation procedure were finalised by the group.

## Socio-Economic Surveys

### NSS 58<sup>th</sup> Round

4.8 The 58<sup>th</sup> Round of NSS (July – December, 2002) was earmarked for collection of data on disability, housing condition, village facilities and slum particulars besides household consumer expenditure and employment-unemployment. Out of the remaining two reports on housing one report was already brought out and the last report is expected to be released shortly. A press note on Housing Condition in India based on this round survey was released on 14 May 2004.

### NSS 59<sup>th</sup> Round

4.9 The NSS 59<sup>th</sup> Round (January – December, 2003) was devoted to collection of data on land and livestock holdings; debt and investment and household consumer expenditure along with some key characteristics of employment-unemployment. The Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of farmers was also conducted during this round on behalf of Union Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperation. The final stage of validation of data is under progress. The following six reports are expected to be released by May 2005.

- i) Consumer expenditure, Employment and Un-employment
- ii) Livestock holdings in India
- iii) Some aspects of farming
- iv) Access to modern technology for farming
- v) Household assets and liabilities
- vi) Indebtness of farmer households

### **NSS 60<sup>th</sup> Round**

4.10 The 60<sup>th</sup> Round of NSS (January-June 2004) was devoted to morbidity and health care, employment and unemployment and household consumer expenditure. Data processing work is under progress.

### **NSS 61<sup>st</sup> Round**

4.11 The seventh quinquennial survey on consumer expenditure, employment and unemployment (NSS 61<sup>st</sup> round) is being conducted during July 2004 – June 2005. A total of 12784 sample villages/ blocks are covered in this survey. The Planning Commission uses consumer expenditure data collected through quinquennial surveys for estimating incidence of poverty.

### **NSS 62<sup>nd</sup> Round**

4.12 The 62<sup>nd</sup> Round of NSS (July 2005 – June 2006) will be devoted to survey on “Un-organised Manufacturing”. Apart from this, usual annual survey on Household consumer expenditure and employment unemployment shall also be carried out.

### **Baseline Survey for UNICEF**

4.13 NSSO is taking up a Baseline Survey for UNICEF on well being of children and women to meet the institutional requirement of UNICEF. The field work of the survey covering 41 districts spread over fourteen states with sample size of 2460 villages is to start from March, 2005.

### **Sarvekshana**

4.14 The 87<sup>th</sup> issue of ‘Sarvekshana’ has been brought out in the October 2004. The issue contained “An Integrated Summary of Employment and Unemployment Survey Results, NSS 55<sup>th</sup> Round (July 1999 – June 2000).

### **Agricultural Statistics**

4.15 In respect of Agricultural Statistics, FOD has the responsibility of guiding the States in developing suitable technique for obtaining reliable and timely estimates of area and yield and ensuring adoption of uniform concepts, definition and procedures in the collection of crop area and yield statistics by States. It keeps a constant watch on the quality of crop statistics through the scheme for Improvement of Crop Statistics (ICS). The salient feature of the ICS scheme is to locate deficiencies in the State system of collection of crop statistics through joint efforts of Central and State agencies and to suggest suitable remedial measures. Under this scheme, sample check of the primary fieldwork relating to area enumeration and area aggregation in approximately 5000 villages in each agriculture season and supervision of about 16000 crop cutting experiments in each Agricultural Year are undertaken by FOD. The States are also participating in this programme of sample check on matching basis. In addition, sample check on aggregation of area figures above the village level i.e. at Tehsil, District and State level is also undertaken in 16 Land Record States spread over 34 Regions of NSSO as a part of ICS programme since 1980-81. The work relating to sample check on area enumeration was carried out in 1270, 4949, 4649 and 3453 villages during Early Kharif, Kharif, Rabi and Summer season of 2003-2004 respectively. Sample check on aggregation of area was carried out in 628, 4285, 4399 and 3049 villages during these seasons respectively. Progress for sample check on

aggregation of area is slightly less due to non-completion of work by the State primary workers. Further, 15732 crop cutting experiments were supervised as planned during 2003-2004.

4.16 In the Agricultural Year 2004-2005 starting from July, 2004, checking of area enumeration has been completed in 1270 villages during Early Kharif, 4440 villages during Kharif and 79 villages during Rabi up to December, 2004 as against 1270, 4949 and 4649 villages planned for the whole Agricultural Year. Work relating to aggregation of area was completed in 603 villages during Early Kharif, 2538 villages during Kharif and 8 villages during Rabi up to December 2004 as against 628, 4285 and 4399 villages planned for the Agricultural Year 2004-2005. For sample check on crop cutting experiments, 1096, 6859 and 36 experiments were supervised up to December, 2004 during Early Kharif, Kharif and Rabi seasons as against 1200, 8342 and 5210 experiments planned respectively for the whole Agricultural Year 2004-2005.

4.17 The data collected through the supervision of crop cutting experiments at harvest stage are also utilised to compute the advance estimates of yield rate of specified crops for the States covered under the ICS scheme. For the Agricultural Year 2003-2004, estimates of yield rate for as many as 176 crops pertaining to these States were forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi as planned. The findings of the ICS scheme are brought out in the form of reports on Review of Crop Statistics System in States. The State wise reports are brought out for Kharif and Rabi seasons of each Agricultural Year. A consolidated All India report on the 'Review of Crop Statistics System in India' through ICS is prepared annually. The report has been published for the year 2001-2002 during the reference period after release of all the 22 State wise status reports. The Status Reports for Kharif 2002-2003 in respect of twenty States and for Rabi 2002-2003 in respect of ten States have been sent to the Directorate of Economics and Statistics and other agencies for further necessary action.

4.18 A report based on the information of Crop Estimation Surveys conducted in the States for arriving at yield statistics is brought out by FOD every year titled as "Consolidated Results of Crop Estimation Surveys on Principal Crops". This report has been published for the year 2001-2002 during the reference period.

4.19 High Level Coordination Committees (HLCCs) have been formed in the States to provide a link for proper coordination between the Centre and States forming a basis for the improvement in quality and maintaining timeliness of collection of agricultural statistics. During the year 2004-05 up to the month of January, 2005 meetings of HLCC were held in Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Kerala.

4.20 In addition to HLCC, District Level Committees (DLCs) are also functioning at lower level. These committees are entrusted with the task of examining the reasons, for large variations or no variations at all in the entries recorded by the Patwaris and as observed by Central/State supervisors during sample check on area enumeration work. The functioning of the committee goes a long way in effecting improvements in the State system of crop statistics. The response noticed under this scheme during the reference year is quite encouraging.

## **Pilot Surveys**

### **(a) Pilot Study for working out a Correction Factor based on data pertaining to ICS**

4.21 In pursuance of the recommendations of the National Statistical Commission (NSC), a Pilot survey was conducted in two districts each of Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu States for

studying modified sampling design of ICS and formulating Correction Factor based on ICS data for calibration of crop area estimates at State level. During the reference period, several procedures of Correction Factor were studied. Discussions were held with officers of M/O Agriculture, Indian Statistical Institute, Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute and other experts on feasibility of appropriate Correction Factor to be applied.

#### **(b) Pilot Survey on NPISH (July-December 2004)**

4.22 Preparation of national accounts necessitates the break-up of accounts into different institutional sectors of the economy, viz. financial and non-financial corporations, government, households and NPISHs. The contribution of NPISH in national income, which is included in the private final consumption expenditure, is not currently available separately. This pilot survey is conducted in Cachar and Kamrup (Assam), Delhi, Indore and Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh), Mumbai and Nagpur (Maharashtra), Trichur and Kannur (Kerala) and Kolkata and Medinipur (West Bengal).

4.23 The pilot survey is being conducted by two approaches (i) a list frame consisting of 'big' non-profit institutions, primarily for the registered units and (ii) an areal frame as per Economic Census-1998, in line with the usual unorganised sector surveys of the NSS. In each State, 90 non-profit institutions units of the list frame and 28 First Stage Units (FSU) (on the basis of areal frame) are to be surveyed. The fieldwork in 166 sample FSUs (areal frame) and 545 non-profit institutions (list frame) was completed by the end of December, 2004.

### **Price Data Collection**

#### **(A) Urban Retail Price Collection**

4.24 The FOD has been collecting the retail price data on weekly basis from 59 urban centres for compilation of Consumer Price Index Number in respect of Urban Non-Manual Employees (UNME) by the CSO. Apart from the collection of price data, house rent data of rented dwellings and off take data from various sources of purchases are also collected at the interval of six months for compilation of this index. Details are available in Chapter-III.

#### **(B) Rural Retail Price Collection**

4.25 The FOD is also responsible for collecting rural retail price data on monthly basis from 603 sample villages and also daily wage rates of 18 major agricultural and non-agricultural occupations for Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour. Prices are used for compiling Consumer Price Index numbers for Agricultural/Rural Labourers by the Labour Bureau. The DPD process the rural price data and brings out quarterly bulletin on '*Prices and Wages in Rural India*'.

#### **(C) International Comparison Programme**

4.26 The Government of India has now decided to participate in the current phase of International Comparison Programme with reference year 2004. As per the programme the field survey to collect the price data is likely to commence shortly. FOD will do the fieldwork of price collection under this programme.

### **Urban Frame Survey**

4.27 Urban Frame Survey (UFS) is one of the most important surveys conducted by FOD regularly. For conducting socio-economic enquiries in urban areas, an updated frame of FSUs

is a pre-requisite. UFS therefore, is carried out to meet this objective. The purpose of the survey is to provide the timely updated sampling frame for identifying the FSUs in respect of urban sector in various socio-economic survey rounds. Under the urban frame survey programme, every town / city / urban agglomeration and out growths are updated over a period of five years which is known as phase. The UFS blocks are formed (like enumeration blocks in Census Operations) taking into account the increase / decrease in the population of cities / towns / urban agglomerations and also in newly declared towns. Each town / city is divided into compact UFS blocks with clear cut identifiable boundaries and permanent land marks having a population content of 600 to 800 and 120 to 180 number of households. The current phase 2002-2007 is going on w.e.f. July, 2002 covering a total of 3997 towns as per Census 2001 comprising about 396065 blocks. Out of this allotment, 1151 towns comprising 162626 blocks have been updated by the end of December, 2004. Apart from the primary use as the first stage sampling frame in socio economic survey rounds, the maps of UFS blocks are also being provided free of cost to various Government Departments and @ Rs. 100/- per UFS block map to other private user agencies and research Institutions. An amount of Rs. 15,33,604 has been realised so far on account of sale of UFS block maps to such organisations. The work of maintenance and updation of UFS database is being done by DPD.

### **Annual Survey of Industries**

4.28 The Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) has been dealt in an extensive way in Chapter III. The fieldwork of the ASI is done by the FOD. The Standing Committee on Industrial Statistics (SCIS) under the Chairmanship of Prof. K.L. Krishna is the apex body to decide on various issues of ASI including sampling design, criterion for census unit, finalisation of ASI schedules (both short and detailed schedules etc.) The fieldwork for ASI 2002-2003 was completed on 30.4.2004. The overall completion was 37823 units as against net allotment of 39146 units, thus representing a net response rate of about 97%. The gross allotment of ASI 2003-2004 is 59664 units. Out of net allotment of 56016 units data collection of 17945 units has been completed by December, 2004 which is 32% of net allotment. So far 8119 returns which is 45% to completion have been dispatched to Tabulating Agency.

### **Plan Schemes**

4.29 The plan scheme 'Strengthening of Survey Design and Research Capabilities of SDRD' is in operation in SDRD. Survey schedules, instruction manuals, scrutiny programmes, tabulation plans of various rounds and NSS draft/ final reports are prepared /preserved to meet the objectives of the scheme.

4.30 The Four Plan Schemes of FOD viz: (i) Strengthening and Streamlining of Field Offices (ii) Strengthening of Training Facilities in Zonal Centres (iii) Construction/Purchase of Office Accommodation for Field Offices and (iv) Technological upgradation for extended use of Information Technology, which were continuing from 8<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan have been merged in to a single Plan Scheme viz; 'Strengthening of Field Survey Capabilities of NSSO' during 10<sup>th</sup> Plan. The total 44 Plan Posts created during the 8<sup>th</sup> Plan Period under the constituent schemes are still continuing. As part of other component schemes viz. (i) Construction/purchase of Office Accommodation for field offices and (ii) Technological upgradation for extended use of Information Technology, the infrastructure in field offices' and Hqrs. are being further developed and strengthened. During the year 2004-05, the proposals for construction of building for SRO Mangalore have been cleared by the Ministry. Moreover proposals of purchase/construction of office building at Goa, Jodhpur, Ahmedabad, Gwalior, Aurangabad, Lucknow, Jorhat, Silchar, Tezpur and Gulbarga have been submitted. Concerted

efforts resulted in improvement in the office building at Ajmer, Thrissur and Trivandrum by way of addition/alteration including renovation in the present office buildings. Similarly under 'Technological upgradation for extended use of Information Technology,' Proposals for procurement of computer hardware and Software for Field Offices/Hqrs. and Lap Tops for Zonal Centres of FOD have been cleared by the Technical and Tender Evaluation Committee of the Ministry. Further, there is FOD component in the Plan Scheme of CSO namely 'Improvement of Informal Sector Statistics and Publication. The FOD component is staff oriented comprising of 15 Superintendents and 75 Investigators to carry out the field survey.

4.31 The plan scheme *Strengthening of Data Processing Capabilities of NSSO* has been approved for implementation during the 10<sup>th</sup> five-year Plan. This scheme has the following three components: (i) construction of office building for NSSO at Kolkata; (ii) upgradation of computer system for accelerating data processing; and (iii) rationalization of Data Processing Facilities. The component '*Construction of office building for NSSO at Kolkata*' includes the construction of the NSSO hostel in the premises of Mahalanobis Bhavan, Kolkata. The component *Up gradation of computer system for accelerating data processing* will enable DPD to upgrade hardware and software capabilities to take advantage of the fast changing information and communication system in the world. Development of structured LAN at DPD Headquarter is already under progress and the network is expected to be commissioned shortly. The component *Rationalisation of Data Processing Facilities* will assist in ensuring smooth functioning of the two centres at Ahmedabad and Bangalore.

4.32 The CPD is operating two plan schemes, namely, (i) Grants-in-aid to specified North Eastern states for carrying out the NSS field work and (ii) Strengthening and Modernisation of NSS Publication and Data Dissemination.

### **Seminar**

4.33 A seminar on Rotational Sample Design was conducted by SDRD at Kolkata on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2004. Three technical papers were presented in the seminar. Eminent academicians, survey practitioners and official statisticians attended the seminar. A National Seminar was held on 17 December 2004 at New Delhi which discussed the NSS 58<sup>th</sup> Round survey results. The seminar was inaugurated by Shri Oscar Fernandes, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Statistics and Programme Implementation. Thirteen papers were presented in two technical sessions of the seminar. Members of the Working Group, delegates from research institutions and government agencies and representatives from World Food Programme, UNICEF attended the seminar.

### **Training by FOD**

4.34 Training of staff and officers is an area of priority attention in FOD. The knowledge and skill of the field staff are honed up through organization of regular refresher courses for them and to achieve those objectives, six training centres have been set up in six zones viz. Bangalore (South Zone), Nagpur (West Zone), Jaipur (North Zone), Lucknow (Central Zone), Kolkata (Eastern Zone) and Guwahati (North-Eastern Zone). These Training Centres conduct different types of programmes as per specified and uniform modules for the different categories of field staff in accordance with pre-decided training calendar for each year. During the year 2004-05, 570 field staff in different categories have been trained up to December, 2004. 145 ISS Officers of FOD are also deputed to attend training organized by CSO and other training institutions. The FOD also organizes field training on behalf of the Training Division of CSO for ISS officers. During the year 2004-2005, it also organized one field



training for ISS probationers of XXVI Batch for in depth field training as part of their probationary/induction training during 16.06.2004 to 5.08.2004 at Jaipur and Lucknow. These Probationers were also deputed for field training in sub-regional offices and were engaged in collection of data to gain first hand experiences of conducting surveys. 418 Senior Superintendents/Superintendents/Senior Investigators/Investigators are likely to be trained during January, 2005 to March 2005 in various scheme specific courses. About 65 ISS Officers are to be nominated for training conducted by various institutions and ministries. While emphasizing the importance of statistics at a gathering of students and faculty members of various colleges under Gujarat University, Shri Oscar Fernades, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Statistics and Programme Implementation mentioned that the students should come forward to analyse the statistics available, especially in the Socio Economic field so as to help the country in upliftment of the population below poverty line. He also requested the Professors of the University to have linkages with the other universities so to exchange the research experiences in the field of statistics. The Minister assured that whatever the possible help could be done from the Ministry on the suggestions of the faculty members and the students, would be attended to, especially in the area of papers of current interest, leading service to people.

### **Training by SDRD**

4.35 SDRD imparted training to staff of DES, Kerala at Thiruvananthapuram on 17 – 18 May 2004. Smt G Bhattacharya, Joint Director attended the UNSIAP course on Sample Design and Estimation Procedure at ISI, Kolkata during October 18 – November 12, 2004. Officers of SDRD also attended the training programmes organised by CSO, Computer Centre and other institutions.

### **Training by DPD and CPD**

4.36 One scrutiny feedback workshop covering selected ROs/SROs of West Bengal was organized at Kolkata on 13.04.04 in which officers from SDRD and FOD participated. All India Training Workshop on Data Processing of NSS 60<sup>th</sup> round was organized during 07.04.04 – 08.04.04 at DPD (HQ), Kolkata. The All India Training Workshop on State Sample Data Processing of NSS 60<sup>th</sup> Round was held at Kolkata during 20-22<sup>nd</sup> September 2004, 49 participants from 21 states and Computer Centre attended. All India Training Workshop on Data Processing of NSS 61<sup>st</sup> Round was also organized during 14 - 15.10.2004 at DPD (HQ), Kolkata. Training on tabulation software for State sample data for NSS 55<sup>th</sup>, 56<sup>th</sup> and 57<sup>th</sup> Round for the purpose of State assistance was organized at DPD(HQ) during 5-7 May 2004. One week Training programme on 'Large Scale Data Processing' was organised for the ISS probationers of XXVI batch at DPD (HQ), Kolkata during 7-11 June, 2004. Shri Ramkripal, Joint Director attended the UNSIAP course on Sample Design and Estimation Procedure at ISI, Kolkata during October 18 – November 12, 2004. Shri Chandramani Sharma, Deputy Director from CPD participated in the First Regional Course on Poverty Measurement organised by UNSIAP in collaboration with BPS Statistics Indonesia, Government of Indonesia, held at Jakarta from 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 to 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2004.