

Minutes of the Second Meeting of the Group for implementation of the Thirteenth Finance Commission recommendations for Improvement of Statistical Systems at State and District levels held on July 25, 2011 at Bangalore

The second meeting of the Group comprising representatives of the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) and the State Government Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES) was held at Bengaluru on July, 2011.

2. The list of states and the participants is given in Annexure-I.

3. At the outset ADG, NAD and Chairman of the Group welcomed the participants and initiated discussions on the Action plans drawn out by the participating states some of which had submitted their revised plans as per the guidelines issued by Ministry of Finance and in the light of the Minutes of the first meeting of the group held on 22 -23 June 2011.

4. The action plans presented by the states were discussed and the following decisions were taken:

i. Karnataka

Officials from core Departments of Karnataka, viz., Labour, Agriculture Marketing and Chief Inspector of Factories, also participated in the discussion of the Expenditure Plan of the State. They stated that cooperation with DES would go a long way in building the overall statistical system in the State. The Group agreed to the proposition of the State for utilising the fund to improve the statistical functions of some core departments, provided it enables the achievement of milestones. The plan was approved with slight modification in regard to phasing the Plan over five instalments.

ii. West Bengal

The State was requested to revise their plan for focusing more at district level rather than at State Head Quarters level, so as to restrict expenditure for state head quarters below 25% of the total grants. DES was requested to improve statistical infrastructure of other core line departments in order to strengthen the database on long term basis from their administrative system. Directorate of Economics and Statistics, West Bengal agreed to submit their revised plan at the earliest.

iii. Madhya Pradesh

The State was informed of the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance and requested to avoid the provision made for building and furniture. Only minimal and

essential items of this nature which had direct bearing on the achievement of the milestones set out in the guidelines should be included. They were also requested to reassess some of the components like TA, DA etc.

iv. Himachal Pradesh:

The Plan, duly revised in accordance with the discussion in the first meeting, was approved.

v. Arunachal Pradesh

The Plan conformed to the guidelines. However, the Plan required slight modification by distribution of utilisation of funds in five instalments.

6. After presentation of aforementioned plans, progress till date in respect of all the states was reviewed. The following observations were made:

(1) The first instalment may be released in respect of six states viz., Andhra Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. Ministry of Finance may be requested to release the first installment, 20% of the total grant recommended by the FC-XIII, these States so that these States may immediately commence implementation of the Plan.

(2) The first installment of grants allocated to the States of Bihar, Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, would be recommended on receipt of their revised expenditure plans.

(3) The Expenditure Plans of Assam, Manipur, Tripura and Mizoram, be taken up in the next meeting, likely to be scheduled after the close of the ongoing Parliament Session.

(4) Remaining states would be advised to prepare/revise their Expenditure plans as per the guidelines and minutes of the recent meetings and submit them at the earliest.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair and to the hosts, the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Karnataka.

List of Participants

1. Sh.Ashish Kumar, Addl.Dir.General (NAD), Central Statistics Office, New Delhi
2. Sh.Mrinal Bhaumik, Dy. Director General (NAD), Central Statistics Office, New Delhi
3. Sh.Alok Chandra, Director, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi
4. Sh.S.K.Bansal, Ministry of PRI, New Delhi
5. Smt.P.Bhanumati, Director (NAD), Central Statistics Office, New Delhi
6. Sh.H.E.Rajashekarappa, Director, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Karnataka
7. Dr.S.P.Sharma, Commissioner, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Madhya Pradesh
8. Sh.Pradeep Chauhan, Economic Adviser, Eco. & Statistics, Himachal Pradesh
9. Sh.B.Megu, Deputy Director, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Arunachal Pradesh
10. Sh.Abhijit Kumar Bezbarua, Senior Consultant, DES, Arunachal Pradesh
11. Sh.K.K.Mondal, Director, BAE & Statistics, West Bengal
12. Sh.Dipankar Chattopadhyay, Addl. Director, BAE & Statistics, West Bengal

Participants from the Government of Karnataka

13. Sh.Gurudas Bhat, Addl.Commissioner, Labour
14. Sh.Sathish Kumar D., Joint Director (Administration)
15. Sh.B.S.Ranachandra, Joint Director of Factories
16. Ms.Anuradha R., Deputy Labour Commissioner
17. Sh.Venkatesha Reddy, Superintendant, Agricultural Marketing Deptt.
18. Sh.B.S.Pallad, Deputy Director, Horticulture.
19. Sh.Madheswaran, Special Officer, Planning Deptt.
20. Sh.B.S.Hiremath, Project Director, KSSDA.
21. Sh.M.R.Narayan, Professor, ISEC
22. Smt.Jostana Jha, Director, CBPS
23. Sh.D.Subramanyam, Head, Business Research Cell, FKCCI
24. Sh.A.Srinivasa Rao, Joint Director, SIP Division, DES
25. Sh.K.V.Subramanyam, Joint Director, AGS Division, DES
26. Sh.B.H.Narayanaswamy, Joint Director, CIS Division, DES
27. Sh.Subramanya , Joint Director, CNL Division, DES
28. Sh.K.Jayaram, Deputy Director(Rtd.)
29. Mrs.Divya Krishnaswamy, Research Associate, CBPS
30. Sh.Sandeep N.S., Research Associate, CBPS
31. Sh.B.G.Krishnamurthy, Dy.Director, CNL