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Government of India
Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
Central Statistics Office
ISSP Unit

East Block 6, Level-4, R.K.Puram
New Delhi, the 5th June, 2018

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: - Minutes of the sixteenth meeting of the High Level Steering Committee on 'Support for Statistical Strengthening' (SSS) Scheme - reg.

Please find enclosed a copy of the minutes of the sixteenth meeting of the High Level Steering Committee on Support for Statistical Strengthening (SSS) Scheme held on 22.05.2018, at Sardar Patel Bhawan, New Delhi, under Chairmanship of Secretary, S&PI, for information/necessary action.

Encl: As above

R.Rajesh
(R.Rajesh)
Director (ISSP)

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6/6/18
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- सं. नि. मे. (सं. नि. मे.)
- 7/6/18
- उ. नि. मे. (सं. नि. मे.)
- क. नि. मे.
- 07/06/18
- 08/06/18
- Sh. Sharmada
- 18/6/18
1. Additional Chief Secretary (Planning), Uttar Pradesh
 2. Principal Secretary (Planning & Statistics), Tripura
 3. Principal Secretary (Planning), Meghalaya
 4. Secretary (Planning), Uttarakhand
 5. Secretary (Planning & Statistics), Puducherry
 6. Director, DES, Meghalaya
 7. Director, DES, Uttar Pradesh
 8. Director, DES, Uttarakhand
 9. Director, DES, Puducherry
 10. Director, DES, Tripura
 11. Director (IFD), S&PI
 12. The Adviser (DM & A), Niti Ayog
 13. Director MI, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance
 14. Ms. Rinku Murgai, Representative from World Bank.

Copy to:

1. PPS to Secretary (Statistics & PI)
2. PPS to DG (ES), CSO
3. PPS to DG(SS), CSO
4. PS to DG(NSSO)
5. PS to AS & FA, S & PI
6. ADG (NAD, ESD)
7. ADG (CAP)
8. ADG (SSD, DSDD)
9. ADG (CPD)

Minutes of the 16th meeting of High Level Steering Committee on Support for Strengthening (SSS) Scheme held on 22nd May, 2018 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, MoSPI at Sardar Patel Bhawan, New Delhi

The 16th meeting of the High Level Steering Committee (HLSC) on the Support for Statistical Strengthening (SSS) Scheme was held on 22.05.2018, under the Chairmanship of Shri K. V. Eapen, Secretary, MoSPI to consider Programmes of 5 States/UTs, namely, Puducherry, Uttarakhand, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and Meghalaya. The list of participants is annexed.

2. At the outset, ADG (CAP) briefed the HLSC about the composition of the State programmes. He mentioned that the statistical activities are to be covered in nine components, for which the proportion of fund allocation has already been fixed. For the new States, funds cannot be allocated for any physical infrastructure and IT hardware purpose. He also mentioned that all the activities in their State programmes have to be completed by March, 2020. Once the State programmes are approved by the HLSC and MoUs are signed, first installment of the funds will be released.

3. Secretary, S&PI emphasized that duplication of statistical activities like sample surveys should be strictly avoided, as precious resources should not be wasted on same activities being conducted from two different sources. In this regard, he advised the States to ensure that any activity / survey which is being conducted concurrently or ensuing in a short time, under the aegis or funding of any central/State department/agency is not included in their State programmes.

4. The HLSC also reiterated the following general principles enunciated in its earlier meeting:-

- a) Where States are taking up surveys/studies/compilation of indicators to obtain more disaggregated data at District and sub-District levels than are available from NSS surveys, etc., the methodology adopted should be consistent with the methodologies developed/used by CSO/NSSO or the respective Ministries/Agencies.
- b) Technical/Expert Groups consisting of critical stakeholders, central agencies, experts, reputed institutions etc. should be formed by the respective State Governments to oversee technical aspects of the statistical activities like surveys/studies. Even if a particular study is outsourced, the Technical Committee for the sector formed should examine and approve the methodology, in line with established national methodology.
- c) Previous recommendations/suggestions made by CSO, NSSO and Expert Groups etc. should be taken onboard for all activities relating to State Domestic Product, Sample Surveys, State level Price Indices, State level IIP, etc.
- d) The activities under State Programmes should address the data commitments/ data gaps under the SDG framework.
- e) Software/applications proposed to be developed should be portal based for increased efficiency and efficacy.

5. The State-specific discussions on the proposed activities are summarized as under:-

(A) Puducherry: While discussing the proposed activities, a doubt was raised as to whether the preparation of 'Business Register' for the first time, in Puducherry, should be considered in the light of proposed 7th Economic Census. After detailed deliberations, it was decided that this may be allowed, as it will facilitate smooth and speedy conduct of 7th Economic Census. With regard to

'Disaster Management Statistics', Director, DES, Puducherry mentioned that so far no compilation of such statistics was available in Puducherry and it was felt imperative to compile such statistics.

(B) Uttarakhand: It was informed that Uttarakhand started the scheme in the later part of 2015 but then were advised to modify their State programme after it was decided that support for physical and IT hardware was excluded for all new States. Director, DES, Uttarakhand said that apart from taking up core statistical activities, environment statistics and other related activities relevant to their States, they were taking up a number of surveys, of which 10 were ongoing. While appreciating the statistical activities proposed/taken up, DES, Uttarakhand was asked to indicate whether they would be in a position to complete them by March, 2020. The Director, DES replied that since they already have the requisite mechanisms such as Technical Groups and 10 of the surveys were in advanced stage, they would be able to complete all the surveys by March, 2020. When queried with regard to surveys relating to Livestock Department, DES, Uttarakhand replied that the surveys had been chosen in 2015 itself to provide for more reliable data between two consecutive 5 yearly livestock censuses, and these are ongoing and there was no duplication with the national livestock census. While finding most of its activities in order, HLSC advised to re-examine the surveys related to line departments particularly which have not been taken up as yet:

- Contribution and potentials in artisans
- Collection of Prices of animals
- Community attraction to private schools and possibility of running schools in PPP mode.
- Survey on employment and employability of various age groups
- A study on effects of Natural Disaster in Household Economy

(C) Tripura: It was explained that the State programme of Tripura was taken up in the previous meeting also, but HLSC felt that some of their activities, particularly relating to administrative statistics were not clear. Tripura has now revised its State programme by including specific surveys/studies and the revised programme was discussed. While most of the activities relating to core indicators such as SDP, CPI etc. were found in order, HLSC felt that the following activities seemed more of programme evaluation studies, which are to be taken up by the concerned Departments in the state, for which funding is usually inbuilt in the programmes:-

- Proportion of population effected by non-communicable diseases
- Prevalence of Hepatitis-B in the State
- Reasons for expenditure of IPD patients
- Mental health among adolescents and women
- Socio-economic impact of Ekalavya Model School and Ashram School
- Impact of skill development programs implemented by Tribal Welfare Department
- Role of ST Corporation for Tribal Youth
- Study on socio-economic impact of GNM, ANM, Paramedical & other professional courses
- Survey on socio economic impact of the schemes implemented by State Govt. for women, children, senior citizens and persons with disabilities

(D) Uttar Pradesh: It was explained that Uttar Pradesh had also started earlier but like Uttarakhand, it had been asked to revise the State programme. Their current programme was found to be in order.

(E) Meghalaya: The state programme of Meghalaya was discussed and found to be concentrated on core statistical activities.

6. After detailed deliberations, the State Programmes of Puducherry, Uttar Pradesh and Meghalaya were approved, subject to the conditions given in para 3 and 4. In case of Uttarakhand, while most of the activities of the state programme were agreed upon, the surveys mentioned in para 5(B) were advised to be re-examined and their relevance/usefulness in strengthening the statistical system be explained. For Tripura, the state Government was requested to reconsider the activities marked in para 5(C), and submit a revised proposal.

7. Finally, States were advised to hold regular review meetings of the State High Level Steering Committee under Chief Secretaries, and State Implementation Committee under Secretary (Statistics/Planning), once the implementation starts. They were also advised to register themselves under PFMS to receive funds after signing of MoUs.

8. The Meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

Participants of the Sixteenth Meeting of the High Level Steering Committee on 'Support for Statistical Strengthening' (SSS) Scheme held on 22.05.2018

S.No	Name & Designation
1.	Shri K.V.Eapen, Secretary, S&PI
2.	Shri M.V.S. Ranganadham, DG(ES)
3.	Shri Debi Prasad Mondal, DG(Surveys)
4.	Shri Pravin Srivastava, ADG(NAD)
5.	Shri Amitabh Panda, ADG(CPD)
6.	Shri Tarun Kanti Basu, ADG(CAP)
7.	Shri B.N. Tiwari, ADG(SSD)
8.	Shri Ajay Kumar Gupta, DDG (CAP)
9.	Shri Rakesh Kumar, US(IFD)
10.	Dr.Molishree, SRO, NITI Aayog
11.	Shri Avik Sarkar, OSD, NITI Aayog
12.	Shri R.N.S Yadav, Special Secretary (Planning), Uttar Pradesh
13.	Shri A.K. Pandey, Additional Director, DES- Uttar Pradesh
14.	Shri Sanjay Balliatic, Deputy Director, DES- Uttar Pradesh
15.	Shri Amit Barman Roy, Director, DES- Tripura
16.	Shri R. Ramakrishnan, Director, DES- Puducherry
17.	Shri R. Parthasarathy, Deputy Director, DES- Puducherry
18.	Shri Sushil Kumar, Director, DES- Uttarakhand
19.	Dr. Manoj Pant, Joint Director, DES- Uttarakhand
20.	Shri D.L. Wankhar, Director, DES- Meghalaya
21.	Shri V.E. Iawphniaw, Deputy Director, DES- Meghalaya
22.	Shri R.Rajesh, Director(ISSP)
23.	Shri R.D. Mathur, SSO(ISSP)
24.	Miss Anjali Srivastava, JSO(ISSP)
25.	Mr.Vimal Chauhan, JSO(ISSP)
26.	Mr.Rajan, JSO(ISSP)