GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2236
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2023

ADVANCED IT TOOLS AND AI FOR DATA COLLECTION

2236. SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the National Statistical Office(NSO) and its agencies are still relying more on old practices such as sample collection from household surveys, whereas in the current information age, they could use advanced IT tools and Artificial Intelligence(AI); and

(b) the manner in which Government plans to move towards newer IT based tools, AI and integrated systems with web-based reporting, built-in quality checks at the time of filing of data, process-driven follow-ups on timeliness, and quality of data?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS [RAO INDERJIT SINGH]

(a)   The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has already initiated a major technological advancement towards digitisation of the entire survey process. This technological advancement enabled NSSO to transit seamlessly from Paper Aided Personal Interview (PAPI) to CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interview) and Web-portal modes by using IT solutions.

At present, all the surveys of NSSO are being conducted on digital platform using CAPI through tablets. Further, data for Urban Frame Survey (UFS) for current phase of UFS 2017-22 is being conducted in digitization mode through Mobile Application and Web-Portal designed by National Remote Sensing Centre, Department of Space which already include the advance technology and satellite data.

(b)   The latest technology of data collection on digital platform using CAPI through Tablets are already being used by NSSO. The said application has in-built data validation checks to ensure the better quality data collection and real-time data validation.

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