

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 160**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2024

SOCIO-ECONOMIC SURVEYS

160. SHRI RAGHAV CHADHA:

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

- (a) whether Government acknowledges challenges in implementing thirteen additional socio-economic surveys in 2024-2025, and the basis for selecting these new survey areas;
- (b) the reasons for existing gaps in socio-economic data and the manner in which these new surveys aim to address them;
- (c) the measures being taken to ensure data accuracy and prevent duplication across these surveys;
- (d) the projected budget allocation for these surveys and potential impacts on other statistical initiatives; and
- (e) the manner in which Government intends to ensure that findings of the survey are effectively used to shape inclusive and targeted policy decisions?

**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 CULTURE [RAO INDERJIT SINGH]

(a): Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) is not facing any challenges in taking up the new surveys during 2024-25. National Statistics Office (NSO) under the MoSPI is responsible for conducting large scale sample surveys on various socio-economic subjects on All India basis. These surveys are either Household based surveys where the primary unit of enumeration is a household or Enterprise based surveys where the primary unit of enumeration is an enterprise. These surveys are designed to meet the requirements of various stakeholder Ministries and departments, based on recommendations from various expert groups and committees. The household surveys primarily collect information that is not available either through administrative records or through surveys conducted by domain-specific Ministries or departments.

(b) and (c): The surveys are being conducted in digital platform using Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) or web-based application with in-built validation mechanism to ensure consistency at the stage of data collection. Collected data are thoroughly scrutinized by the supervisory level officers to identify inconsistency, if any and necessary clarifications are obtained/corrections are incorporated. Monitoring of survey process is also accomplished through the digital platform. Before commencement of any survey, extensive training on survey instruments as well as use of CAPI are provided to the field officials. Clarifications are also given on a regular basis on the queries raised by field officials during the course of the survey.

Further, Data quality workshops are also organised to address the conceptual queries and monitoring the survey data quality time-to-time. Additionally, survey instruments are periodically improved to enhance data quality. Before taking up any new survey, whether the indicators to be generated from the surveys are available from any other government survey/administrative data sources, are extensively verified to rule out the possibility of duplication of surveys. Also, consultations with relevant line Ministries and departments are held to avoid duplication of work, effort, etc.

(d): There is no current practice of survey-wise budget allocation in MoSPI. However, the total Budget Estimates (BE) for FY 2024-25 in various Object Heads under Capacity Development Scheme in Survey Wing of MoSPI is Rs. 39761.30 Lacs.

(e): Regular dialogues with data users are conducted so that Ministries/ Departments can incorporate their feedback on additional data coverage and disclosure requirements. To facilitate this, MoSPI conducts Data User Conferences after release of results of sample surveys with an aim to engage stakeholders and enhance understanding of the survey's findings, focusing on data access, interpretation, user concerns and survey methodology. Further, to ensure transparency of survey results, unit level data of the surveys are also made available on MoSPI's website for access by various researchers, policymakers, etc to better understand, analyze and explore the country's data.

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