

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2717
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025

STANDING COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE STATISTICAL SURVEYS

2717. DR. V. SIVADASAN:

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

- (a) whether a 14 Member Standing Committee was formed by the Central Government in 2023 to oversee all statistical surveys by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation;
- (b) it's current status; and
- (c) whether the Committee has submitted its recommendations, if not, the reasons therefor?

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) to (c): For the purpose of reviewing the extant framework and to address the issues raised from time to time on the subject, results, methodology, questionnaire, etc of all National Sample Surveys conducted by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI), the Steering Committee for National Sample Surveys (NSS) has been constituted vide order dated 14.06.2024 as per the recommendation of National Statistical Commission (NSC). The details of Composition and Terms of Reference of the Committee are given in the Statement at Annexure. Further, as the roles and responsibilities of the Steering Committee overlapped with those of the SCoS constituted vide order dated 13.07.2023 as outlined in the respective Terms of Reference (ToRs), it was decided to dissolve the SCoS vide order dated 12.07.2024.

Annexure

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2717 for answer by MoSPI on 24.03.2025

The details including composition and terms of reference are as under:

A. Composition of the Steering Committee:

1.	Prof. Rajeeva Laxman Karandikar, Chairman (NSC)	Chairman
2.	Prof. Bimal Kumar Roy, former Professor, ISI Kolkata	Member
3.	Dr. Tathagata Bandyopadhyay, former Professor, IIM Ahmedabad	Member
4.	Dr. T. V. Ramanathan, D/o Statistics, S. P. Pune University	Member
5.	Prof. Sonal De Desai, Professor, NCAER, New Delhi	Member
6.	Dr. Biswanath Goldar, former Professor, Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), New Delhi	Member
7.	Dr. Mausumi Bose, former Professor, ISI Kolkata	Member
8.	Prof. S. Chandrasekhar, Professor, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai	Member
9.	Chief Economic Adviser, DEA or its representative [Ms. Anuradha Guru, Economic Adviser]	Member
10.	Representative from Reserve Bank of India [Shri Ravi Shankar, Adviser, RBI]	Member
11.	CEO, NITI Aayog or its representative [Ms. Anna Roy, Principal Economic Adviser, NITI Aayog]	Member
12.	Director General (NSS), MoSPI, New Delhi	Member
13.	Director General (Central Statistics), MoSPI, New Delhi	Member
14.	ADG, C&QCD (erstwhile SCD), NSS, MoSPI, New Delhi	Member
15.	ADG, HSD (erstwhile SDRD), NSS, MoSPI, Kolkata	Member
16.	Director, Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Govt.. of Uttar Pradesh	Member
17.	Director, Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Govt. of Karnataka	Member
	DDG, C&QCD, NSS, MoSPI	Non-Member Secretary

(Note 1. The Member(s) at Sr. No. 2 to 7 above may be treated as Non-Official Member (s) as on date

Note 2. It is further clarified that, where the membership is not designation-based in para A

above, such Members of the Steering Committee will be deemed nominated by their names. Members at serial numbers 12 to 17 would be deemed nominated as per their designation. Moreover, Members at serial numbers 9, 10 & 11 would be deemed nominated as per their designation or represented from their respective offices.)

B. The tenure of the Steering Committee will be for a period of two years. The Steering Committee shall make recommendations to NSC on the matters specified in following Terms of Reference (ToR).

a. To review the extant framework and to address the issues raised from time to time on the subject results/ methodology questionnaire, sampling frame, sampling design, concepts and definitions, survey instruments etc. related to all National Sample Surveys as brought before the Steering Committee.

b. To examine the issues or any other matters raised from time to time on the subject methodology, etc. related to all National Sample Surveys by MoSPI or external entities as brought before the Steering Committee.

c. To review and advise on survey methodology including sampling frame, sampling design, survey instruments, etc. and to finalize tabulation plan of surveys.

d. Finalization and approval of survey results/ reports for release.

e. To provide guidance to conduct pilot surveys/pre-testing, if necessary, before finalizing schedules/ questionnaire for data collection from time to time.

f. To provide guidance for study and exploring the availability of administrative statistics relating to surveys/statistics.

g. To provide guidance for study/identify data gaps/additional data requirements, if any, in respect of surveys/statistics and suggest appropriate strategy for improvement.

h. To provide technical guidance to the Central and State (wherever State participation is there) level agencies for the conduct of the surveys.

i. Deliberate on any other matter relating to or incidental to the surveys/survey results referred to Steering Committee from time to time.

C. The Steering Committee will have the provision to constitute Working Group(s) for aforesaid purposes, if required. The Working Group(s) so formed will directly report to the Steering Committee.

D. The Coordination and Quality Control Division (erstwhile Survey Coordination Division) of NSS, MoSPI shall issue separate order(s) for constitution of such Working Group(s) after taking due approval of the Competent Authority and provide all requisite secretarial assistance to such Working Group(s) for the administrative and financial purposes.
