GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2719
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025

ACCURACY AND TRANSPARENCY OF STATISTICAL DATA

2719.   DR. BHIM SINGH:
        SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA:

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

(a) the steps taken to ensure accuracy and transparency of statistical data in the country, the details thereof; and

(b) the impact of the programmes adopted by Government to monitor and ensure timely implementation of national development projects till date?

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): The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Government of India has taken several steps for accuracy and transparency of statistical data which inter alia, include:

(i)   Utilizing digital platforms, with in-built validation mechanism, in sample surveys conducted by MoSPI for data collection. This technological advancement has facilitated simultaneous processing of data and also resulted in a drastic reduction in time lag of release of reports.

(ii) Placed Advance Release Calendar (ARC) of its statistical products on the ministry's website (www.mospi.gov.in).

(iii) In order to facilitate ease of Data Dissemination and Management, eSankhyiki portal has been launched. Unit level data of the surveys are also made available on MoSPI's website (www.mospi.gov.in) for access by various researchers, policymakers, etc.

(iv) Regular dialogues with data users/stakeholders are also conducted in order to incorporate their feedback and enhance their understanding about the data being published by MoSPI.

(v) Circulated a National Meta Data Structure (NMDS) among Ministries/Departments. The NDMS has been designed, inter alia, to provide clarity on the data sources, collection methods and enhance discoverability of datasets.

(vi) MoSPI has put in place a mechanism for interacting with Statistical Advisers in Central Ministries/ Departments to follow standards and global best practices in their functioning.

(b): MoSPI monitors time and cost overruns of Ongoing Central Sector Infrastructure Projects costing Rs. 150 crore and above, based on the information reported by the project Implementing Agencies on the Online Computerized Monitoring System (OCMS) portal. MoSPI publishes a monthly/quarterly report on these Projects, encapsulating a range of key parameters such as Original/Revised/Anticipated Cost & Date of commissioning, cumulative Expenditure, Physical Progress etc. These periodic reports apprise concerned administrative Ministries/ Departments about time and cost overrun and help in monitoring and managing the project execution at their end.

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