

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2158  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2023**

**SURVEY CONDUCTED BY NSO**

**2158. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:**

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

- (a) whether MOSPI has constituted a new internal oversight mechanism, Standing Committee on Statistics (SCoS), for official data, replacing the Standing Committee on Economic Statistics (SCES) with an extended mandate to review all surveys conducted under the National Statistical Office (NSO), if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the detailed terms of reference and composition of the committee;**
- (c) the details regarding the utilisation of administrative statistics to enhance data outcomes as mandated to the SCoS and the progress made in this regard;**
- (d) the rationale behind reducing the number of committee members from 28 in SCES to 16 in SCoS and the impact on the diversity of perspectives and expertise in the committee; and**
- (e) the action taken to fill the two vacancies in the National Statistical Commission (NSC), considering the reconstitution of NSC last December and the current status of these appointments?**

**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): Consequent upon review of the Standing Committee on Economic Statistics (SCES), Ministry of Statistics & Programme**

**Implementation (MoSPI) has constituted the Standing Committee on Statistics (SCoS) vide order dated 13.07.2023, with enhanced Terms of Reference (ToR) to deliberate and deliver various issues related to all surveys as and when required by MoSPI.**

**(b): The composition and Terms of Reference of the committee are given in the statement at Annexure.**

**(c): The Standing Committee on Statistics (SCoS) was constituted vide MoSPI order dated 13.07.2023. The Committee, is mandated to provide guidance for study and exploring the availability of administrative statistics relating to surveys/statistics which is one of the ToR of SCoS.**

**(d): To begin with, the total number of members in the SCoS is kept as 16, however, provision is included to further strengthen the committee on the need basis by way of co-opting members and including experts as special invitees for specific requirements.**

**(e): The filling up of vacancies in the National Statistical Commission (NSC) is a continuous process. The Chairperson and Members of the NSC are selected on the basis of the recommendations of a Search Committee duly constituted by the Government of India from time to time for the purpose. Prof. Rajeeva Laxman Karandikar as Chairman and Prof. Mukesh Mohania & Shri Asit Kumar Sadhu as Members have been appointed in the NSC by the Government.**

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**Statement referred to in reply to parts (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2158 for 02.08.2023**

**I. Composition of the committee is as under:**

1.	Dr. Pronab Sen, former Program Director, India Team Researcher, International Growth Centre, New Delhi Email: pronab.sen@theigc.org	Chairman (Non-official)
2.	Prof. Sonal De Desai, Professor, National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi Email:- sonalde.desai@gmail.com, sdesai@umd.edu	Non-Official Member
3.	Dr. Biswanath Goldar, former Professor, Institute of Economic Growth(IEG), New Delhi Email: b_goldar77@yahoo.com	Non-Official Member
4.	Dr. S K Sasi Kumar, former Senior Fellow, VV Giri National Labour Institute (VVGNI), NOIDA, UP Email: sasikumarsk2@gmail.com	Non-Official Member
5.	Prof. S. Chandrasekhar, Professor, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai Email: chandra@igidr.ac.in	Official Member
6.	Director General (NSS), NSSO, MoSPI, New Delhi	Official Member
7.	Director General (Statistics), MoSPI, New Delhi	Official Member
8.	ADG, SCD, NSSO, MoSPI, Delhi	Official Member
9.	Executive Director (ED) or his representative, Modelling and Forecasting Division, Department of Statistics & Information Management (DSIM), Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai	Official Member
10.	Dr. Tauqueer Ahmad, Head of Division, Division of Sample Surveys, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI), New Delhi Email: tauqueer.ahmad@icar.gov.in	Official Member
11.	Dr. Sandip Mitra, Associate Professor, Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) Kolkata Email:sandip@isical.ac.in	Official Member
12.	Prof. Mausumi Bose, Professor, Applied Statistics Unit, Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Kolkata, Email: mausumi@isical.ac.in	Official Member*
13.	Representative from three State DES (including one from NE) on rotational basis where State participation is there.	Official Member
14.	ADG (SDRD), NSSO, MoSPI, Kolkata	Member Secretary

*Note: \*Prof Mausumi Bose, ISI, Kolkata, the official member will be considered as non-official members after her superannuation/retirement.*

**II. The ToR of the Standing Committee on Statistics (SCoS): Standing Committee shall deliberate and deliver various issues related to all surveys as and when required by MoSPI. Its Terms of Reference shall include:**

- i. To review the extant framework and to address the issues raised from time to time on the subject/results/methodology, etc. related to all surveys as brought before the SCoS by MoSPI.
- ii. To advise on survey methodology including sampling frame, sampling design, survey instruments, etc. and to finalize tabulation plan of surveys.
- iii. Finalization of survey results.
- iv. To provide guidance to conduct pilot surveys/pre-testing, if necessary, before finalizing schedules for data collection.
- v. To provide guidance for study and exploring the availability of administrative statistics relating to surveys/statistics.
- vi. To provide guidance for study/identify data gaps/additional data requirements, if any, in respect of surveys/statistics and suggest appropriate strategy for improvement.
- vii. To provide technical guidance to the Central and State (wherever State participation is there) level agencies for the conduct of the surveys.
- viii. Any other matter relating to the surveys/survey results referred to SCoS by MoSPI from time to time.