

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3770
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2024**

DATA COLLECTION EXERCISES IN WEST BENGAL

3770. DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken surveys or data collection exercises in the State of West Bengal to identify developmental gaps and track socio-economic progress and if so, the findings thereof; and**
- (b) the steps being taken to improve the accuracy and timeliness of statistical data under the Aspirational District Programme or other Central initiatives?**

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 National Statistics Office under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) is responsible for conducting sample surveys on various socio-economic subjects on All India basis. These surveys cover the entire country except some villages of Andaman & Nicobar Islands which remain inaccessible. The reports of these surveys alongwith their findings are available publicly on the website of MoSPI and give estimates of important indicators such as health, education, labour force, and economic planning, etc based on the Central sample data, both at the national level and the State/UT level. Further, the States/UTs, including West Bengal, also participate, through respective State agencies/DEs, in the socio-economic NSS round surveys conducted by MoSPI.

(b): Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) is a product of collective efforts in which States are the main drivers and aims to quickly and

effectively transform 112 most under-developed districts across the country. At Central level, this programme is anchored by NITI Aayog. NITI Aayog works closely with the respective line Ministries and various development partners to fast-track progress at the district level. Under the ADP, districts undertake various developmental projects to address critical gaps using the financial grants they win through the programme's delta ranking method. The ranking is based on the incremental progress made across 49 Key performance indicators under 5 broad socio-economic themes - Health & Nutrition, Education, Agriculture & Water Resources, Financial Inclusion & Skill Development and Infrastructure. The districts are also encouraged to develop and replicate best practices that drive improvement across the socio-economic themes. The performance of the Aspirational Districts is available in the public domain portal named “Champions of Change”.

To ensure the accuracy and timeliness of statistical data in surveys of MoSPI, robust and well-defined mechanisms are employed in different statistical products which undergo periodic improvements based on evolving needs, feedback, and advancements in methodologies to enhance their effectiveness. The primary data collection is being done in digital platform using Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) with in-built validation mechanism to ensure consistency at the stage of data collection. The accuracy of the data is ensured by multi-level data scrutiny and validation checks. A robust training mechanism is followed to address the conceptual queries and monitoring the data quality.
