CHAPTER IV

NATIONAL SAMPLE SURVEY ORGANISATION

Organisation and Functions

4.1 The National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) is responsible for conducting nation-wide surveys on various socio-economic aspects including follow-up surveys of Economic Census, field work relating to annual survey of Industries (ASI) supervision of area enumeration and crop estimation surveys of state agencies under the improvement of crop statistics scheme, urban frame survey with a view to prepare a frame of compact areal units of urban areas as the first stage sampling units (FSUs) organising methodological studies and pilot surveys on important subjects and collection of price data from rural and urban sectors. The organisation functions under the overall direction of a Governing Council with requisite independence and autonomy in the matter of collection, processing and publication of NSS data. In addition to the non-official Chairman, the Governing Council is composed of five academicians, five data users from Central and State Government departments and senior officers of the Ministry. The NSSO is headed by the Director General and Chief Executive Officer (DG&CEO) who is responsible for co-ordinating and supervising all activities of the organisation and is assisted by a small secretariat called Co-ordination and Publication Division (CPD). The DG and CEO is also Member-Secretary of the Governing Council. He is assisted by 4 Deputy Director Generals. The major activities of the NSSO pertains to Survey Design, Field Operations, Processing of data collected and releasing of the results based on surveys. The Survey Design and Research Division and Data Processing Division have its headquarters at Calcutta. The Field Operations Division has its headquarters at Delhi and Faridabad with a network of six Zonal offices, 45 Regional Offices and 120 Sub-Regional offices spread throughout the country. The Data Processing Division with its headquarters at Calcutta has Data Processing Centres at Delhi, Giridih, Nagpur, Bangalore, Ahmedabad and Calcutta. The division is entrusted with the responsibilities of sample selection, software development, processing and tabulation of data through various socio-economic surveys of National Sample Survey Organisation. The Co-ordinations and Publications Divisions apart from co-ordinating the activities of different Divisions and providing the secretarial assistance to the DG & CEO also brings out its quarterly journal Sarvekshana.

Governing Council of NSSO

4.2 The 78th meeting of Governing Council was held on 7.5.2001 at Kolkata. The Council inter-alia discussed the Provisional Results of Pilot Study on “Suitability of reference period for collection of data on food items through household consumer expenditure surveys”.

4.3 The 79th meeting of the Governing Council was held on 20.8.2001 at New Delhi. The Council inter-alia decided the subject coverage of 58th (July-Dec.2002) and 59th (Jan.-Dec.2003) rounds, 58th round will be for a period of six months and survey on Housing Conditions and Slums will be undertaken during this period. A village schedule for collecting details of village facilities will also be canvassed in the rural sample village during 58th round. Survey on Land and Livestock Holdings and All India Debt and Investment would be undertaken during NSS 59th round. Governing Council also recommended the continuation of annual sample survey on Consumer Expenditure and Employment and Unemployment during its 58th & 59th rounds.
4.4 4th meeting of the Working Group on 57th round of NSS was held on 24th September 2001 to discuss the Draft Tabulation Plan of 57th round survey.

4.5 Working Groups on 58th round (July-Dec 2002) and 59th (Jan-Dec 2003) have been set up in the MOS&PI to finalise the schedules of enquiry, sample design and other technical details of these surveys.

Statistical Co-ordination

4.6 In respect of Agricultural Statistics the NSSO has the responsibility of guiding the States for developing suitable technique for obtaining reliable and timely estimates of area & yield and ensuring adoption of uniform concepts, definition and procedures in the Crop Estimation Surveys (CES) being conducted by states for estimation of average yield rates on principal crops. It also keeps a continuous watch on the quality of Crop Statistics through the scheme for deficiencies in the state system of collection of crop statistics through joint efforts of Central and State agencies and to suggest suitable remedial measures. Under the scheme, sample checks on the primary field work relating to area enumeration and aggregation of area in approximately 5000 villages and supervision of 16000 Crop Cutting Experiments are undertaken by NSSO (FOD) in each agricultural year. The states are also participating in this programme of sample check on matching basis. In addition, sample check on aggregation of area figures above the village level i.e. at Tehsil, District and State level are also undertaken in 16 Land Records States spread over 32 Regions of NSSO as a part of ICS programme since 1980-81.

4.7 By August, 2001, the work relating to sample check on area enumeration was carried out in 1270, 4949, 4649 and 3380 villages against 1270, 4949, 4649 and 3440 as planned during Early Kharif, Kharif, Rabi and Summer season of 2000-2001 respectively. Sample check on Aggregation of Area was carried out in 476, 3879, 3915 and 2590 villages against 628, 4285, 4399 and 3215 as planned during Early Kharif, Kharif, Rabi and Summer 2000-2001 respectively. Progress of Sample Check on Aggregation of Area is slightly less due to non-completion of work by the State primary workers. Likewise, 15551 Crop Cutting Experiments were supervised against 15660 Crop Cutting Experiments as planned during 2000-2001.

4.8 For agricultural year 2001-2002 checking of area enumeration was completed in 688 villages during Early Kharif and 273 villages during Kharif up to August, 2001 as against 1270 and 4949 villages planned. Work relating to Aggregation of area was completed in 8 villages during Early Kharif and 99 villages during Kharif up to August, 2001 as against 628 and 4285 villages planned. For sample check on Crop Cutting Experiments 251 and 145 experiments were supervised up to August, 2001 during Early Kharif and Kharif seasons as against 1260 and 8950 experiments planned.

4.9 The data collected through the supervision of Crop Cutting Experiments at harvest stage are also utilised to compute the advance estimates of yield rates of specified crops of the states covered under ICS. During the agricultural year 2000-2001 estimates of yield rates for 155 crops out of 161 crops spread over 19 States/UT were forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi as per the pre decided time schedule. Yield Estimates for 6 crops could not be forwarded due to low response.

4.10 The findings of ICS are brought out in the form of reports viz. Status of Estimation of Crop Production in States as well as in all India. The State wise reports are brought out twice during each agricultural year. A consolidated report on the Status of Estimation of Crop Production in India is also prepared annually. Upto August, 2001,
Status Reports for Agricultural Year 1999-2000 (Kharif) were issued for 13 States/Uts out of 19 States/Uts.

4.11 Another report compiled on the data based on Crop Estimation Surveys conducted by the States is also brought out by A.S. Wing every year- entitled as “Consolidated Results of Crop Estimation Surveys on Principal Crops”. This report has been published for the year 1998-99 during the reference period.

4.12 The work of Indian Crop Calender (Phase-I) was completed during 1998. Phase-II of the Crop Calendar has been issued in two Volumes during the reference year. Indian Crop Calendar contains the information for 24 States out of 32 States for which data have been made available by concerned SASAs.

4.13 High Level Co-ordination Committees (HLCC) have been formed in the states to provide a link for proper co-ordination between the Centre and States forming a basis for the improvement in quality and maintaining timeliness of collection of Agricultural Statistics. During the year under reference, meetings of HLCC were held in Haryana, West Bengal, Punjab, Karnataka, Orissa and U.P States.

4.14 In addition to HLCC, District Level Committees (DLCs) are also functioning at decentralised level. These committees are entrusted with the task of examining at the field level, the reasons for variation in the entries as recorded by the Patwaris and as observed by Central/State supervisor during sample check on Area Enumeration work under ICS. The functioning of the committee goes a long way in effecting improvements in the State system of crop statistics. The response notice under this during the reference year is quite encouraging.

**Coding and Sampling Selections**

4.15 The entire exercise of revision of NSS-region codes and FOD SRO codes was taken up by DPD for the first time harmonizing with coding structure adopted by the Census Commission. While doing so, village and town lists at state level were also consulted. The selection of samples (first stage units) of NSS 57th round based on EC- 98 was completed by DPD in the month of June’2001. The sample has been selected using in-house software developed by the software group of the Division. After drawing the samples separately for rural and urban sectors from respective frames, the sample list was distributed through SDRD to States & FOD for canvassing the schedules of enquiry on the sample drawn.

**Collection Of Price Data**

4.16 The Field Operations Division of NSSO have been collecting the Middle Class Price Collection (MCPC) data on weekly basis for and on behalf of Central Statistical Organization (CSO) for compilation of Consumer Price Index Number in respect of Urban Non-Manual Employees (UNME) regularly with a view to depicting changes in the level of average retail prices of goods & services in the 59 centres, covering families deriving major portion of income from non-manual occupations in the non-agricultural sector of the country. The prescribed quotation of retail prices in respect of specified items in the 59 centres are collected from selected markets / shops / outlets patronized by this population segment. Apart from the Middle Class Price Collection Data a representative sample of rented dwelling occupied by non-manual families, the Middle Class House Rent (MCHR) and Middle Class Off-Take (MCOT) have also been canvassed under the house rent and off take survey at the interval of six months for collection of comparable house rent data. These house rent data have been utilized for the compilation of house rent index as constituent of the general CPI.
The base year of the current CPI (UNME) Series is 1984-85 and 1982-83 as the weighting diagram.

4.17 The CPI (UNME) series data are being used by the Banking Industry, Embassies for their wage revision and construction of Cost Inflation Index by Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) for computation of long term and short term Capital Gains.

4.18 The NSSO have been collecting Rural Retail Price Data on monthly basis along with price data for the daily wage rates of 18 major agricultural and non-agricultural occupations for and on behalf of Labour Bureau, M/o Labour for building up Consumer Price Index Number for Rural Labourers CPI (RL). The data collected from the 603 selected sample villages – markets / shops / outlets including public distribution ration shops with a view to reflect the price status and price changes in the basket of items (260 commodities / services) adopted in the base year of 1986-87 for this segment of the population.

**Urban Frame Survey**

4.19 Urban Frame Survey (UFS) therefore is one of the most important surveys conducted by Field Operations Division, (FOD), NSSO regularly since 1972. For conducting Socio Economic enquiries in urban areas, an updated frame of First Stage Units (FSUs) is an essential pre-requisite. Urban Frame Survey (UFS), therefore, is carried out by Field Operations Division to meet this objective. The purpose of the survey is to provide the timely updated sampling frame for identifying the First Stage Sampling Units in respect of Urban Sector in various Socio-Economic Survey rounds. Under the urban frame survey programme every town / city / urban agglomeration and outgrowths are updated over a period of five year which is known as phase. The UFS blocks are formed (like enumeration blocks in Census Operations) taking into account the increase / decrease in the population of cities / towns / urban agglomerations and also in newly declared towns. Each town / city is divided into areal compact UFS blocks with clear cut identifiable boundaries and permanent land marks having with the population content of 600 to 800 and 120 to 160 number of households.

4.20 The current phase 1997-2002 is going on w.e.f. July 1997 covering total of 4600 towns as per Census 1991 comprising the total number of 3,49,750 blocks.

4.21 Apart from the primary use of First Stage Sampling Frame in Socio-Economic Survey Rounds, the maps of UFS blocks are also being sold to the various Government and other user agencies and research institutions such as M/o Health, UNICEF, Planning Commission etc. An amount of Rs.1044900/- has been realized so far on account of sale of UFS Blocks. During the year 2001-2002 Rs.38,200/- have been realized on account of sale of UFS blocks till August, 2001.

**Annual Survey of Industries (ASI)**

4.22 The Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) is the principal source of Industrial Statistics in India. It provides statistical information to assess and evaluate the changes in the growth, composition and structure of the organized manufacturing (factory) sector comprising activities associated with or related to manufacturing process, repair services, generation, transmission etc. of electricity, gas and water supply undertakings and cold storage. The survey is conducted annually under the statutory provisions of Collection of Statistics Act, 1953. The ASI extends to the entire country except the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Sikkim and Union Territory of Lakshadweep. It covers all factories registered under section 2m(i) and 2m(ii) of the factory Act of 1948. The survey also covers Biri and Cigar Workers (Condition of employment) Act, 1966. The data collected through ASI relates to capital,
employment and emoluments, consumption of fuel and lubricants, raw materials and other input/output, value added, labour turnover, absenteeism, labour cost, construction of houses by employers for their employees and other characteristics of factories/industrial establishments. Field work for ASI is carried out by the Field Operations Division (FOD) of NSSO. The CSO (IS Wing) processes the data and disseminates the survey results.

4.23 The field work of ASI 99-2000 was completed on 31.3.2001. The overall completion was 27,692 factories as against net allotment of 28461 factories. During ASI 1999-2000 short schedule having 10 key parameters was also canvassed from all units to have quick estimates. As regards ASI 2000-2001 the “Standing Committee on Industrial Statistics” under the Chairmanship of Prof K.L.Krishna has gone into various issues of ASI including sampling design, criterion for census unit, ASI schedule (both SHORT and MAIN schedule). In order to obtain adequate estimates at State level in terms of their contribution to GVA, the census sector criterion has been redefined and the sample size increased quite significantly for ASI 2000-2001. The major changes introduced for ASI 2000-2001 includes the following:-

I. Sampling design: The sampling design adopted for ASI has undergone considerable changes from time to time, taking into account technical and other requirements. The Standing Committee on Industrial Statistics has recommended a revised sampling design for ASI 2000-2001. In accordance with the new sampling design, the definition of Census and sampling sectors have changed as follows: The Census sector will now consist of all units having 100 or more workers as against 200 or more workers adopted in ASI 1999-2000. Consequently, the sample sector criterion has also changed which now comprises of all units in the ASI frame minus the Census units i.e. in other words, such units having less than 100 workers. Proper statistical sampling technique is applied to select a suitable number of units from the sample sector domain depending upon the manageable limit as also for ensuring a desirable level of accuracy in the results.

II. Survey period: The total survey period for ASI 2000-2001 has been increased to 8 Months i.e. from September 2001 to April 2002. This includes entire fieldwork of SHORT schedule to be completed within 3 months time i.e. September 2001 to November 2001 whereas the fieldwork for MAIN schedule is to be completed by 30th April, 2002. It may be noted that the SHORT schedule has been introduced for the first time from ASI 1999-2000 in addition to the MAIN schedule. This one page schedule is independent of the MAIN schedule and is not a summary block like in previous ASI years. The SHORT schedule consists of 10 key parameters (i.e., number of employees, total wages, items of input, other expenses, gross sale, distributive expenses, other receipts, variation in stock of finished goods, depreciation and additions to fixed assets) for the use of CSO (National Accounts Division) to release quick estimates of key parameters in January 2002 for which CSO(IS Wing), Kolkata will make data entry, validation and generate quick estimates of key parameters by the end of December 2001.

III. Sample Size: Consequent upon above changes, the total allotment (all India) has been increased to 43,320 units for ASI 2000-2001, with a view to capture higher GVA from Census sector as well as to obtain more representative estimates at State level.
IV. **Non-operative Units**: Non operative units in the frame have been excluded for the purpose of selection of units for ASI 2000-2001 survey.

V. **Changes/modifications in ASI 2000-2001 Schedule**: Some new Items/Blocks have been introduced in the MAIN and SHORT schedules in response to specific demand for certain data as well as to strengthen the scope for internal data consistency checks.

VI. **Bilingual ASI Schedule**: Both the MAIN and SHORT schedules are now printed in bilingual form.

**Plan Schemes**

4.24 Keeping in view the modernisation of activities to be carried out, FOD has been operating the following four Plan Schemes:

(i) Strengthening of Training Facilities in Zonal Centres.
(ii) Strengthening and Streamlining of Field Offices.
(iii) Construction/Purchase of Office Accommodation for Field Offices.
(iv) On-line Transmission of Survey Data from field Offices to processing centres and modernization in the data collection system.

4.25 The following three schemes are being implemented in Data Processing Division during Ninth Plan:

(a) Construction of office building for NSSO at Calcutta.
(b) Rationalisation of Data Processing Facilities and
(c) Upgradation of the existing microprocessor system for accelerating data processing and creation of database for socio-economic surveys.

4.26 Keeping in view the modernisation of activities to be carried out, two Plan Schemes under the names

(a) Post survey Evaluation of the Sample Surveys conducted by NSSO.
(b) Organisation of Library and Modernisation of Statistical System are in operation in SDRD.

4.27 The following two schemes are being implemented in Co-ordination and Publication Division (CPD) of NSSO during Ninth Plan.

(i) Strengthening and Modernisation of NSS Publication
(ii) Grant-in-aid to North-Eastern States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura for carrying out Central NSS work.

**Sale of NSS Reports and Unit Level data**

4.28 NSS reports are sold on magnetic media as well as in the form of hard copies at nominal prices to institutions/individuals. Validated unit level data (household/enterprise) are also available at a nominal cost to the public for further research and analysis. Data can also be open by approved research institute/universities on free basis by signing an MOU with NSSO.

**Training**

FOD
Human Resource Development is an important activity for any organisation. For NSSO(FOD) which undertakes surveys of various kinds with changes in concept definition, methodology, design, etc., the training of its staff and officers on a continuous basis becomes all the more important. To meet this important objective, the Division has well developed institutional arrangements at the Zonal Centres and AS Wing, Faridabad with a Training Cell in Hqrs. to co-ordinate their activities and provide overall guidance. The Division organises different courses for its staff and officers which include scheme specific refresher courses. Its officers/staff are also nominated to attend courses organised by other institutions as well.

The Scheme Specific training course on “Annual Survey of Industries” for Supdts.& Asstt.Supdts have been organised in all the Zonal Training Centres except North-Eastern Zone during May, June, July, August & September 2001. Appox. 271 Supdts and Asstt.Supdt. have been trained during this period.

Training Course on Agricultural Statistics for Supdts & Asstt. Supdts. have been conducted by A. S. Wing, Faridabad during June, July, August & September 2001. Appox. 100 officials attended the same.

The Scheme Specific training course on “Socio Economic Survey” was organised in all the Zonal Training Centres in July 2001. 138 Asstt. Supdts. attended the same. One training course has been organised at Lucknow during August 2001 and 25 Asstt.Supdt. attended the training.

Training Course on “Urban Frame Survey” was organised during September, 2001 in all the Zonal Centres except North-Eastern Zone. About 90 officials attended the same.

Training course on Induction Training Programme for Investigators was organised at Southern Zonal Training Centre, Bangalore during 13-30.8.2001. 19 Investigators have attended the same.

Computer Training courses in WINDOWS based application packages including Internet & E-Mail have been organised in SRO/R.O and Hqrs. level. About 700 officials were trained.

In addition to above training programmes organised by this Division, its officers served as faculty in various training programmes organised by Training Division, Central Statistical Organisation from time to time. 7 Officers and 8 staff members of the Division also participated in the training programmes organised by NIC & ISTM and CSO respectively.


Besides, the in house courses conducted in the Zonal Centres, the officers and staff of FOD are nominated to attend the courses organised by Central Statistical Organisation, Institute of Secretariate Training & Management National Informatics Centre, etc.

As part of its continuing endeavour to spread computer literacy and awareness among its staff/officers, the Field Operations Division has taken up the project of engaging...
the services of reputed institutions both in public sector, and private to train its officials in computer Application covering specially various modules of integrated software package MS-Office and Internet including E-mail. So far we have been able to impart training to more than 2500 officials from different field offices of the Division and Hqrs. Remaining Staff comprising about 600 officials are proposed to be trained through series of training programmes/courses being organised in about 30 centres during the year.

DPD

4.40 One day training programme for a group of ISEC trainees was organized by DPD on 25th April’ 2001 at DPD (HQ), Kolkata.

4.41 An in-house administrative training of HBA rules for the officials was organized at DPD (HQ) during 26th & 27th April, 2001.

4.42 A comprehensive training on NSS-55th round data entry software developed by DPD was imparted to the officials of nine (9) SSBs (Orissa, Tripura, Mizoram, Sikkim, Pondicherry, Andra Pradesh, Goa, Assam & Bihar) at DPD (HQ) during 11-13th June, 2001.

4.43 A training programme on UNIX for all the officials of DPC, Delhi was organized on 8.06.01 & 21.06.01 respectively.

4.44 Hands-on training on ‘Windows Operating System’ for the data-entry officials of DPC, Kolkata was organized in-house between 10-18.09.2001 followed by other DP Centres.

4.45 Training programme on DE & validation software (developed in-house by DPD) was organised for the officers of Computer Centre, New Delhi at DPC, Delhi during 17 & 18th Sept.’2001.

4.46 The IT-experts of DPD, Kolkata & DPC, Delhi went to DES, Chandigarh to impart computer training to the officials from DES, Chandigarh, Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh.

4.47 A software expert of DPD(HQ) went to Bihar to assist SSB, Bihar for 55th round data processing.


4.49 PD (HQ) organised a 2-day seminar on ‘System of National Accounts’ held on 16th & 17th August, 2001 where officers from NAD delivered lectures.