

11

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
(2019-20)

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND
PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(2020-21)

ELEVENTH REPORT



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

March, 2020 / Agrahayana, 1941 (Saka)



ELEVENTH REPORT

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
(2019-20)

(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND
PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(2020-21)

Presented to Lok Sabha on 12th March, 2020

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 12th March, 2020



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

March, 2020 / Phalguna, 1941 (Saka)

CONTENTS

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE	(iii)
INTRODUCTION.....	(iv)

PART-I

BACKGROUND ANALYSIS

	Page Nos.
I. Introductory	1
II. Budgetary Allocations	6
III. Indian Statistical Institute (ISI)	16
IV. Manpower related issues	20

PART-II

Observations / Recommendations of the Committee	24-29
---	-------

ANNEXURES

Minutes of the sittings held on 25th February and 6th March, 2020. 30-34



COMPOSITION OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE (2019-20)

Shri Jayant Sinha - Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri S.S. Ahluwalia
3. Shri Subhash Chandra Baheria
4. Shri Vallabhaneni Balashowry
5. Shri Shirang Appa Barne
6. Dr. Subhash Ramrao Bhamre
7. Smt. Sunita Duggal
8. Shri Gaurav Gogoi
9. Shri Sudheer Gupta
10. Smt. Darshana Vikram Jardosh
11. Shri Manoj Kishorbhai Kotak
12. Shri Pinaki Misra
13. Shri P.V Midhun Reddy
14. Prof. Saugata Roy
15. Shri Gopal Chinayya Shetty
16. Dr. (Prof.) Kirit Premjibhai Solanki
17. Shri Manish Tewari
18. Shri P. Velusamy
19. Shri Parvesh Sahib Singh Verma
20. Shri Rajesh Verma
21. Shri Giridhari Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

22. Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar
23. Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan
24. Shri Praful Patel
25. Shri Amar Patnaik
26. Shri Mahesh Poddar
27. Shri C.M. Ramesh
28. Shri T.K. Rangarajan
29. Shri G.V.L Narasimha Rao
30. Dr. Manmohan Singh
31. Smt. Ambika Soni

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Vinod Kumar Tripathi - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Ramkumar Suryanarayanan - Director
3. Shri Kulmohan Singh Arora - Additional Director
4. Shri Tenzin Gyaltsen - Under Secretary

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Finance, having been authorised by the Committee, present this Eleventh Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2020-21)' of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

2. The Demands for Grants (2020-21) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation were laid on the Table of the House on 11th February, 2020 under Rule 331E of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

3. The Committee took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation on 25 February, 2020. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the representatives of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for appearing before the Committee and furnishing the material and information which the Committee desired in connection with the examination of the Demands for Grants (2020-21).

4. The Committee considered and adopted this Report at their Sitting held on 06 March, 2020.

5. For facility of reference, the Observations / Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold at the end of the Report.

New Delhi;
06 March, 2020
16 Phalgun, 1941 (Saka)

SHRI JAYANT SINHA,
Chairperson
Standing Committee on Finance

PART- I
CHAPTER - I

INTRODUCTORY

1.1 The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) is the nodal agency for planning and facilitating the integrated development of the national statistical system. The MoSPI has two Wings viz. Statistics Wing, called National Statistical Office (NSO), and Programme Implementation (PI) Wing. NSO is responsible for all statistical activities of the Ministry. The PI Wing monitors high value Central Sector Projects (costing Rs. 150 crore and above) with respect to time and cost overrun and implements the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS). Besides, there is a National Statistical Commission (NSC) established through a Resolution of Government of India and one autonomous institute viz. Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) declared as an institute of national importance by an Act of Parliament (ISI Act, 1959). The Ministry also functions as the cadre controlling authority for two services namely, Indian Statistical Service (ISS) (Group-A) and Subordinate Statistical Service (SSS) (Group-B). MoSPI has two wings namely, Statistics Wing called National Statistical Office (NSO) and Programme Implementation Wing.

1.2 On the issue of availability of reliable and timely statistics to planners and policy makers for informed decision making and good governance, the Ministry in a written reply stated that it has been playing an active role in responding to the emerging and evolving information/ data needs on a wide range of socio-economic-demographic issues. National Statistical Office of this Ministry lays down and maintains norms and standards in the field of Official Statistics, evolving concepts, definitions, classifications and methodologies of data collection, processing of data and release of results. It also coordinates statistical activities amongst Ministries/Departments of the Government of India as well as with the State Governments to improve the quality of statistical processes and products, identifying gaps in data availability or duplication of statistical work and suggesting remedial measures, and reducing time-lag in bringing out various statistical products. Several initiatives have been taken for reforming the national statistical system including those in pursuance of the recommendations of National Statistical Commission headed by Dr. C. Rangarajan (2000-2001). These, inter-alia, include setting up of National

Statistical Commission (NSC) as an apex advisory body on statistical matters, enacting Collection of Statistics Act 2008, adopting international standards of data collection and dissemination in the field of national accounts, price statistics, industrial statistics, designing National Indicator Framework(NIF) for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). MoSPI has been separately pursuing ISO certifications for its statistical processes, and presently the National Accounts Division and Price Statistics Division of NSO are having ISO: 9001-2015 certifications. The Ministry has also notified the National Quality Assurance Framework in April, 2018 to be voluntarily administered by statistical offices in India for a self-assessment score of their quality processes. This is based on the United Nations Quality Assurance Framework.

National Statistical Office (NSO)

1.3 The NSO brings out important economic indicators such as Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Index of Industrial Production (IIP) and Consumer Price Index (CPI) and other official statistics to support government decision making and framing of appropriate socio-economic policies/programmes. These statistical products/ outcomes are consistent with the relevant international standards. The GDP estimates are released quarterly and annually as per an advance release calendar. The methodology used in the process is consistent with the United Nations guidelines contained in System of National Accounts-2008. The monthly Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is released with a two month lag, as per the methodology adopted from international standards. It is used as a short term indicator by planners and policy makers for assessing industrial growth. The monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) is released with a 12 days lag, as per the methodology adopted from international standards/ best practices. It is used as a short term indicator by planners and policy makers for assessing levels of living. It is also used as a measure of retail inflation by the Reserve Bank of India in regulating its monetary policy. The NSO also has a vast network of field offices spread across the length and breadth of the country for conducting nationwide large scale socio-economic surveys on a regular basis for providing insight into various facets of economy and society at large. Being the nodal agency in the country for official Statistics, the Ministry coordinates statistical activities amongst Ministries /Departments of the Government of India as well as with the State/UT Governments. Broadly, the NSO is mandated with the following responsibilities:

- (i) To act as the nodal agency for planned development of the statistical system in the country
- (ii) To formulate and maintain norms and standards related to statistics
- (iii) To coordinate the statistical work in respect of the Central Ministries/Departments and State Directorate of Economics & Statistics (DESS)
- (iv) To prepare and publish National Accounts Statistics, namely, Gross Domestic Product(GDP), Private Final Consumption Expenditure (PFCE), Capital Formation, Savings, etc
- (v) To compile and release Consumer Price Index (CPI) Numbers and Annual Inflation rates based on these CPI numbers
- (vi) To compile and release the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) every month;
- (vii) To conduct large scale all-India socio-economic sample surveys
- (viii) To conduct the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI)
- (ix) To conduct other surveys like price collection surveys, agriculture area enumeration and crop cutting experiments, urban frame surveys etc.
- (x) To conduct periodic all-India Economic Censuses and follow-up enterprise surveys
- (xi) To maintain liaison with international Statistical Organizations, such as the United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD), ESCAP, the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP), IMF, ADB, FAO, ILO, SAARC, OECD, etc.
- (xii) To bring out reports as per the international/regional commitments such as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) India Country Report and SAARC Development Goals India Country Report.

Programme Implementation (PI) Wing

1.4 The Programme Implementation Wing has the following responsibilities:

- (i) Monitoring the performance of the country's eleven key infrastructure sectors, viz., Power, Coal, Steel, Railways, Telecommunications, Ports, Fertilizers, Cement, Petroleum & Natural Gas, Roads and Civil Aviation
- (ii) Monitoring of all Central Sector Projects costing Rs.150 crore and above
- (iii) Implementation of Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS).

5 When asked about the effectiveness of the project monitoring done by Ministry *vis-a-vis* time and cost overruns and whether the same has helped in taking timely remedial measures by the Administrative Ministries, the Ministry in a written reply submitted that:

- (i) Infrastructure & Project Monitoring Division of this Ministry monitors on-going Central Sector Infrastructure Projects costing Rs. 150 crore and above through On-line Computerized Monitoring System (OCMS) on time and cost overruns, on the basis of information provided by the project implementing agencies.
- (ii) The Public Sector Undertakings are required to furnish information on-line in the OCMS. The physical performance is measured in terms of milestones and percentage physical progress against the target dates and quantities whereas the financial performance is measured on a yearly basis with respect to the link expenditure on each project.
- (iii) On the basis of above information, the Ministry provides project status information on ongoing Central Sector Infrastructure Projects which, inter alia, includes time overruns, cost overruns, expenditure, reasons for time/cost overrun to various stakeholders like PMO, Cabinet Secretariat, NITI Aayog, Ministry of Finance etc.
- (iv) Regular communications are being sent at the level of Hon'ble Minister and Secretary to the administrative Ministries regarding the implementation of the Projects. The MoSPI flags the issues of concern through monthly Flash Report and the DO letters to the Secretaries of the respective Ministries.
- (v) The major steps undertaken to ensure completion of Central Sector Infrastructure Projects without time and cost overruns include: Periodic review of projects under PRAGATI through video conferencing; rigorous project appraisal; On-line Computerized Monitoring System (OCMS) for better monitoring; setting up of Revised Cost Committees in the Ministries for fixation of responsibility for time and cost overruns; regular review of infrastructure projects by the concerned administrative Ministries; and setting up of Central Sector Projects Coordination Committees (CSPCCs) in the States under the Chief Secretaries for removal of bottlenecks; and for facilitating the speedy implementation of major projects.
- (vi) As on 01.12.2019, a total of 1698 projects with anticipated cost of Rs.24.42 lakh crore are being monitored by this Ministry. Of these, 578 are showing time overruns,

- 400 are showing cost overruns and 202 are showing both time and cost overruns with respect to their original project implementation schedule.
- (vii) The impact of monitoring of such on-going Central Sector Infrastructure Projects have resulted in the reduction of percentage of project having time overrun from 47.33% in March, 2011 to 34.04% in November,2019. The number of completed projects has also increased during last five years from 72 in the year 2014-15 to 166 in the current financial year 2019-20 (upto Nov 2019).
 - (viii) The Ministry pro-actively pursues the concerned project implementing agencies to update/ upload the data / information of their projects on OCMS at www.cspm.gov.in so that the monitoring of the projects may be done on time. Having regard to this, the number of projects monitor on OCMS has been increased from 562 in March 2011 to 1698 in November 2019.
 - (ix) According to analysis carried out by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, a number of factors have been observed for delay such as Slow progress/ insufficient resource mobilization, Fund Constraints, Land acquisition Problems, delay in getting Environment Clearances, Delay in supply of Equipment and Law & Order problems. Accountability & issues for time and cost overruns are fixed by the respective administrative Ministries on the basis of the recommendations of the Standing Committees set up by them

National Statistical Commission (NSC)

1.6 The Government of India, through a MoSPI resolution dated 1st June, 2005, decided to set up the National Statistical Commission (NSC). The NSC is mandated to evolve policies, priorities and standards in statistical matters and provides technical advice to monitor / enforce statistical priorities and standards pertaining to the national statistical system. The NSC has four part-time Members besides a part-time Chairperson, each having specialization and experience in specified statistical fields. CEO, NITI Aayog is an ex-officio Member of the Commission. The Chief Statistician of India is the Secretary to NSC. NSC has a permanent secretariat headed by a Joint Secretary level Officer, assisted by supporting staff, from MoSPI. The main functions of the Commission is to evolve strategies for improving the statistical system of the country, besides serving as a nodal and empowered body for all core statistical activities of the country and evolving, monitoring and enforcing statistical priorities and standards.

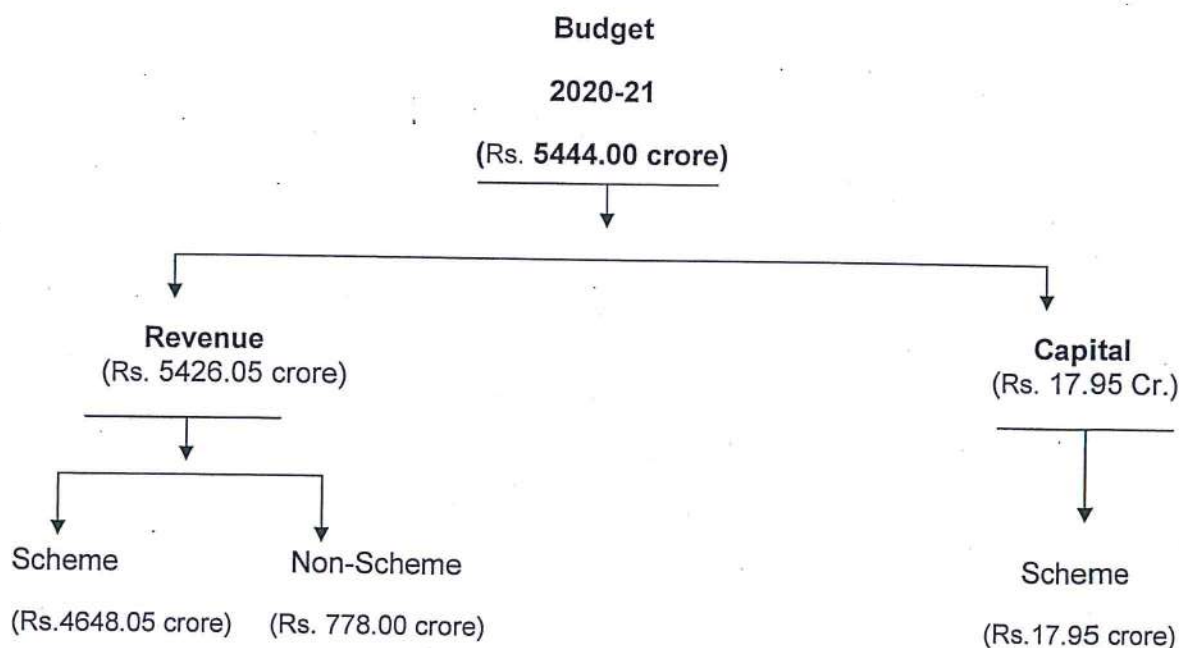


CHAPTER II

BUDGETARY ALLOCATION

BUDGET 2019-2020

2.1. The Demands for Grants under Demand No. 95 for the Ministry includes a budget proposal of Rs.5444.00 crore for the year 2020-21. The demand under Revenue is Rs.5426.05 crore and under Capital is Rs.17.95 crore. The Ministry proposes to undertake two Schemes viz., Capacity Development (CD) Scheme and Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) with an estimated outlay of Rs.4648.05 crore under Revenue and Rs.17.95 crore under Capital.



2.2. A statement showing Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Accruals for 2017-2018, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 and Budget Estimates for 2020-2021 both under Plan/Scheme and Non-Plan/Non-Scheme is given below :

Statement showing BE, RE and Actuals for 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and BE for 2020-21

(Total Plan/Scheme and Total Non plan/Non-Scheme)										
	2017-18			2018-19			2019-20			2020-21
	BE	RE	Actual	BE	RE	Actual	BE	RE	(*)Expenditure (based on e-lekha as on 31.12.19)	
Non-Plan/Non-Scheme (Total MOSPI)	67,746.00	67,200.00	65,359.45	70,100.00	73,962.00	73,145.78	74,223.00	74,223.00	57,102.00	77,800.00
(%ge change)				(3.5%)	(10.1%)	(11.9%)	(5.9%)	(0.4%)	(76.9%)	(4.8%)
Plan/Scheme (Without MPLADS)	16,828.00	16,100.00	14,447.26	20,800.00	23,900.00	21,614.95	52,883.00	52,883.00	33,059.00	70,600.00
(%ge change)				(23.6%)	(48.4%)	(49.6%)	(154.2%)	(121.3%)	(62.5%)	(33.5%)
TOTAL (Plan/Scheme + NP/NS) without MPLADS	84,574.00	83,300.00	79,806.71	90,900.00	97,862.00	94,760.73	127,106.00	127,106.00	90,161.00	148,400.00
(%ge change)				(7.5%)	(17.5%)	(18.7%)	(39.8%)	(29.9%)	(70.9%)	(16.8%)
MPLADS	395,000.00	395,000.00	350,400.00	395,000.00	395,000.00	394,950.00	396,000.00	396,000.00	256,250.00	396,000.00
(%ge change)				(0.0%)	(0.0%)	(12.7%)	(0.3%)	(0.3%)	(64.7%)	(0.0%)
TOTAL Plan/Scheme (including MPLADS)	411,828.00	411,100.00	364,847.26	415,800.00	418,900.00	416,564.95	448,883.00	448,883.00	289,309.00	466,600.00
(%ge change)				(1.0%)	(1.9%)	(14.2%)	(8.0%)	(7.2%)	(64.5%)	(3.9%)
G. TOTAL MOSPI (Plan/Scheme + NP/NS)	479,574.00	478,300.00	430,206.71	485,900.00	492,862.00	489,710.73	523,106.00	523,106.00	346,411.00	544,400.00
(%ge change)				(1.3%)	(3.0%)	(13.8%)	(7.7%)	(6.1%)	(66.2%)	(4.1%)

Note : %ge increase (+) / decrease (-) has been calculated using figures of the current year over the corresponding figure of previous year.

* : %ge increase (+) / decrease (-) has been calculated using figures of the current year BE



3. A statement showing major head and Division wise break up is given below:

Statement showing BE, RE and Actuals for 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and BE for 2020-21 (Major Head wise and Division wise)										
(Plan/Scheme and Non Plan/Non-Scheme)										
	2017-18			2018-2019			2019-2020			2020-2021
		R.E.	Actuals	B.E.	R.E.	Actuals	B.E.	R.E.	(*)Expenditure (based on e-lekha as on 31.12.19)	B.E.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Major Head "2052" / 00.090. Sectt. General Services										
Non-Plan/Non-Scheme	7.40	7.26	6.83	7.66	7.66	7.32	8.14	8.14	5.53	8.51
%ge increase				(3.5%)	(5.5%)	(7.2%)	(6.3%)	(6.3%)	(67.9%)	(4.5%)
Major Head"2553"/00.101.MPLADS										
Plan/Scheme	3,950.00	3,950.00	3,504.00	3,950.00	3,950.00	3,949.50	3,960.00	3,960.00	2,562.50	3,960.00
%ge increase				(0.0%)	(0.0%)	(12.7%)	(0.3%)	(0.3%)	(64.7%)	(0.0%)
Major Head"3451" / 00.090 Sectt. Economic Services										
Non-Plan/Non-Scheme	24.54	25.83	24.86	26.84	25.91	24.00	27.30	27.30	18.35	28.41
%ge increase				(9.4%)	(0.3%)	(-3.5%)	(1.7%)	(-5.4%)	(67.2%)	(4.1%)
Major Head"3451" / 00.090.51-National Statistical Commission										
Non-Plan/Non-Scheme	1.50	0.92	0.90	1.43	1.13	0.80	1.16	1.16	0.77	1.41
%ge increase				(-4.7%)	(22.8%)	(-11.1%)	(-18.9%)	(2.7%)	(66.4%)	(21.6%)
Major Head"3454" / 02.201 NSSO										
Non-Plan/Non-Scheme	310.22	316.84	316.45	333.39	333.39	339.99	351.29	351.29	286.85	368.11
%ge increase				(7.5%)	(5.2%)	(7.4%)	(5.4%)	(5.4%)	(81.7%)	(4.8%)
Major Head"3454" / 02.202 ISI, Kolkata										
Plan/Scheme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
%ge increase										
Non-Plan/Non-Scheme	274.15	269.65	259.81	275.32	315.39	311.04	276.52	276.52	215.07	313.47
%ge increase				(0.4%)	(17.0%)	(19.7%)	(0.4%)	(-12.3%)	(77.8%)	(13.4%)
Major Head"3454" / 02.203 Computer Services										
Plan/Scheme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
%ge increase										
Non-Plan/Non-Scheme	6.83	6.83	6.45	7.19	7.19	7.17	7.56	7.56	5.92	7.78
%ge increase				(5.3%)	(5.3%)	(11.2%)	(5.1%)	(5.1%)	(78.3%)	(2.9%)
Major Head"3454" / 02.204 Central Statistical Office										
Plan/Scheme	123.23	115.95	136.28	172.20	203.20	210.78	487.10	487.10	324.44	656.05
%ge increase				(39.7%)	(75.2%)	(54.7%)	(182.9%)	(139.7%)	(66.6%)	(34.7%)
Non-Plan/Non-Scheme	42.75	40.60	36.56	42.77	42.55	39.27	45.37	45.37	37.05	47.79
%ge increase				(0.0%)	(4.8%)	(7.4%)	(6.1%)	(6.6%)	(81.7%)	(5.3%)
Major Head"3454" / 02.798 International Cooperation										
Non-Plan/Non-Scheme	0.20	0.20	0.16	0.20	0.20	0.18	0.20	0.20	0.17	0.18
%ge increase				(0.0%)	(0.0%)	(12.5%)	(0.0%)	(0.0%)	(85.0%)	(-10.0%)
Major Head"3454" / 02. 800 Programme Implementation										
Plan/Scheme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
%ge increase										
Major Head"3454" / 02. 800 Other Expenditure (Includes Departmental Canteen)										
Non-Plan/Non-Scheme	1.87	1.87	1.56	2.10	2.10	1.69	2.27	2.27	1.38	2.34
%ge increase				(12.3%)	(12.3%)	(8.3%)	(8.1%)	(8.1%)	(60.8%)	(3.1%)
Major Head"3601" / 03.432 Grant-in-aid to State Govts.										
Plan/Scheme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

% increase										
Major Head "3602" / 03.432 Grant-in-aid to UTs Govts.										
Plan/Scheme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
%ge increase										
Major Head "2552" - North Eastern Area										
Plan/Scheme	16.80	16.80	-	20.80	20.80	-	27.00	27.00	-	32.00
%ge increase			-	(23.8%)	(23.8%)	-	(29.8%)	(29.8%)	-	(18.5%)
Non-Scheme	8.00	2.00	-	4.10	4.10	-	22.42	22.42	-	-
%ge increase			-	(48.8%)	(105.0%)	-	(446.8%)	(446.8%)	-	(100.0%)
Major Head "5475" Capital Outlay										
Plan/Scheme	28.25	28.25	8.20	15.00	15.00	5.37	14.73	14.73	6.15	17.95
%ge increase				(46.9%)	(46.9%)	(34.5%)	(1.8%)	(1.8%)	(41.8%)	(21.9%)
TOTAL (All Major Heads)										
Total Non-Plan/Non-Scheme	677.46	672.00	653.58	701.00	739.62	731.46	742.23	742.23	571.09	778.00
(% increase)				(3.5%)	(10.1%)	(11.9%)	(5.9%)	(0.4%)	(76.9%)	(4.8%)
Total Plan/Scheme	4,118.28	4,111.00	3,648.48	4,158.00	4,189.00	4,165.65	4,488.83	4,488.83	2,893.09	4,666.00
(% increase)				(1.0%)	(1.9%)	(14.2%)	(8.0%)	(7.2%)	(64.5%)	(3.9%)
Grand Total	4,795.74	4,783.00	4,302.06	4,859.00	4,928.62	4,897.11	5,231.06	5,231.06	3,464.18	5,444.00
(% increase)				(1.3%)	(3.0%)	(13.8%)	(7.7%)	(6.1%)	(66.2%)	(4.1%)
Note: %ge increase (+) / decrease (-) has been calculated using figures of the current over corresponding figure of previous year.										
(*) : %ge increase (+) / decrease (-) has been calculated using figures of the current year BE										

NON-SCHEME 2019-20

2.4. The Ministry's Non-Scheme budget of Rs.778.00 crore in 2020-21 is primarily salary oriented as the major function of the Statistics Wing (NSO) is to conduct census / surveys, collect, analyses and disseminate data, which is a staff intensive function. The major components of the Non-Scheme budget for the Ministry during 2020-21 are given below:

Object Head	Budget	% of total Non-Scheme Budget
Salaries	Rs. 43287.00 lakh	55.64 %
Domestic Travels	Rs. 903.95 lakh	1.16 %
Foreign Travel	Rs. 15.66 lakh	0.02 %
Office Expenses	Rs. 1052.09 lakh	1.35 %
Rent Rates & Taxes	Rs. 310.04 lakh	0.40 %
Publications	Rs. 48.98 lakh	0.06 %
OAE	Rs. 269.80 lakh	0.35%
Grants-in-aid to ISI, Kolkata	Rs. 31347.00 lakh	40.29 %
Others	Rs. 556.48 lakh	0.73%

The Ministry provides Grants-in-Aid to ISI for its functioning, academic activities and infrastructure creation and its maintenance as part of the Non-Scheme component of the budget. ISI is devoted to the research, teaching and application of statistics, natural sciences and social sciences. The institute gained the status of an Institution of National Importance through Indian Statistical Institute Act, 1959. Section 4 of the ISI Act, empowers ISI, *inter-alia*, to grant degrees and diplomas in statistics, mathematics, quantitative economics, computer science and such other subjects related to statistics. From the budget of the Ministry, an amount of Rs.31347.00 lakh has been kept as grants-in-aid to the Institute, as Non Scheme allocation during 2020-21. National Statistical Commission Non Scheme budget for the year 2020-21-has been pegged at Rs.1.41crore. Trend of Non-Scheme expenditure indicates an increase in expenditure from Rs.742.23 crore in 2019-20 (RE) to Rs.778.00 crore (BE) during 2020-21.

SCHEME 2020-21

2.5 The Ministry has been implementing two Central Sector schemes namely, Capacity Development (CD) Scheme and Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS). The total Scheme budget proposal in 2020-21 for the Ministry is Rs.4666.00 crore. MPLAD Scheme has a budget provision of Rs.3960.00 crore which is

around 84.87% of total Scheme outlay of Ministry. Out of Rs.706.00 crore for CD Scheme, the major components of expenditure are as follows::

<u>Object Head</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of total Scheme Budget of Rs. 706.00 Cr</u>
Salaries	Rs. 1000.00 lakh	1.42 %
Domestic Travels	Rs. 2177.00 lakh	3.08 %
Foreign Travels	Rs. 41.00 lakh	0.06 %
Office Expenses	Rs. 1451.70 lakh	2.06 %
Rent Rates & Taxes	Rs. 201.00 lakh	0.28 %
Publications	Rs. 216.50 lakh	0.31 %
Other Admn. Expenses	Rs. 1276.50 lakh	1.81 %
Advertising & Publicity	Rs. 1264.96 lakh	1.79 %
Professional Services	Rs. 51369.24 lakh	72.76 %
Information Technology	Rs. 1704.00 lakh	2.41 %
Machinery & Equipment	Rs. 1345.00 lakh	1.91 %
Major Works	Rs. 450.00 lakh	0.64 %
Lump sum provision for NE States	Rs. 3200.00 lakh	4.53 %
Others	Rs. 4903.10 lakh	6.94 %

- (i) The proposed outlay under grants-in-aid (under scheme) during 2020-21 is Rs.3993.20 crore which includes :
- (a) Rs.3950.00 crore for MPLAD Scheme
- (b) Rs.43.20 crore for Capacity Development Scheme.
- (ii) The table below provides information on the Scheme provision (BE, RE and Actuals) during 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 (BE). A brief of major activities of schemes of MoSPI is at as follows :

MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
Plan/Scheme-wise allocation of BE, RE & Actual Expenditure 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21

(Plan/ Scheme Budget)

Sl. No.	Name of the plan/scheme	11th Plan Outlay (2007-12) (' in Crore)	2017-18	2018-19			2019-20			2020-21
			Actual expenditure	BE	RE	Actual expenditure	BE	RE	Expenditure (based on e-lekha on 31.12.19)	BE
Centrally Sponsored Schemes (1+2):										
1	# Basic Statistics for Local Level Development	-								
2	# India Statistical Strengthening Project (Modernisation of Statistical System in India)	-								
Central Sector Schemes (3 to 8):										
3	Capacity Development	364.50	14,447.26	20,800.00	23,900.00	21,615.18	52,883.00	52,883.00	33,059.00	70,600.00
4	Sixth Economic Census**	91.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total NSO (1 to 4)	455.50	14,447.26	20,800.00	23,900.00	21,615.18	52,883.00	52,883.00	33,059.00	70,600.00
5	Grant in aid to ISI	120.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
P.I. Wing										
6	Strengthening, Monitoring and Evaluation for Projects & Programmes*	18.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total MOSPI (without MPLADS)	594.00	14,447.26	20,800.00	23,900.00	21,615.18	52,883.00	52,883.00	33,059.00	70,600.00
7	MPLADS		350,400.00	395,000.00	395,000.00	394,950.00	396,000.00	396,000.00	256,250.00	396,000.00
	Grand Plan/Scheme Total (MOSPI)	594.00	364,847.26	415,800.00	418,900.00	416,565.18	448,883.00	448,883.00	289,309.00	466,600.00

ISSP and BSLLD merged and became Support for Statistical Strengthening from the year 2014-15.

* The Scheme 'Strengthening, Monitoring and Evaluation for Projects & Programmes' has been merged with the Plan Scheme Capacity Development w.e.f. 2015-16

** Support for Statistical Strengthening and Economic Census have become the Sub Scheme of Capacity Development with effect from 2016-17.

- (ii) Demands for Grants 2020-21 and recommendations of the Committee as contained in the fifth report of the Committee on Demands for Grants 2019-20. Based on the recommendations of the Committee, budget requirements for meeting additional demands for activities of the Ministry has been provisioned through the Demands for Grants 2020-21.

2.6 Statement on Output-Outcome Indicators for Statistical Strengthening (SSS) Scheme: The objective of the SSS is to improve the statistical capacity and operations of State Statistical Systems for collecting, compiling and disseminating reliable official statistics for policy planning at the State and Sub-State levels. The scheme is being implemented through the State Directorates/ Bureau of Economics & Statistics, as per the approved activities detailed in Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) signed between Government of India and the respective States/UTs.

2.7 When asked to specify the reasons for an increase of Rs. 5 crore to Rs. 32 crore in the BE of 2020-21 while the BE and RE of 2019-20 stood steady at Rs. 27 crores under the Major Head 2552 of Demand No. 95 for 'Provision for scheme for the benefit of North-Eastern Region & Sikkim', the Ministry in a written reply stated that support for Statistical Strengthening (SSS) is a sub-scheme of the Capacity Development Scheme whereby Grants-in-Aid are provided to States for strengthening their statistical systems, and for improved data flow. Earlier, in North-Eastern Region, the States of Sikkim, Mizoram and Manipur were the only States covered under SSS Scheme. The States of Meghalaya and Assam joined the scheme in 2018-19. States of Nagaland and Tripura have signed the MoU in 2019-20. Arunachal Pradesh has also submitted the draft programme to avail funds under the scheme. In 2020-21, the increased BE is for meeting the requirement of funds of the States already implementing the scheme as well as the ones that are in advance stages of initiating the implementation. The improvements that have resulted in the current implementing states and that have been envisaged in the new States, include strengthened statistical system, enabled IT environment, faster data processing and transmission, enhanced capacity of statistical personnel, etc. The Capacity Development Scheme (CD Scheme) was evaluated by the National Institute of Financial Management (NIFM) during 2017. After comprehensive evaluation of the scheme the NIFM submitted its report in August, 2017 which, *inter-alia*, recommended for its continuation for the period

2017-2020. The CD Scheme was approved for its continuation for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20 by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) with an outlay of Rs. 2250 crore in August, 2018.

2.8 Statement on Output-Outcome Indicators for MPLADS :

- (i) Under the scheme of MPLADS, an aggregate amount of Rs 53189.75 crores have been released by the Ministry till 31.12.2019. During the same period, the District Authorities are reported to have issued the sanctions for different items of work costing Rs. 54013.53 crores and against this, the expenditure of Rs. 50718.68 crores has been achieved. During the current year 2019-20 (i.e up to 31.12.2019), an amount of Rs.2562.50 crores has been released.
- (ii) System of Monitoring of Performance of Capacity Development Scheme :
 - (a) The Ministry has prepared a Monthly Expenditure Plan (MEP) with the objective of reviewing monthly as well as quarterly progress of utilisation of the budget and initiate timely corrective action. The expenditure is being closely monitored wherever required; so as to avoid large scale unspent budget provisions.
 - (b) For each component of the CD Scheme, the physical targets are linked to the MEP and the progress is closely monitored through regular meetings.
 - (c) Monthly Expenditure Review meetings are being held to ensure proper utilisation of funds under the scheme.
- (iii) System of monitoring of the implementation of MPLAD Scheme:-
 - (d) Annual All India Review Meeting with the Nodal Secretaries of the States/UTs are organized to discuss the implementation of the scheme.
 - (e) The provisions of guidelines are amended from time to time on the recommendations/suggestions of various stakeholders if found feasible as per the objective of the scheme.
 - (f) The Physical and Financial progress of the scheme can be seen and monitored by the various Stakeholders with the help of MPLADS portal.

- (g) Training is provided to District officials to submit the online requisite eligible documents in order to enable the Ministry for timely release of funds.
- (h) The officers of the Ministry visit various states/districts from time to time to review the implementation of the scheme.

CHAPTER - III

INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE (ISI)

Indian Statistical Institute (ISI)

3.1 Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) is an autonomous institution under MoSPI and is devoted to research, teaching in Statistics and its applications in related subjects, natural sciences and social sciences. The Institute was established in the year 1931 by Prof. P.C. Mahalanobis, at Kolkata, West Bengal. In addition to the headquarters located at Kolkata, the ISI has Centres at Delhi, Bengaluru, Chennai, Tezpur, (North-East Centre) and five outlying branches located at Mumbai, Pune, Coimbatore, Hyderabad and Giridih. The institute gained the status of an Institution of National Importance through Indian Statistical Institute Act, 1959. MoSPI provides Grants-in-Aid to ISI for its functioning, academic activities and infrastructure creation and maintenance. The ISI conducts various courses (diploma, bachelor, masters and PhD degree programs) in various subjects with prime focus on statistics and its applications. Over the years, the institute has developed a set of unique research and academic programme, which are cross-disciplinary in nature. These programmes caters the unique need of statistical analysis of large scale data collected at different government and non-government sectors. The RC Bose Centre for Cryptology and Security has been established at ISI Kolkata promotes interdisciplinary research in Mathematics, Computer Science and Statistics towards furtherance of teaching, research as well as training and development in Cryptology and Security. It acts as a national hub for cryptographic requirements, cutting-edge research activities and indigenous capacity building at the national level. The Centre is funded by MoSPI as a part of the Grant-in-Aid to the Indian Statistical Institute, under a separate line in the budget. Apart from contributing to knowledge dissemination and talent development, ISI continues to work on innovative multidisciplinary application to address issues of national importance. The recent examples include contributions of ISI made in the areas of currency management, understanding extinction risk of wildlife, accurate assessment of consumer confidence, development as well as assessment of encryption methodologies, assessment of risk from counterfeit currencies, improvement of defence production systems, understanding level of cleanliness of towns and cities calibrated by their inherent complexity, development of national coal index. Several notable contributions have also been made in the field of

Pattern Recognition, Computational Intelligence, Bioinformatics etc. The studies undertaken by the institute has also been recognized by several awards at National / International level. The institute take initiatives to widen its reach by encouraging the multi-disciplinary studies as also promoting research programmes and courses in the emerging areas and to benefit public at large.

3.2 When enquired as to what fresh steps are being undertaken for expansion, strengthening and qualitative resurgence of premier National Institutes like Indian Statistical Institute, the Ministry stated that the as per the mandate of Indian Statistical Institute, it has taken several initiatives to maintain standards, keep up its reputation and commitment towards education, national development and social welfare with the active support from the Ministry. The institute takes initiatives to widen its reach by encouraging multi-disciplinary studies as also promoting research programmes and courses in the emerging areas and to benefit public at large. Steps taken for expansion, strengthening and qualitative resurgence of Indian Statistical Institute include the following:

- (i) The Indian Statistical Institute conduct research programmes and courses in Statistics, mathematics, computer science, quantitative economics and various fields of natural and social sciences with a view to the mutual development of statistics and these sciences. Towards this end, the Institute periodically reviews its activities, and proposes new ones.
- (ii) The operation of ISI North East Centre at Tezpur, Assam has started from its newly constructed campus.
- (iii) The activities of ISI Chennai Centre have been expanded with the introduction of a specialized course on Post Graduate Diploma in Statistical Methods and Analytics.
- (iv) Two new research Centres viz., Centre for Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) in ISI Kolkata and Centre for Research on the Economics of Climate, Food, Energy and Environment in ISI Delhi have been recently developed.
- (v) The specially created centre of excellence in Cryptology and Security, R.C. Bose Centre for Cryptology and Security, has become a premier national hub for research in the field of cyber security. The institute has also started a specialized course viz., M. Tech in Cryptology and Security in the Centre.

- (vi) ISI is continuing its flagship international statistics training programme for the developing countries for more than 65 years through its unique International Statistical Education Centre (ISEC).
- (vii) Apart from its cutting edge research programmes in the emerging areas of national importance, the institute also provides research support to various organizations like, DRDO, Ordnance factories, and some private sector companies etc.
- (viii) ISI is conducting training for Indian Statistical Service officers and continue to coordinate their overseas learning programme.
- (ix) Apart from contributing to knowledge dissemination and talent development, ISI continues to work on innovative multidisciplinary applications to address issues of national importance. Recent examples of ISI contributions include Development of Software testing model for missile system of DRDO, Statistical analysis of data related to malpractices during examinations conducted for Government agencies, Organizing survey to capture key performance indicators in the field of IT sector for State of West Bengal, Research initiatives in the fields of Agriculture, Health issues, etc.

3.3 The RC Bose Centre for Cryptology and Security has been established at ISI Kolkata promotes interdisciplinary research in Mathematics, Computer Science and Statistics towards furtherance of teaching, research as well as training and development in Cryptology and Security. It acts as a national hub for cryptographic requirements, cutting-edge research activities and indigenous capacity building at the national level. The Centre is funded by MoSPI as a part of the Grant-in-Aid to the Indian Statistical Institute, under a separate line in the budget. Apart from contributing to knowledge dissemination and talent development, ISI continues to work on innovative multidisciplinary application to address issues of national importance. The recent examples include contributions of ISI made in the areas of currency management, understanding extinction risk of wildlife, accurate assessment of consumer confidence, development as well as assessment of encryption methodologies, assessment of risk from counterfeit currencies, improvement of defence production systems, understanding level of cleanliness of towns and cities calibrated by their inherent complexity, development of national coal index. Several notable contributions have also been made in the field of Pattern Recognition, Computational Intelligence,

Bioinformatics etc. The studies undertaken by the institute has also been recognized by several awards at National / International level. The institute take initiatives to widen its reach by encouraging the multi-disciplinary studies as also promoting research programmes and courses in the emerging areas and to benefit public at large.

CHAPTER – IV

MANPOWER RELATED ISSUES

Indian Statistical Service

4.1 The Indian Statistical Service (ISS) was constituted on 1st November 1961 as a cadre of qualified professionals with core discipline of Statistics to control, coordinate, monitor and steer the diversified statistical system to render the crucial statistical needs of planning, policy formulation and decision making by the Government and to consolidate and disseminate these statistics at National and International level. The posts of ISS at various Grades are distributed among various Ministries, Departments and other Organisations with the aim to have an appropriate statistical set-up to provide a real time objective data and to analyze it for: (a) policy formulation, implementation and monitoring (including concurrent monitoring & evaluation and outcome/endline assessment) and (b) decision making. Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation acts as the Cadre Controlling Authority of Indian Statistical Service. The Ministry is concerned with all matters pertaining to the service including recruitment, promotion, training, career and manpower planning, etc. However, day-to-day administrative matters of ISS officers are looked after by the Ministries/Departments where they are posted. Recruitment to the service is made through Indian Statistical Service Examination conducted by UPSC annually, promotion from the feeder grade i.e. Subordinate Statistical Service (SSS) and through absorption of Statistical Officers working in other Ministries/Departments. The service has grown over the years in terms of relevancy and number of posts. The allocation of posts in various grades of the ISS cadre as on date is given below.

Grade	Sanctioned Strength	On Cadre Strength as on 31st March 2019
Higher Administrative Grade plus (HAG+)	05	02
Higher Administrative Grade (HAG)	18	14
Senior Administrative Grade (SAG)	136	134
Non-Functional Selection Grade (NFSG) & Junior Administrative Grade (JAG)	176#	136
Senior Time Scale (STS)	179	179
Junior Time Scale (JTS)	300*	174
Total	814	639

Out of these, 30% of senior duty posts (namely posts in Senior Time Scale and above) are operated in NFSG. * Including 50 posts of leave, deputation and training reserve.

4.2 The first examination for direct recruitment to the service was held in the year 1967 and the first batch of the service was appointed in the year 1968. Till date, 41 batches of direct recruits have joined the service. The latest batch of 29 officers has already joined in the month of February 2019. The ISS Rules, 2016 provide for 50 per cent of the posts in JTS to be filled up by direct recruitment and 50 per cent by promotion from Subordinate Statistical Service (SSS) cadre. There is no direct recruitment at any other level of the service except in JTS. All the vacancies in other grades are filled up by promotion.

4.3 When enquired as to whether any extensive review of the statistical personnel in the Central Government has been undertaken by the Ministry and the subsequent status of implementation of cadre review in the statistical service the Ministry in a written reply stated that the Statistical activities of various Central Government Line Ministries/Departments are mainly being undertaken through the cadre of officers of Indian Statistical Service (ISS) and Subordinate Statistical Service (SSS).

Indian Statistical Service (ISS)

(i) The last Cadre Review of ISS was held in 2015 and the recommendations approved by Government in that review has been implemented. The fresh Cadre Review proposals based on the extensive review has been drafted in Ministry and the same has been circulated to all representative Ministries/Department on 10.02.2020 for their consultation/comments /views. After getting inputs/comments from the representative Ministries/Department, the proposal will be finalized and will be processed for approval.

Subordinate Statistical Service (SSS)

(ii) The primary data collection for surveys and compilation of Macro-Economic aggregates/indicators are done by Subordinate Statistical Service (SSS) Officials (Senior Statistical Officer (SSO) and Junior Statistical Officer (JSO)). The Ministry is pursuing with Staff Selection Commission (SSC) on regular basis to fill the existing vacancies. For Combined Graduate Level Exam (CGLE)-2017 the Ministry has requested SSC to recruit 50 JSOs and 274 JSOs through CGLE-2018. Recruitment of JSOs through CGLE-2017 is at a very advance stage. Further, Ministry is approaching SSC to fill the existing vacancy through CGLE-2019. The Ministry at regular intervals also undertakes cadre review of SSS officers. The last cadre review took place in 2012. Assessment of requirement of SSS

Officer, in consultation with participating Ministry/Department/Organization is presently underway for preparing for the Next cadre review of the SSS cadre.

Subordinate Statistical Service

4.4 The Subordinate Statistical Service (SSS) was constituted on 12th February 2002 as a cadre of qualified personnel with core discipline of Statistics to assist in building crucial statistical database covering various aspects of Indian Economy for planning, policy formulation and decision making by the Government. SSS is a Group-B Central Civil Service of statistical function posts which constitutes feeder cadre for ISS. It comprises Senior Statistical Officer (SSO) (Group-B Gazetted) having Grade Pay of `4600/- and Junior Statistical Officer (JSO) having Grade Pay of `4200/- in the Pay Band-2: `9300-34800/- in the pre-revised pay structure under the Sixth Central Pay Commission (6 CPC). As per 7th CPC, the Pay Scale of SSO corresponds to Level-7 and that of JSO corresponds to Level-6 in the Pay Matrix. The officers of the SSS cadre are posted in various Ministries/ Departments/Organisations of the Government of India across the country. Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation is also the Cadre Controlling Authority of Subordinate Statistical Service. The Ministry is concerned with all matters pertaining to the service including recruitment, promotion, training, career and manpower planning, etc. However, day-to-day administrative matters of SSS officers are taken care of by the respective Ministries/Departments/ Organisations where they are posted. The SSS Rules, 2013 provide for 90 per cent of the posts of JSO to be filled up by direct recruitment through open competitive examination viz. Combined Graduate Level Examination (CGLE) conducted by the Staff Selection Commission while 10 per cent by promotion from the feeder grade post holders. There is no direct recruitment at the level of SSO in the SSS cadre. The sanctioned strength and number of incumbents in position as on 31st March 2019 are, as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	In Position
1.	Senior Statistical Officer	1781	1710
2.	Junior Statistical Officer	2168	1615
Total Strength		3949	3325

4.5 On a query with regard to the perennial shortage of manpower at various levels adversely impacting the quality of data, sample surveys being conducted through contractual personnel and the mechanism to ensure the authenticity of data collected by

private agencies, the Ministry stated that the demand for new surveys is increasing to bridge the data gap on various socio-economic parameters. However, the Ministry has been facing acute shortage of regular manpower for conducting surveys. For addressing this, MoSPI has resorted to a hybrid model where the core backend statistical activities and supervision are undertaken by in-house expertise while the primary level field work is outsourced. The contractual personnel are engaged to augment the manpower required for collection of data for conducting various surveys undertaken by the Ministry. To ensure quality, prospective candidates are scrutinized on their past experiences in similar assignments and also on their relevant academic qualifications. The selected candidates, known as Field Investigators, are then made to undergo training and hand holding exercises before engaging them in actual surveys. The training of the Field Investigators is organized elaborately in local languages to ensure correct understanding of concepts and definitions & related instructions by field investigators while collecting the data. There is also a system of inspection/supervision and scrutiny of data as collected by the Field Investigators by senior regular officers to check and ensure the quality of data. The private agency for supplying the manpower resources through outsourcing are selected after following all due diligence and following the extant Government guidelines including the General Financial Rules (GFR). The NSS prepares and floats in public domain a Request for Proposal (RFP) inviting experienced private agencies to provide manpower resources. The RFP clearly outlines the Scope of Work (SOW) that the survey personnel are to perform once they are selected. Besides, the selected agency has to comply with a very stringent Service Level Agreement (SLA) apart from having to meet the transparency norms as laid down by the Government of India. For the purpose of conducting of 7th Economic Census, the Ministry has engaged Common Service Centre (CSC) e-Governance Services India Limited, a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. The conduct of 7th EC by CSC-SPV is bound by Service Level Agreement (SLA) for the envisaged activities, including the engagement of staff for data collection. Under the SLA, CSC-SPV may be penalized for any deficiency in coverage, data quality and timeliness. The field staff engaged, have been extensively trained through physical and online training programmes to improve the data quality and coverage. In addition, the comprehensive IT solution developed for collection of data (7th EC) include inbuilt validation checks besides the physical supervision mechanism placed for ensuring quality of data collected.

PART - II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Budgetary Allocations:

1. The Committee note that the budgetary grant for the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation during this fiscal of 2020-21 stands at Rs. 5444 crore. The revenue portion of the grant stands at Rs. 5426.05 crore while the capital side is Rs. 17.95 crore. Under the Revenue portion the scheme part of budget is Rs. 4648.05 crore and non scheme is at Rs. 788.00 crore. The Capital part of Rs. 17.95 crore includes the whole scheme portion of Rs. 17.95 crore. As the capital side of the budgetary grant is rather low, the Committee are concerned that various upgradation opportunities may be missed due to inadequate capital expenditure. The Committee note that the BE, RE and Actuals of 2018-19 was at Rs. 4859 crores, Rs. 4928 crores and Rs. 4897 crores while that of 2019-20 stood at Rs. 5231 crore, Rs. 5231 crore and Rs. 3469 crores respectively. The substantial difference between the Actuals of 2019-20 (i.e. Rs. 3464 crore) and BE of 2020-21 (i.e. Rs. 5444 crore) stands at a staggering Rs. 1979.82 crore, which suggest that Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation is unable to absorb the allocated funds. In view of the foregoing, the Committee are constrained to recommend that the Ministry must make a realistic assessment of funds required and strive to utilize them as per approved sanctions and needs. The trend of non-utilisation should be an exception instead of being a regular feature as observed.

2. The Committee note that the project / scheme of 'Support for Statistical Strengthening' (SSS) proposes to improve the statistical capacity and operation of States Statistical Systems for collecting, compiling and disseminating reliable and up to date official statistics for policy planning at State and sub-State levels. Further, the Support for Statistical Strengthening is a sub-scheme of the Capacity Development (CD) Scheme in which the grants-in-aid are disposed to the States for a robust statistical system. The Committee observe that the BE for this fiscal of 2020-21 has been increased by Rs. 5 crore to Rs. 32 crore from the previous BE and RE of 2019-20 which was steady at Rs. 27 crore. The Committee find that since the merger of the two schemes, namely, India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP) and Basic Statistics for Local Level Development (BSLLD) during the Annual Plan of 2014-15 into the consolidated scheme of Support for Statistical Strengthening, the performance and progress of the scheme is somewhat lagging and therefore its aim of building a composite statistical system and an integrated functional arrangement needs to be re-focused. The Committee expect the Ministry to fully utilize the increased allocation of funds and speed up the mechanism to revamp the statistical system / process in the country in a time-bound framework. The Committee appreciate the steps initiated by Ministry to include the North East into the statistical data framework of the country through provisioning of budgetary grants for the same. The Committee hope that this initiative will result in better dissemination of data to and from the North Eastern States.

3. The Committee note that under Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) major head 3454 - Demand No. 95, the BE in 2018-19 for the organization was Rs

172.20 crore, which was increased to Rs 203.20 crore at RE stage. The actual expenditure during the year was Rs 210.78 crore. Similarly, in 2019-20, the BE was Rs 487.10 crore which remained steady at Rs 487.10 crore at RE stage while Actual expenditure came down by Rs 162.66 crore to Rs 324.44 crore (upto December, 2019). Further, the BE for 2020-21 has been pegged at Rs 656.05 crore which is Rs 168.95 crore more than the BE of the previous fiscal. Keeping in view the trend of budgetary fluctuation, the Committee are of the view that the Ministry/organization should exercise due diligence in their budgetary exercise and also take steps to ensure that allocations are made in a rational manner. The Committee desire that the extensive exercise undertaken by the Ministry towards collecting information, needs to incorporate technology intensive techniques and IT enabled systems so as to improve efficiency and reduce manpower needs. Furthermore, budgetary allocations should also be utilized optimally.

4. The Committee note that almost 84.87% of the total scheme outlay of the Ministry that is, Rs. 3960 crore is earmarked for the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS). The Committee are of the view that there is a need for better coordination and tie-up between the Ministry and State Governments to improve the structure and implementation of MPLAD Scheme. The Committee feel that frequent changes in the schematic guidelines should be avoided and the issue of timely furnishing of utilization certificate from the States to the Ministry regarding the ongoing projects under MPLADS should be addressed forthwith. The Committee desire that the Ministry should come up with a dedicated dashboard, wherein proper and timely monitoring of funds can be done. Further, with regard to the issue of proper supervision and monitoring of

the progress of work carried out under the scheme, the local MPs may be allowed to depute an individual of his / her choice who would report to them and work towards a better coordination and supervision of the scheme at ground level, as there is no proper mechanism at present to check on the quality and timely execution of work done. The Committee are of the view that it may also be considered as to whether a one stage junior officer like Sub Divisional Magistrate etc. may be empowered to sanction a project, the monitoring of which may be carried out by the concerned District Magistrate / Deputy Commissioner. The Committee feels that through such a delegation prompt compliance can be more effectively ensured.

5. The Ministry should consider whether it is possible to establish a standard menu of projects that can be implemented by designated government agencies. For instance, solar street-lights are already being implemented by EESL and Hon'ble MPs can use their standard designs. Similarly, it may be possible to get other infrastructure items such as check dams, solar water tanks, and community centers built by selected government agencies.

6. The Committee also observed that the MPLADS recommendations from various Parliamentary Committees do not appear to have been incorporated by the Ministry. These should be re-examined and an appropriate Action Taken Report submitted to the Committee within the next 3 months.

7. Further, the Committee observe that allocations under MPLADS have not been revised for a long time and is therefore long overdue. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to review the allocation made under MPLADS and

suitably revise it, factoring in the rising inflation as also the higher allocations made for MLAs. MPLADS allocation have shrunk dramatically in real terms and are quite inadequate to meet the expectations that the public has of a national Member of Parliament. In most States, MLA funds now exceed Rs 4 crores. With 5-7 MLAs per Lok Sabha constituency, the MPLADS appears quite puny in comparison making it even more difficult for MPs to meet public demands. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the MPLADS should at least be doubled or tripled and then rise in-line with inflation. The Committee would also like to be apprised as to whether the allocations could be made slab-based depending on the size of the constituency similar to the pattern of election expenditure.

Indian Statistical Institute (ISI)

8. Indian Statistical Institute is mainly engaged in conducting a comprehensive programme of research, training and practical application of different statistics spanning various disciplines through a large number of projects/schemes. The Committee note that with its specific mandate, the Indian Statistical Institute strives to maintain a credible reputation as an institution of national eminence. The Committee hope that with the budgetary provision of Rs. 313.97 crore for the year 2020-21, Indian Statistical Institute would undertake earnestly all the pending works pertaining to infrastructure development especially of the capital nature at various centers across India and North Eastern States at a faster pace. The Committee would also urge the Ministry to provide necessary resources, wherever necessary, to enable Indian Statistical Institute to develop new centres and strengthen their existing centres. In this context, the

Committee would also expect the Indian Statistical Institute to become pro-active in both academic as well as research activities, while expanding their reach to more avenues and centres in the country without obviously diluting their standards of excellence.

Shortage of Manpower

9. The Committee note with concern that an alarming shortage of manpower exists across different offices/wings of the Ministry. By the Ministry's own admission, since the quality and reliability of data collected by the contract employees in absence of regular and dedicated field staff may not be up to the mark, the Committee would expect that since substantial funds are invested for gathering vital data, the Ministry must ensure that the data they gather, disseminate and utilize is of the highest quality. Towards this end, the issue of manpower shortage and other related concerns must be squarely addressed without any further delay, as it has a direct bearing on the timeliness and reliability of data collected. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should make necessary changes in relevant recruitment rules etc. in order to employ desired personnel for the field operations of the Ministry. Requisite training structure may be established to train them in data collection and compilation so that efficiency and reliability of work is ensured.

New Delhi;
06 March, 2020
16 Phalgun, 1941 (Saka)

SHRI JAYANT SINHA,
Chairperson
Standing Committee on Finance

Minutes of the Tenth sitting of the Standing Committee on Finance (2019-20)
The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 25 February, 2020 from 1100 hrs. to 1715 hrs
in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Jayant Sinha - Chairperson

LOK SABHA

2. Shri S.S. Ahluwalia
3. Shri Subhash Chandra Baheria
4. Shri Shrirang Appa Barne
5. Dr. Subhash Ramrao Bhamre
6. Smt. Sunita Duggal
7. Shri Gaurav Gogoi
8. Shri Manoj Kishorbhai Kotak
9. Shri Pinaki Misra
10. Prof. Saugata Roy
11. Shri Gopal Chinayya Shetty
12. Shri Manish Tewari
13. Shri Rajesh Verma
14. Shri Giridhari Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

15. Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar
16. Shri Praful Patel
17. Shri Amar Patnaik
18. Shri T.K. Rangarajan
19. Dr. Manmohan Singh
20. Smt. Ambika Soni

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. Shri V.K Tripathi | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Shri Ramkumar Suryanarayanan | - | Director |
| 3. Shri Kulmohan Singh Arora | - | Additional Director |
| 4. Shri Tenzin Gyaltzen | - | Under Secretary |
| 5. Shri Kh. Ginlal Chung | - | Under Secretary |

PART I

(1100 hrs - 1230 hrs)

2.	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX

PART II

(1400 hrs - 1715 hrs)

WITNESSES

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

1. Shri Pravin Srivastava, Chief Statistician of India-cum-Secretary
2. Shri T.K. Sanyal, Director General
3. Shri Vijay Kumar, Director General
4. Shri A.K. Sadhu, Director General
5. Dr. Samir Kumar Neogy, Prof. and Head, Indian Statistical Institute (Delhi)
6. Ms. Shailja Sharma, Addl. Director General
7. Ms. Mamta Saxena, Addl. Director General
8. Shri Ajay Kumar Gupta, Addl. Director General
9. Shri P.K. Mukhopadhyay, Addl. Director General
10. Shri Sanjay Kumar, Addl. Director General
11. Shri N.K.Sharma, Addl. Director General
12. Shri A.K.Mishra, Addl. Director General
13. Shri A.K. Toprani, Addl. Director General
14. Shri S.L. Manaria, Addl. Director General

3. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Witnesses to the sitting of the Committee. After the customary introduction of the Witnesses and their introductory remarks, the Committee took their oral evidence in connection with the examination of the 'Demands for Grants (2020-21)'. The major issues discussed during the sitting included innovation and intervention to improve the National Statistical System; coming out with a vision document and identifying weaknesses in the system; interventions proposed to be made on the governance structure through improved statistical

arrangement, working on a national policy on official statistics; introduction of technological interventions with regard to human capital management; preparation of a national indicator framework for Sustainable Developmental Goals (SDGs); harmonization of the official data on a single platform and issues related to Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) and opening of its centers in the North Eastern States. The Committee further deliberated upon the issues related to technological interventions to deal with acute manpower challenges and getting qualified officials / staff; improving the quality of data productivity and processes, steps taken for overall better techniques and capacity building in collaboration with the World Bank, various issues with regard to the release of MPLADs Fund and need for impact assessment of schemes with regard to their economical, financial and social parameters; immediate steps required to deal with the issue of delay/non-release of MPLADs funds and creation of a dashboard with regard to monitoring the progress of various schemes and its impact under MPLAD scheme. The Chairperson then directed the representatives of Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation to furnish written replies to the points raised by the Members during the discussion within seven days to the Secretariat.

The witnesses then withdrew.

The Committee then adjourned.

A verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

Minutes of the Twelfth sitting of the Standing Committee on Finance (2019-20) The Committee sat on Friday, the 6th March, 2020 from 1500hrs. to 1545 hrs in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Jayant Sinha – Chairperson

LOK SABHA

2. Dr. Subhash Ramrao Bhamre
3. Smt. Sunita Duggal
4. Shri Manoj Kishorbhai Kotak
5. Shri Gopal Chinayya Shetty
6. Dr. (Prof.) Kirit Premjibhai Solanki
7. Shri Manish Tewari

RAJYA SABHA

8. Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar
9. Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan
10. Shri Amar Patnaik
11. Shri Mahesh Poddar
12. Shri T.K. Rangarajan
13. Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao
14. Dr. Manmohan Singh
15. Smt. Ambika Soni

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. Shri V.K Tripathi | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Shri Ramkumar Suryanarayanan | - | Director |
| 3. Kh. Ginlal Chung | - | Under Secretary |

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee. Thereafter, the Committee took up the following draft reports for consideration and adoption:

- (i) Seventh Report on Demands for Grants (2020-21) of the Ministry of Finance (Departments of Economic Affairs, Expenditure, Financial Services and Investment & Public Asset Management).
- (ii) Eighth Report on Demands for Grants (2020-21) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue).
- (iii) Ninth Report on Demands for Grants (2020-21) of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
- (iv) Tenth Report on Demands for Grants (2020-21) of the Ministry of Planning.
- (v) Eleventh Report on Demands for Grants (2020-21) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

After some deliberations, the Committee adopted the above draft Report with some modifications and authorised the Chairperson to finalise them and present the Report to Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.