

Annexure-XVIII

Subject: Minutes of the meeting of State Level Steering Committee held on 28.11.2011.

The first meeting of State Level Steering Committee (SLSC) on the "**India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP)**" was held on 28.11.2011 at 10.00 a.m. in Committee Room, 6th Floor, Punjab Civil Secretariat under the chairmanship of the worthy Chief Secretary, Government Punjab to discuss about and consider for approving the "**Punjab State Strategic Statistical Plan (PSSSP)**" prepared by Economic & Statistical Organisation (ESO), Punjab. The list of participants who attended this meeting is enclosed vide Annexure-I.

2. At the outset, Sh. Satish Chandra, Principal Secretary to Govt. Punjab, Department of Planning heartily welcomed all the participants to the meeting including those representing Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI), Government of India (GOI) and thanked the worthy Chief Secretary, Punjab for having spared his precious time for chairing this SLSC meeting. After providing a brief overview of the salient features of the ISSP and of the nature of important proposals being presented for discussion and approval at the SLSC meeting, he requested the Economic Adviser, Government of Punjab to make his planned detailed presentation at the meeting.

3. Accordingly Sh. M.L. Sharma, Economic Adviser-cum-Member Secretary, SLSC made his presentation covering all the important aspects to be discussed and considered for approval in the meeting. Before getting into the presentation proper, the Economic Adviser highlighted the fact that the "Punjab State Strategic Statistical Plan (PSSSP)" has been developed after more than a year of intensive and painstaking efforts by the ESO, that too, in continuous and active dialogue with various concerned stakeholders, especially, line departments of the state and the MOSPI, Govt. of India. He added that although initially a consultant had been selected to assist ESO in the preparation of the required comprehensive PSSSP, eventually, the entire task had to be more or less completely done in house by the ESO, by taking required professional guidance and support from MOSPI, GOI. The Economic Adviser also mentioned that the PSSSP has been formulated, especially for the purpose of giving the necessary implementation effect with regard to the State Statistical Systems/centric recommendations of the earlier Government of India set up National Statistical

Commission (NSC) under the chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan, who is presently the chairman of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council.

4. The presentation by Economic Adviser covered, among other things, the following important areas:-

- Back ground : NSC Recommendations.
- Salient features of ISSP.
- Funding Pattern of ISSP.
- Responsibilities of State Govt. under ISSP.
- 20-Key Statistical Activities and related departments.
- Functions of DES as Nodal Department as envisaged under ISSP.
- Operational Structure of DES.
- Present Status of Staff in DES.
- Present Status of Statistical staff in Line Departments.
- Journey of PSSSP.
- Salient features of PSSSP:
 - Its Chapter Scheme.
 - Vision, Mission and Goals.
 - Total outlay-key component-wise.
 - Year-wise break up of total outlay.
 - Major Highlights of PSSSP.
 - Administrative Recommendations without Financial Liabilities.
 - Administrative Recommendations with Financial Liabilities.
 - Proposal regarding filling up of vacant posts in DES.
 - Proposal regarding additional manpower requirement of DES.
 - Proposal regarding filling up of vacant statistical posts in Line Departments.
 - Proposal regarding additional statistical manpower requirement of Line Departments.
 - Proposed Urban Statistical structure in Local Govt. Department.
 - Proposal regarding buildings requirements.
 - Proposal regarding vehicles requirements.
 - Proposal regarding IT and related infrastructure.
 - Proposal regarding Surveys and Studies.
 - Proposal regarding Expert and Consultancy Services.

- Proposal regarding Internship Programme.
- Proposal regarding exposure and learning visits/ statistical advocacy/data producers and users interaction.
- Proposal regarding publication and dissemination of statistical reports.
- Proposal regarding monitoring of ISSP implementation and incidental/unforeseen expenditure.
- Proposal of Statistical Training Institute and training requirements of the state.
- Essentials for success of PSSSP.
- Proposal regarding State's recurring cost to sustain the activities under PSSSP.

5. SLSC had extensive deliberations regarding various crucial proposals under the PSSSP on which the committee approval had been sought at the meeting. **Based thereon, the SLSC decided to accord the approval sought at the meeting in the context of the PSSSP, subject to the following:-**

SN	Issue	Decisions alongwith remarks/advices, any
1	Change of nomenclature from ESO to Department of Economic & Statistics (DES).	Approved.
2	Creation of separate Department of Statistics and Upgradation of HoD of DES to DG-cum-ex-officio Secretary to the Govt.	The committee was of the view that this issue will be examined separately by the Administrative Department.
3	Creation of Common Cadre of Statistical Personnel.	The Committee was of the view that it looks very good but Creation of Common Cadre may lead to tremendous problems. Administrative Department will examine this proposal keeping in view all the pros-and-cons, after which appropriate action will be taken.
4	Creation of Punjab Economic & Statistical Service (PESS).	The committee was of the view that this issue will be examined separately by the Administrative Department.
5	Common designations of Statistical Personnel.	Approved.

6	Change in nomenclature of designations of Statistical Personnel.	Approved.
7	Provision of land for construction of new buildings of office of HQ of DES, 7 District Statistical Offices and State/Regional Statistical Training Institute.	<p>(i) The proposal for provision of land for construction of new buildings of office of HQ of DES and 7 District Statistical Offices is approved.</p> <p>(ii) The proposal for establishment of Punjab Statistical Training and Research Institute (PSTRI) was approved, in view of the crucial role of capacity building of statistical personnel involved for the successful implementation of ISSP. It was further advised that the institute may be so designed & developed as to make/help it to cater to the training requirements of the statistical personnel of not only the state of Punjab but also that of counter parts from the neighboring states, in other words by giving the proposed PSTRI a regional character in its functioning. Possibilities may be explored to see whether adequate space needed for this purpose can be located in the already existing Administrative Institute, namely, Mahatma Gandhi State Institute of Public Administration, Punjab (MGSIPAP), situated in Chandigarh.</p> <p>Economic Adviser also brought to the notice of SLSC that if the proposal of Regional Training Institute is matured then the proposal of PSTRI has to be re-formed from all facets because the proposal of PSTRI was designed keeping in vision the requirements of Punjab State only. The proposal of PSTRI also includes the proposal of Conference Hall for 60 participants, Library & Documentation and Video conferencing facility and its equipments which are actually part and parcel of DES's HQ Building which will be treated as part of proposal of DES's HQ Building in this case.</p>
8	Creation of Block Statistical Office.	This proposal was approved, with the decision that the provision of land for construction of buildings for this purpose may be made in the already existing Block Development and Panchayat Officer's office. The provision of statistical personnel for this Block Statistical Office was also approved to the extent of two statistical personnel. The committee agreed that two statistical personnel may be posted instead of one in each of the block of the state. For this purpose 172 new posts of investigators will be created which are included in 363 new posts proposed to be created at Sr. No. 11 in the following Para.

9	Creation of Urban Statistical Structure.	Approved as per proposal with creation of 44 new statistical posts in Local Govt. Department.
10	Filling up of vacant posts in DES.	As regarding filling up of 254 vacant Statistical posts, the proposal submitted was approved after noting that it entails/involves an annual financial implication of Rs. 5.84 crores to the State Government.
11	Creation of additional posts in DES.	Out of 504 additional posts proposed in Draft of PSSSP, creation of 363 bare minimum additional posts was approved which will involve the annual financial liability of Rs. 8.35 crores to the State Government.
12	Filling up of vacant posts in Line Departments.	As regarding filling up of 490 vacant posts in Line Departments, the proposal submitted was approved after noting that it entails/involves an annual financial implication of Rs.11.27 crores to the State Government.
13	Creation of additional posts of Statistical Personnel in line Departments.	As regards the proposal submitted for creation of 78 bare minimum additional posts in line departments, it was approved after noting that the same involves a financial implication to the tune of Rs. 2.18 crores annually for the State Government.
14	Establishment of new Statistical Units in DES.	As per proposal incorporated in the PSSSP, the establishment of following new Statistical Units was approved by the Committee: i) Gender Statistics Unit ii) Environment Statistics Unit iii) Infrastructure Statistics Unit iv) Border and Kandi Areas Statistics Unit v) ISSP and other Projects Implementation Unit vi) Collection of Statistical Act,2008 Unit
15	State's recurring cost to sustain the activities under PSSSP.	After noting, that comprehensive PSSSP proposal has been formulated after taking the consideration all relevant factors as also after holding detailed discussions with various concerned stakeholders, the SLSC was of the view that the vitally important benefits which are expected to accrue to the state by the virtue of implementing of PSSSP need to be sustained and ensured for availability to the state even after the project period ends in 2016-17. In view of this SLSC approved the proposal submitted in this regard.

6. IT Infrastructure: Since Information Technology (IT) represents a critical determinant for the successful and purposeful implementation of ISSP, the SLSC directed that the following crucial aspects thereof be also duly taken care of and effectively addressed in the process:-

- (a) To avoid unnecessary duplications, formats be so designed that data entry takes place at only one place and this data can thereafter be utilized by Government of India and other departments of the state. It would require that DES plays its active role as designated Nodal Agency for statistics in the state.
- (b) The SLSC advised the Nodal Statistical Agency for the project viz the DES, to focus all the required attention on the setting up and operationalization of state Data Portal which can cater to the data/information requirements of a large and growing numbers of entities in the data users' community.

7. On the proposed coverage under the PSSSP to the selected 20 Key Statistical Activities in so far as education sector is concerned, the SLSC advised that the proposed coverage may be expanded with the inclusion of other key sub-sectors in this categories such as Higher Education, Medical Education and Technical Education.

8. In summary, subject to the decisions contained in foregoing paragraphs of the minutes, the SLSC on ISSP decided to accord the requested and requisite approval sought for implementation of the PSSSP during the period 2011-12 to 2016-17 at an overall/aggregate estimated cost of Rs. 97.42 crore out of which the Government of India's share would be Rs. 95.44 crore, while the remaining Rs. 1.98 crore would be made available for this purpose by the State Government, over and above meeting the State Government's obligations under the project to support issues relating to provision of land, where applicable and also meet all the associated manpower related expenditures (be that relate to filling up of vacant posts or creation of additional posts) and associated recurring expenditures.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Sd/-
(Satish Chandra)
Principal Secretary to Govt. Punjab,
Department of Planning.

Annexure-1

List of participants in State Level Steering Committee's meeting held on 28.11.2011 is as under:

1. Sh. Satish Chandra, IAS, Principal Secretary, Govt. of Punjab, Department of Planning.
2. Sh. Karan Bir Singh Sidhu, IAS, Principal Secretary, Govt. of Punjab, Department of Finance.
3. Sh. Hussan Lal, IAS, Secretary, Govt. of Punjab, Department of School Education.
4. Sh. T.V. Raman, Deputy Director General and Project Manager for ISSP, Project Support Group, Central Statistics Office (Social Statistics Division), MOSPI, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
5. Sh. S.K. Dass, Deputy Director General, National Sample Survey Office (FOD), MOSPI, Govt. of India, Regional Office, Chandigarh.
6. Sh. Mohan Lal Sharma, Economic Adviser, Govt. of Punjab.
7. Sh. Harbans Singh, Under Secretary, Govt. of Punjab, Department of Agriculture.
8. Sh. Harvinder Singh, Joint Director, Economic & Statistical Organisation (ESO), Punjab.
9. Sh. Surjit Singh, Joint Director, Department of Agriculture, Punjab.
10. Sh. Gulshan Kumar, Deputy Director (Stat.), Department of Health and Family Welfare, Punjab.
11. Sh. Nirmal Singh, Assistant Director, National Sample Survey Office (FOD), MOSPI, GOI, Regional Office, Chandigarh.
12. Sh. Gurmeet Singh, Research Officer, ESO, Punjab.