1 - Organisation, functions and duties

Introduction

The Department of Economics and Statistics in Himachal Pradesh is functioning since the year 1955-56. The Directorate of Economics & Statistics came into being with the objective to advise the state government on Economic and Statistical matters for formulation of policies and plan. The mandate of the department is to assess the economic development of the state through the estimation of State Domestic product presentation of economic scenario of the state through fact and figures, census and survey and studies.

2. Vision, Mission, Objective and Function of the Department

2.1 Vision

"To develop the best and most innovative State Statistical System to enable timely inputs for effective use in policy formulation, decision making and monitoring programmes and projects for efficient use of State resources."

2.2 Mission

2.2.1 To make available reliable and timely statistics through appropriate use of information technology and to undertake regular assessment of data needs for informed decision making.

2.2.2 To adopt and evolve standards and methodologies for statistics and cater to the emerging data needs.

2.2.3 To continue to assess skill requirement and develop human resource capacity at all levels of the statistical system and Government.

2.3 Objective

2.3.1 To make available data/statistics on some key parameters to Planners and Policy makers and decision makers in Government and outside.

2.3.2 To improve the quality and reliability of existing data sets and to simplify and standardize data collection, compilation and analysis method.

2.3.3 To make available new data sets on emerging fields to meet the demand of policy makers and planners.

2.3.4 To reduce time lag in bringing out Statistical information.

2.3.5 To conduct survey and studies as per the priorities of the State Government.
2.3.6 Human Resource Development with special reference to effective use of Information Technology in collection, compilation and analysis of statistical data.

2.4 Functions of the Department

The subject allotted to this department according to "The Business of the Government (Allocation) Rules 1971" is as below:

2.4.1 Gross State Domestic Product/State Income estimation
2.4.2 Public Finance
2.4.3 Socio-Economic Surveys
2.4.4 Rural Development statistics
2.4.5 Census of H.P. Employees
2.4.6 Official Statistics
2.4.7 Prices Statistics
2.4.8 Labour Statistics
2.4.9 Statistical Training
2.4.10 Evaluation of Programmes
2.4.11 Co-ordination between Statistical work of other departments
2.4.12 Establishment, Budget & Account matters.
2.4.13 Classification of H.P. Government Budget and Budget of Local Bodies.

Besides above the department was allotted some additional subject after the year 1971:

2.4.14 National Sample Survey
2.4.15 Tribal research studies
2.4.16 Housing & Building Statistics
2.4.17 Capital Formation
2.4.18 Collection of all types of statistics at block level
2.4.19 Index of Industrial Production
2.4.20 Computerisation of data
2.4.21 District Income Estimation
2.4.22 Economic Census.
2.4.23 13th Finance Commission indicators
2.4.24 14th Finance Commission
2.4.25 Surveys on employment & unemployment

The main functions of the Department is to build firm and broad data bank for the Pradesh so as to serve as useful data base for all plan and policy formulations, bring out the
estimates of GSDP State Income and the economic growth, conduct of various studies and Surveys and coordinate various Statistical activities of different departments in the state.

1. GSDP (State Income)

1.1 Estimation of GSDP(State Income) and DDP (District Income)

The most important work of the department is to estimate the GSDP(State Income), DDP (District Income) which has now being recognized significant and reliable indicators to measure the economic growth of the state. These estimates are presented in the Economic Survey during budget session of Vidhan Sabha every year. Special expertise is involved in this very voluminous and huge calculation work to find out the income generated, contribution and rate of growth under different sectors of the economy. No developmental scheme can be made successful without properly assessing the contribution, growth scenario of the sector to which the schemes pertains. The state income estimates also help in studying the sectoral, regional development imbalances, formulation of taxation policies and receiving central grants etc.

1.2 Public Finance:

The economic and purpose classification of Govt. Budget and Local Bodies is done every year by the department which is very important for understanding and analyzing the flow of Govt. funds under various heads, sub-heads. For the understanding of Govt. Budget at a glance, a publication "Budget-in-Brief" is prepared for presentation in Budget session which depicts a summarized picture of state budget. Besides this the publication "Economic Classification of Himachal Pradesh Govt. Budget" & "Local Bodies Budget" are also brought out every year.

1.3 Estimation of Capital Formation

Department also undertakes the work of estimation of Capital Formation every year. Due to paucity of staff and other essential pre requisites, the department prepares only the estimates of Capital Formation for Govt. sector only. Estimation of Corporate and Households sector has been initiated.

1.4 FRBM (Fiscal Responsibility Budget Management)

Under FRBM Act 2005, Himachal Pradesh government is committed to bring down the fiscal deficit to achieve the objective. This department is preparing the data on plan and non-plan expenditure and classifying the budget asked from all government departments.
2. National sample survey (NSS) and other surveys

2.1 National Sample Survey

Himachal Pradesh started participating in the National Sample Survey programme from 27th round i.e. 1972 and has now entered into 74th round in July, 2016. The National Sample Survey work involves the field study on various subjects assigned during the round which is done on sample matching basis as allotted by Govt. of India. This voluminous work involves door to door approach for which large number of field functionaries is required. After field work the filled in schedules are thoroughly scrutinized. This exercise needs sufficient man power. The department has now started the tabulation and preparation on report of these surveys at headquarters level. The results of these surveys are used for estimation of Consumption Expenditure, Poverty line and other Planning Indicators.

2.2 Surveys and Evaluation Studies

Many ad-hoc surveys/studies etc. are being conducted by the department which provides a bench mark of various projects and programmes of the Govt. as per the priorities of the State Government.

3 Official Statistics

3.1 Economic Survey of H.P."and "Budget in Brief"

Besides, bringing out its regular publications and ad-hoc publications the department prepare "Economic Survey of H.P." and "Budget in Brief", which is presented every year in the budget session of Vidhan Sabha one day before the presentation of budget by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

3.2 State Storehouse of Data

Department is making concerted efforts to collect, scrutinise, analyse and interpret all sorts of Official Statistics which is disseminated to planners, policy makers and scholars through various publications viz (i) Statistical Year Book (ii) Statistical Abstract of State and Pamphlets/Handouts of various types and other district, block level statistical publications etc.

3.3 Rural Development Statistics

The department collects block wise data to be presented in Block Level Publications. Block level Development Indicator publications are brought out by District Statistical Offices.

3.4 Tribal Statistics
Department collects and compiles data relating to tribal areas and prepares the publication Tribal Out-Line, which represents the data of Tribal areas.

3.5 Urban Statistics

Department collects and compiles data relating to urban areas and prepares the publication. The urban statistics was published and is being updated.

3.6 Prices Statistics

Containment of Inflation is on the priority list of the government. Price collection and compilation is an important assignment with Department of Economics and Statistics and well knit mechanism is being maintained for ensuring correctness in reported prices. The department is engaged in collection of prices in different formats i.e. 16 essential items of daily needs on weekly basis like food grains, major pulses, sugar, oil etc., Whole Sale & Retail prices of 104 items on monthly basis, Live stock Prices on yearly and quarterly basis, Building material prices on quarterly basis and Labour Bureau Prices for price indices. The department also supplies the prices of various building material to National Building Organisation. The price collection work is done by the Research Officers of the department.

3.7 Housing and Building Statistics

Under the three tier system of collection of Housing and Building Statistics of National Building Organisation, Govt. of India (N.B.O.), the department collected and compiled the Housing and Building Statistics for all the newly constructed buildings in both public and private sectors and forwarded it to N.B.O.

3.8 Documentation

To present the data in more presentable form, similarity and consistency, documentation of all the publications is being done at the headquarters. In this section, the publications received from districts are comparatively analysed and improvements made to present the data in a better format on department’s website.

3.9 Library and Reference Room

The department is maintaining well equipped Library and reading room in the premises of Directorate. The reference/reading room is equipped with books on Economics, Mathematics, Commerce, Statistics and other related subjects. Various publications of this department and other line departments are also displayed in the reference/reading room. The Researchers/ University students visit the Library for collecting and culling out relevant data information from these books, publications and periodicals.
4. Census

4.1 Census of Himachal Pradesh Employees

Department conducts an annual census of all Himachal Pradesh Government Employees as on 31st March. The information as received from different Departments, Corporations, Boards, Public Undertakings and Local Bodies is scrutinized and tabulated and presented in a compact form. In this context publication viz; "Census of Himachal Pradesh Government Employees" is brought out every year.

4.2 Economic Census

Economic Census is the official count of all the economic enterprises under both organised and un-organised sectors (excluding crop production and plantation) and is conducted in the states as per guidelines of Government of India after a span of 7 years. The report of the Economic Census was prepared on the basis of revised table received from MOSPI Govt. of India and got released from Hon'ble Chief Minister and results were disseminated through a press conference and circulated hard copies to State Bureaus.

5. Training:

To meet the objective "Human Resource Development with special reference to effective use of Information Technology in collection, compilation and analysis of statistical data", training division has been created with a vision to promote good governance by providing to the staff quality training and learning related to performance towards building a professional statistical service which is efficient, accountable and responsive. During the year nearly 6 personnel has got training at National Statistical System Training Academy (NSSTA) and 41 personnel has get training at Himachal Institute of Public Administration, (HIPA) Shimla.

6. Other Misc. Work

Department has also important involvement in other misc. works like Population Census, Crop Cutting experiments, other surveys and studies conducted by other departments.

7. Other Important assignments

7.1.1 Additional work

Central Statistical Organization (CSO), under, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, Government of India has also directed all the states to take up the following assignments.
A. Recommendations of 13th Finance Commission

For improving the Statistical infrastructure in state Headquarter and District is under progress. Some indicator (listed below) has also prescribed by 13th Finance Commission on which work is under progress.

- Need to measure the GSDP at market prices instead of factor cost.
- Need for the initiation for estimating the green GDP/GSDP.
- Estimates of District Income are also be prepared for the intra-state income disparities for proper plan policy and programme interventions.
- The cost of services varies across the states due to large number of factors such as geographical location, population size and distribution and demographic characteristics. To estimates the cost of delivery of services, two types of data are required (a) quantifiable measure of the level of various services available in different states and (b) corresponding unit cost.
- Measurement of inter-regional trade data.
- In view of the 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments, Directorate of Economics and Statistics needs to develop a data base to facilitate local level governance both in urban and rural areas. This should be done in consultation with local administration including the Panchayats.

In addition to above and detail guidelines issued by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, the following milestones be addressed in the Action plan.

1. Preparation and maintenance of Business Register at District Level.
2. Preparation of Local Bodies (Rural + Urban) Accounts by collecting data on receipts and payments of these bodies.
3. Improvement of data in respect of Farm Activities.
4. Pooling of Central and State sample data for generating district level parameters.
5. Providing network connectivity among districts and with State Headquarters.

With I, II, III, IV & V installments, earmarked targets has been achieved. The DES H.P initiated some other indicators beyond 13th Finance Commission recommendations and the target fixed with all installments have been achieved. The indicators wise achievements are as under:-

1. **Inter Net**: - Connectivity of all Districts with Headquarter has been made in LAN & WAN.
2. **Business Register**: - The Department of Economics & Statistics in Himachal Pradesh is the Member of Working Group constituted for development of Business Register at Ministry level and has done all Pilot Studies which were assignment by
the Working Group from time to time. Major milestone in this direction achieved by the State are as follows:-

i) Identification of Registration Authorities has been completed in all 12 Districts.

ii) Sensitization workshops were conducted at Headquarter as well as District headquarters for the Officers of Economics and Statistics Department and Registration Authorities to make them familiar with the vision, scope and initiative in the direction of Development of the Business Register in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

iii) Sensitization Workshops was conducted at Headquarter as well as district hqrs. level for the sensitization all field offices of DES and Registering Authorities.

iv) Data base of 7 Major Registration Authorities were collected and submitted to MOSPI i.e. Companies Act, 1956, Factories Act, 1948, Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1969, Societies Registration Act, 2006, Cooperative Societies Act, Khadi and Village Industries Board & Directorate of Industries (District Industries Centre)-MSME Act, 2006

v) Business register of all 12th Districts has been prepared and send to Govt. of Himachal Pradesh India updated upto 31.08.5015. Updation work upto 31.03.2016 by all the Districts is in progress.

3. Farm Activities: Data from 2013-14 to 2015-16 on major crops collected and used for DDP/GSDP estimates.

4. Rural Local Bodies Accounts: The data for the years 2014-15(A) & 2015-16 (A) collected from each Panchayat through Panchyat Secretaries/Sahayak with the consent of their headquarter, collected data was classified as per SNA-2008 and tabulated to prepare accounts for their contribution in Net State Domestic Product (NSDP) and Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) annually.

5. Pooling of the Central and State Sample Survey Data: Under this assignment, pooling of 68th round of National Sample Survey has been completed and report submitted to National Sample Survey Organization, Kolkata and the same process for 69th round of NSS is in progress.

6. District Income Estimates: Data collection from line departments for the year 2014-15 is under progress.
7. Construction of Building Cost Index Number: Building Cost Index is being prepared quarterly and submitted up to March, 2017 to stakeholder and National Building Organisation, Govt. of India.

8. Annual Survey of Industries/Index of Industrial Production: Annual Survey of Industries returns has been collected for the year 2013-14 and 100 percent data entry has been done. Index of Industrial Production (IIP) upto quarter ending September, 2015 has been prepared and sent to I.S., Wing, Kolkata and for the quarter ending December, 2015 work is in progress.


10. Estimation of Capital Formation in Household & Corporate sector: The work has been initiated.

B. India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP) Now renamed as Support for Statistical Strengthening (SSS)

Under this, the Department is working on 20 key indications with the help of other line departments. It is a World Bank assisted project under which strengthening of this Department and other line departments is proposed. The draft MoU on revised guidelines has been finalized and after getting it approved from the Chairperson of HLSSC sent to MOSPI for approval.

C. National Statistical Commission: Action taken report on COSA was prepared for the year 2013-14, 2014-15 & 2015-16 and sent to MOSPI, Govt. of India.

District Statistical Offices:

All the above functions at the district level are done by the district offices. DSOs are also doing the other works which are being assigned to them by the District Administration.

The department being the central store house for all kind of data tries to fulfill all the requirements of Govt. for sound data base. For this purpose, the Department brings out a number of publications on regular, ad-hoc basis and based on the secondary data collected from different Government Departments, which give Statistical information on various sectors of economy. The data is somewhat easily available from Govt. and the organised sectors but for unorganized sectors the data is to be collected from the primary sources through various surveys and studies which this department in the state does through National Sample Surveys and other ad-hoc surveys and studies.
This Department also has been declared as the “Nodal-Agency” for the statistical activities of all the departments in the state. All the requisite help and guidance in their statistical activities is made available to them from time to time whenever required. Such help is also made available to them through the District Statistical Officers.