

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3667
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.04.2022

OUTSOURCING OF DATA COLLECTION

3667. SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the task of collecting data for economic and other surveys have been outsourced to private agencies much more than ever before in the past;
- (b) Government's guarantee that these data are reliable and what controls and validations are being exercised to ensure accuracy; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that after citizenship has become a touchy and dangerous issue, people are less reluctant to part with their basic data?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS [RAO INDERJIT SINGH]

(a) & (b): The National Sample Survey (NSS), Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation has never outsourced its data collection task for its various surveys to private agencies. However, NSS has outsourced its additional manpower requirement for surveys as and when required. Extensive training have been provided to outsourced manpower on the subjects of the survey before sending to the field for data collection. Also, measures like in-built checks in Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) module, independent inspection/supervision by senior officers, data validations/scrutiny etc. are in place to ensure data quality of the NSS surveys.

(c): No such specific issues have been observed. The NSS household surveys are voluntary based survey.
