

**Government of India
Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation
National Statistical Office**

**Interventions/Comments on Agenda items of the Seventh Session of the Committee on
Statistics, August 26-28, 2020**

Agenda item 4(c): Transforming human resource management to build statistical institutions in Asia and the Pacific for the future

Revised Interventions/Comments of NSO, India:

National Statistical Office (NSO), India recognises the fact that human capital is the most vital resource for any NSO. It has been giving due importance to the capacity development of its human resources and those of other statistical institutions within country as well as in the neighbouring countries.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the global Covid pandemic have posed immense pressure on National Statistical Systems for producing more and more quality data to facilitate taking corrective measures. In this context, India emphasises not only the need of skill enhancement but also the skill mapping of various competencies in the career progression of Statisticians, from the beginning, to specialised areas.

To meet the growing demands for data, NSO India has resorted to outsourcing of the statistical activities by agencies selected from the market. However, grooming and development of the statistical personnel from within the NSO and from the market to take up the statistical activities with full professionalism is the need of the hour. Capacity building will thus play a vital role in enhancing professionalism. In this direction, and in order to build statistical institutions in the Asia Pacific Region; NSO, India is actively collaborating with International Training institutions, like UNSIAP, GIST, etc.

In addition, E-modules are also being developed to assess and train the outsourced/contractual statistical personnel being engaged for conducting data collection under various surveys. In order to improve quality and effective use of time, a blend of virtual and physical classes is being worked out.

NSO, India emphasises not only the statistical competencies but also the management of statistical activities which now-a-days requires a different set of skills to engage with the users and be able to manage the statistical operations in order to remain relevant to the needs of the economy. India is also venturing in innovations and new techniques which will complement the skills of existing statistical personnel.