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शक्तिउत्थानआश्रमलखीसरायबिहार

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Collection of Data

CENSUS OF INDIA AND NSSO

There are some agencies both at the national and state level to collect, process and tabulate the statistical data. Some of the agencies at the national level are Census of India, National Sample Survey (NSS), Central Statistics Office (CSO), Registrar General of India (RGI), Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS), Labour Bureau, etc.

The Census of India provides the most complete and continuous demographic record of population. The Census is being regularly conducted every ten years since 1881. The first Census after Independence was conducted in 1951. The Census officials collect information on various aspects of population such as the size, density, sex ratio, literacy, migration, rural-urban distribution, etc. Census data is interpreted and analysed to understand many economic and social issues in India.

The NSS was established by the Government of India to conduct nation-wide surveys on socio-economic issues. The NSS does continuous surveys in successive rounds. The data collected by NSS are released through reports and its quarterly journal Sarvekshana. NSS provides periodic estimates of literacy, school enrolment, utilisation of educational services, employment, unemployment, manufacturing and service sector enterprises, morbidity, maternity, child care, utilisation of the public distribution system etc. The NSS 60th round survey (January–June 2004) was on morbidity and healthcare. The NSS 68th round survey (2011-12) was on consumer expenditure. The NSS also collects details of industrial activities and retail prices for various goods. They are used by Government of India for planning purposes.

CONCLUSION

Economic facts, expressed in terms of numbers, are called data. The purpose of data collection is to understand, explain and analyse a problem and causes behind it. Primary data is obtained by conducting a survey. Survey includes various steps, which need to be planned carefully. There are various agencies which collect, process, tabulate and publish statistical data. These are used as secondary data. However, the choice of source of data and mode of data collection depends on the objective of the study.