



Workshop cum Training Program on Official Statistics and Policy Research (January 27 to 31, 2020)



Organized Jointly By
Sampling and Official Statistics Unit,
Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata
and
Department of Statistics, Assam University, Silchar



About the Program

The Official Statistics of a country or region provides a window to understand the socio-economic pattern of that country/region. Longitudinal study of official statistics records of a region helps us to understand the pace at which the development has taken place. Analysis of official statistics data becomes more relevant in the context of the North Eastern region of India. It is believed that the North Eastern region of India is still to catch up with the level of development in some aspects compared to the other regions in the main land of India, in spite of its huge potential.

Academicians (especially in the fields of applied Economics and Statistics) have shown growing interest to understand the finer nuances of Indian Official Statistics and use the same as primary measures of Development undertaken at various time points. Integration of Official Statistics and Policy research though felt necessary in a developing country like India, is yet to be considered as a formidable challenge over the years. To overcome this challenge there is a need to organize academic programmes- in order to stimulate researchers and expose them to modern tools and techniques so that the bottlenecks and applicability of relevant data pertaining to policy are appropriately perceived.

Sampling and Official Statistics Unit (SOSU) of the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata has been conducting workshops on similar topics in various North Eastern States for many years in the past. The faculty members of the unit have made significant contribution in the field of official Statistics and Policy research. In addition to faculties of SOSU, some eminent scholars working in the field of official statistics/policy research of the region are expected to throw light on the local area Statistics and thrust area for future research.

Thus, the workshop is planned so that it can be of great help to the young faculty, research scholars and PG students.

This can be considered as a special effort to train manpower to ensure that researchers from this region can participate in research that can lead to Policy recommendations using Official Statistics data available in the public domain.

Objectives of the Program

The program shall be operated through some invited talks delivered by eminent researchers from SOSU of ISI, Kolkata, faculties from other universities/Institutes of North East India and Government Statisticians addressing frontline issues of Official Statistics, Socio-economic studies and Policy research. The speakers are expected to share the objectives, methodology and findings of their research based on official statistics data. The speakers are expected to highlight on the type of data required for their studies, data related issues in the current official statistical system of India (and

Assam), public domains from where researchers can extract data related to health and socio-economic aspects, impact evaluation of policy research and so on.

Presentation of Case Studies by speakers working in the field of Official Statistics and Socio-Economic domains based on data generated from Official Statistical system with special emphasis to Data Analysis shall be displayed in the workshop.

About Indian Statistical Institute

A renaissance man and visionary Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis planted the seed of Statistics in India. He set up the Statistical Laboratory in the Presidency College (later named as Presidency University), Kolkata sometime in the 1920s. He realized the importance of developing the subject Statistics in policy making of the country. For this purpose, he founded the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) in 1931, a unique institution devoted to research, teaching and application of statistics in natural sciences and social sciences. Since then the institute has undergone phenomenal growth and is now widely regarded as one of the leading institutions in the world as a centre for research and training in Statistics and related sciences. The institute is recognized as an Academic Institute of National Importance by an act of the Indian Parliament in 1959. This institute is a unique multi-locational one. The headquarters of the institute is located in Kolkata, and has centres in Bengaluru, Delhi, Chennai and Tezpur and a branch in Giridih. Degrees and Diplomas in Statistics, Mathematics, Quantitative Economics, Computer Science and other subjects related to Statistics are offered in these locations. In addition, there are offices in Coimbatore, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Pune, Vadodara primarily for consultancy on statistical quality control and operation research in a wide range of industries.

As one of the pioneers of policy making after the independence of the country, Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis demonstrated how applications of Statistics can help in solving the problems across a wide range of disciplines. Under his guidance, the early statistical studies included analyses of data on stature of Anglo-Indians, meteorological data, rainfall data, data on soil conditions, etc. Many of the findings of these early studies were of great impact in the control of floods, development of agriculture, etc., and led to the recognition of Statistics as a key discipline. He realized the need of inter-disciplinary research where applications of Statistics played a pivotal role. This endeavor often opened up many theoretical questions and led to new ideas, results and even new directions for further research, that are successfully carried out by the academicians of the institute.

About the Sampling and Official Statistics Unit of ISI

Regarding the promoting of research, teaching and training on official statistics, it was long thought that a platform may be created within ISI, with the expectation that the research on official statistics will cover policy issues and these issues will be

addressed through that platform. With the increasing interest shown by the Government, a clear understanding was obtained of creating such a platform combining the skills of best academicians spread over various departments of ISI and outside in order to provide meaningful academic support to the Government. As a result of this attempt, on the recommendation of the Policy Planning Evaluation Committee of ISI a new unit, called the Sampling and Official Statistics Unit (SOSU), has been formed in 2012.

Since its birth, SOSU has made significant contribution in terms of teaching, training Government Officials, undertaking demand driven research projects on methodologies followed in Indian Official Statistical system and Development Policies undertaken by the Government. The experience of the Senior Official Statisticians dealing with official data combined with the academic skills of ISI scientists has enriched the activities of this unit.

Government of India and other apex organizations of Government (like Reserve Bank of India) have been sending officers for general and specialized training in regular intervals to SOSU. The Government has been prompted by the research on methodologies to revisit the existing method of data collection in some sectors. The policy research undertaken at this department have been acclaimed highly in international forums. The publications of the scientists in reputed academic journals have earned international reputation. In addition, SOSU has been engaged in disseminating the knowledge of Statistics and promote Official Statistics teaching/training and research in backward areas of North Eastern India by conducting training programmes and workshops with the help of local Institutions. Lately, Scientists of SOSU have been contributing immensely in the development of Official Statistical systems in developing countries like Indonesia. Thus SOSU has dedicated itself for the service of the nation together with the Government by opening new directions for research in Official Statistics and Policy.

About Assam University

Assam University came into existence through Assam (Central) University Act, 1989. It was established in 1994, since then the University is steadily becoming an excellent centre of learning. The University has sixteen Schools on major disciplines. There are 40 Departments under these Sixteen Schools and 6 interdisciplinary centers. There are two campuses of Assam University-the main campus at Silchar and the satellite campus at Diphu.

About the Department of Statistics, Assam University

The department of Statistics, under the Albert Einstein School of Physical Sciences is one of the youngest departments of Assam University, established in 2014. The mission of the department is to bring about development of the researchers in the

university and beyond by providing training in data analysis. The department is located in the second floor of Physics building in a scenic set up of the university with airy class rooms. The department has procured licensed version of SPSS 23 and SYSTAT 13. The seminar hall of the department is equipped with uninterrupted projection facility to support software training, public address system, internet connection in the computer used for projection and power plugs provided in each desk for participants to run their laptops during practical training sessions. The department also possesses a dust free air-conditioned computer lab. Alongside its normal academic programs, the department organizes workshops on statistical tools, techniques and software for the benefit of researchers.

Who Can Participate and Criteria of Selection

Registered/enrolled Ph.D students and faculty members of any recognized university/institute of North East India working in the Department of Statistics or Economics may apply. Researcher from any other department who is working in the field of Official Statistics or in some Socio-Economic domains based on data generated from Official Statistical system or having plans of taking up research in this area can apply in the workshop by filling up the prescribed registration form and paying appropriate fees. Interested post graduate students from the department of Statistics and Economics of any recognized university/institute of North East India may also apply.

The applicants shall be short listed based on the requirement of the applicant as shall be evident from the registration form and on first-come-first-serve basis. The last date of receipt of filled application form is 6th January, 2020.

The registration shall close once the required number of participants is attained. Thus, participants are requested to apply early and not to wait for the last date. The employed applicants shall get their form forwarded by competent authority.

In case an applicant is selected to the training program he/she shall be informed by email by the Coordinator of the Training Program on or before 10th January, 2020. In case the applicant is not selected his/her fees (submitted amount) shall be returned. A candidate can withdraw from the workshop at any point of time but the registration fee shall be returned only if the withdrawal takes place on or before 2nd January, 2020. After this date no request for withdrawal of registration/return of registration fees shall be entertained. No certificate shall be issued to the participant, if he/she remains absent in any of the sessions.

Venue

- Seminar Hall, Department of Statistics, Assam University

Registration Fee

The registration fee for the participants is as follows:

- (i) Rs. 1000/- for Faculty Members working in Universities, Colleges, Research institutes and for employed Researchers/employed Research Scholars
- (ii) Rs. 500/- for unemployed full time/part time research scholars and Post Graduate students

Mode of Payment

Candidate applying for the workshop-training program are required to pay the registration fee in Cash/Multicity cheque to The Office of the Head, Department of Statistics, Assam University, Silchar 788011, Assam on or before 6.1.2020 either by person or by post. The Multicity Cheque shall be drawn in favour of "HEAD DEPT OF STATISTICS".

Fees can also be paid by NEFT or RTGS to the following bank account details.

UCO Bank, Assam University Branch, Silchar

Branch Code 002005

IFSC code: UCBA0002005

MICR Code of bank: 788028005

A/C no. 20050110033890

Name of the A/C holder: HEAD DEPT OF STATISTICS.

In case of NEFT/RTGS the applicant has to mention the transaction details in the application form.

The participants shall be provided with workshop kit, refreshments and humble working lunch during the days of the training program. All communication to the participants shall be made via email.

Accommodation, Travel Support and Food

There shall no accommodation support provided to the participants. But if requested- contact details of budget hotels in Silchar shall be sent to the participants. The participants shall take up their accommodation related details with those hotels or any other hotel of their choice. No travel support shall be provided to the participants. Participants shall be provided humble working lunch, tea and snacks during the workshop days.

Tentative List of Resource Persons

- Dr. Diganta Mukherjee, SOSU, ISI, Kolkata
- Prof. Shibdas Bandyopadhyay, Honorary Visiting Professor, ISI, Kolkata
- Mr. Alope Kar, Honorary Visiting Scientist, ISI, Kolkata
- Dr. Asit Baran Chakraborty, Honorary Visiting Scientist, ISI, Kolkata
- Prof. Madhurjya Prasad Bezbaruah, Gauhati University, Guwahati
- Mr. Kamala Kanta Nath, Secretary to the Government of Assam
- Prof. Dibyojyoti Bhattacharjee, Assam University

Important Dates

Last date of Submission of Application Form and Fees: 6th January, 2020

Last date of Withdrawal of Application Form and Fees: 2nd January, 2020

Notification of Selection: On or before 10th January, 2020

Workshop Starts: 27th January, 2020

Workshop Ends: 31st January, 2020

Organizing Committee

Chief Patron: Prof. Dilip C. Nath, Vice Chancellor, Assam University, Silchar

Patron: Prof. Sanghamitra Bandyopadhyay, Director, Indian Statistical Institute

Workshop Coordinator:

Dr. Kajal Dihidar, Sampling and Official Statistics Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata

Prof. Dibyojyoti Bhattacharjee, Assam University, Silchar

Other Members of the Organizing Committee:

Dr. Nachiketa Chattopadhyay, Sampling and Official Statistics Unit, ISI, Kolkata

Dr. Sandip Mitra, Sampling and Official Statistics Unit, ISI, Kolkata

Dr. Rama Shanker, Department of Statistics, Assam University, Silchar

Dr. Jonali Gogoi, Department of Statistics, Assam University, Silchar

Address of Correspondence

Prof. Dibyojyoti Bhattacharjee, Department of Statistics, Assam University, Silchar-788011, Mobile: 94351 70253, Email ID: *djb.stat@gmail.com*

**Workshop cum Training Program on
Official Statistics and Policy Research**

(January 27 to 31, 2020)

Organized Jointly by Sampling and Official Statistics Unit, Indian Statistical
Institute, Kolkata and Department of Statistics, Assam University, Silchar

REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name: _____

2. Gender: 1. Male ☐ 2. Female ☐

3. Address of Correspondence: _____

Paste Recent
Passport Size
photograph and sign
across

4. Email: _____

5. Mobile no.

6. Post Graduation in (Subject): _____

7. Are you employed? 1. Yes ☐ 2. No ☐

If yes, your designation, department and institution _____

8. Do you have any formal training in Statistics? 1. Yes ☐ 2. No ☐

If Yes, provide details _____

9. Amount of fees paid _____

9(i) Mode of payment _____ (ii) Transaction no. (RTGS/NEFT) _____

10. Why do you feel that the training program is useful for you? _____

The information provided above is true to the best of my knowledge.

Date:

(Signature of the Applicant)

Forwarding from the Employer (For employed applicants only)

I forward the application of _____ for the Workshop cum Training Program on Official Statistics and Policy Research from January 27 to 31, 2020 to be held at Assam University. If selected, he/she shall be allowed to join the program.

(Signature of the Head of the institution/Department, Name, address and seal)