Dear Shri Amit Mitra ji,

Kindly refer to your D.O. letter No.130/FM/2019 dated 15.07.2019 addressed to Hon’ble Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs regarding participation of the State of West Bengal in the 7th Economic Census.

2. As you are aware the Ministry has conducted 6 Economic Census in the past in collaboration with the State Governments and considerable time was taken to collect validate, process and tabulate the data before the results could be released. This time gap had implications on the usability of the results for policy purposes. In the ongoing 7th Economic Census, detailed consultation were held with the State Governments and it was decided to leverage technology in a big way for data capturing, processing and validation so that the results could be released quickly. Accordingly, the Ministry has collaborated with the Common Service Centre (CSC) under Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology for the technology intervention as well as for data capturing on a pan-India basis. The CSC works on a unique entrepreneurial model where local entrepreneurs are manning the centers and have significant interaction with the local community which will facilitate data capturing.

3. The various State level coordination committees, district level committees ensure full involvement of the State Government in the exercise as also on ownership of the data. Needless to say that entire Economic Census exercise is being conducted under the Collection of Statistics Act, 2008 which ensures and secures privacy and confidentiality of the information collected.

4. The field work for the 7th Economic Census has already begun in various States and we seek full cooperation of the State Government in ensuring that the results of the 7th Economic Census proves useful for policy making at various levels. This would also facilitate establishment of a

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Statistical Business Register at the National and State level so that targeted policy can be framed by the appropriate authorities to encourage overall development in the economy.

5. It is once again requested that the State Government may kindly extend full cooperation in this exercise so that the Indian economy can benefit from the results of the survey and bring out reliable indicators.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(Inderjit Singh)

Dr. Amit Mitra,
Hon'ble Minister-in-charge,
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MSMSE, Textiles and IT & Electronics,
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