CHAPTER V

COMPUTER CENTRE

Introduction

5.1   Computer Centre was set up in 1967 under the then Department of Statistics under the Cabinet Secretariat with 3 Honey-well-400 Computer System to meet the data processing needs of various Government Ministries/Departments/Organisations nd Public Sector Undertakings located in and around Delhi. The Honeywell-400 Systems were replaced in 1981 by a more powerful third generation Burrroughs-3845 mainframe Computer System. After about a decade, the Burroughs-3845 Computer System was replaced in May, 1992 by a latest 4th generation mainframe Computer System DPS 7000/240. The Centre has now installed a sophisticated PC-based computer system under Client/Server Architecture using WINDOWS 2000/NT as the operating system and ORACLE 9i as data base software along with software tools Developer and Designer 2000.

Main Activities

5.2   The main activities of the Centre include; (i) data preparation (ii) analyzing and designing Computer Systems for data processing applications (iii) establishment of the Computerized System and implementation (iv) documentation of the Computerized Applications for current and future references and use (v) training on Electronic Data Processing and Information Technology (vi) preservation of data and results on computer media for dissemination and use (vii) creation and maintenance of website for the Ministry of Statistics and P.I. which is hosted by the NIC and (viii) Creation of National Data Warehouse of official statistics.

Data Preparation and Processing

5.3   Data preparation is an integral part of data processing. Besides processing of data made available to it on CDs as inputs, the Computer Centre also has the system of data preparation by keying in the data through data entry machines.   For data entry from the schedules/questionnaires, the Centre has been using PC-based electronic machines since 1994 and about 20.19 lakhs records have been keyed in or verified through these data entry machines during the period from April, 2005 to December, 2005.   The Centre is also responsible for data preparation relating to monthly price data for computing the CPI (UNME), NSS 55th round listing schedule and prices being collected under International Comparison Programme(ICP) - 2005, a World Bank sponsored programme.

5.4   The data processing activities include analysis and designing of computerized system, development and establishment of computer software, and the implementation of computerized system for producing the final results after due validation. The Centre had developed several software programs for producing special tables for users particularly in respect of Annual Survey of Industries, the Third and Fourth Economics Censuses, tables from the 38th, 43rd, 50th and 55th rounds NSS socio-economic data etc.

5.5   During the period from April to December, 2005 the following activities were performed:

(i)   **CPI-UNME (1984-85=100)**

- Indices from March, 2005 to November, 2005 were generated.
- Prepared Brochure containing Group, Subgroup Indices for all the 59 Centres and the all India for January-June, 2005.

(ii)   **Special Tabulation from the NSS Data.**

- Re-tabulation of NSS 56th and 57th rounds for National Commission on Enterprises in the Un-Organised Sector.
- Re-tabulation of NSS 50th and 43rd rounds for National Commission on Enterprises in the Un-Organised Sector.
- Re-tabulation of 38th round of Consumer Expenditure for CSO.
- Re-tabulation of NSS 55th round of Employment & Un-employment for National Commission on enterprises in the Un-Organised Sector.

(iii)   **Data Preservation and Dissemination**: As per the "National policy on dissemination of statistical data", Computer Centre has preserved a large volume of data generated through various socio-economic surveys, Enterprise Survey, Economic Censuses, Annual Survey of Industries and price data on CD-ROMs. These data are being disseminated regularly to a large number of national and international users. Technical guidance for the use of basic data and their processing is also provided to the users both within and outside the country, on request.

- The revenue realised during April, 2005 to December, 2005 was Rs.12.37 lakhs and US $ 25,295.

(iv)   **Training Activity:** Training is one of the main activity of the Centre and it conducted EDP courses for various States/UTs and Central government departments. Over a period of time, the centre has trained a large number of Officers in electronic data processing. Conducted Information Technology (IT) courses for the participants of Junior Certificate Courses in Statistics(JCCS), Software packages for middle level ISS officers 'Software Engineering' course for ISS Probationers and in-house training courses. Training on specific modules on Oracle 9i, SPSS, creation of data warehouse tools, C++, Visual Basic, Visual FoxPro, Internet, Web-designing & Networking etc. have also been organized.

- Six training courses were conducted for 86 trainees at the Centre involving 55 training days during April - December, 2005.

(v)   **National Data Warehouse of Official Statistics:** The Cabinet has approved creation of a 'data warehouse of official statistics' in the Ministry of Statistics to enable the data users and general public to have an easy access to the published as well as the un-published validated data from one source. The development of this data warehouse has been entrusted to Computer Centre.   A Direction Committee under the chairmanship of Director General and CEO, NSSO

with technical experts from IIT, Delhi, IASRI, New Delhi, RBI, Mumbai and NIC, Delhi besides senior officers of the Ministry as members has been constituted to advise the Computer Centre on all aspects of setting up of Data-warehouse including determination of appropriate configuration of hardware, selection of software, consultant and training of officers of the Computer Centre. Under the guidance of the Direction Committee, the necessary tools/softwares have been procured for creation of national data warehouse of the official statistics. The design and development for the pilot projects are in progress and is expected that by the end of current financial year the same will be completed. Data Marts have been created for the following pilot projects.

- Employment & Unemployment (38th, 43rd and 50th NSS rounds).
- Consumer Expenditure (38th, 43rd and 50th NSS rounds).
- CPI(UNME).
- Agriculture - Area and production data.

Software tools have been procured for the pilot project. The pilot project is being carried out jointly by the officers from the key soft solutions (supplier of the softwares) and the officers of the Computer Centre. A prototype of the Data warehouse has already been developed and is being modified/upgraded in consultation with the subject specialists.

(vi)   Updation and Maintenance of Web-site of MOS&PI: The Web-site of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has been designed and developed indigenously and is being maintained by the Computer Centre. To provide better access to the users, the Centre is planning to make major improvements including making it a dynamic web-site. As per the special Data Dissemination Standards of the IMF, press releases on Consumer Price Index Numbers, Index of Industrial Production, and Estimates of GDP are uploaded on the website on the day of release itself. The address of the website is **http://mospi.nic.in.**

- The site has been completely redesigned.
- Hit counter, search engines, suggestion counter have been added.
- More than 100 reports of the Ministry have been uploaded in full for free accessing/downloading by the users.
- System for on-line registration has been introduced for downloading/ viewing the reports.
- The reports can be down loaded in pdf/html/excel format.