

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-sixth session

Information items 5(a) – 5(j)

Statement provided by: National Statistics Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Government of India	
Agenda item	Item 5(a) Informal economy statistics (E/CN.3/2025/26)
Statement: India welcomes the adoption of Resolution I concerning statistics on the informal economy, as outlined in the report of the International Labour Organization (ILO), which was endorsed by the 21st International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) in 2023. This new resolution replaces the previous statistical standards, including the Resolution concerning statistics of employment in the informal sector adopted at the 15th ICLS in 1993 and the Guidelines concerning a statistical definition of informal employment adopted at the 17th ICLS in 2003. The updated framework introduces significant improvements in the understanding and measurement of informality. The resolution delineates the boundary of informality through the concept of informal productive activities, thus providing clearer definitions for the informal economy and the informal market economy. The statistical definitions for the informal sector, formal sector, own-use production, and community sector are presented, along with criteria to make these concepts operational in various country contexts. This flexibility allows countries to adapt the definitions based on both the intended destination of production and the formal status of economic units. Additionally, the resolution aligns the concept of informality with the different forms of work adopted by the 19th ICLS in 2013, and integrates the concept of informal employment as defined by the 20th ICLS in 2018, utilizing the International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-2018). India looks forward to continuing its engagement with the international community on this important issue, with a view to improving the collection, classification, and analysis of informal economy data in the country	
Submitted on:	2/11/2025

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Statement provided by: National Statistics Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Government of India	
Agenda item	Item 5(e) International Comparison Programme (E/CN.3/2025/30)
Statement: India has actively participated in all rounds of the International Comparison Program (ICP) since its inception in 1970 (except in 1993 cycle). India has initiated the ICP 2024 cycle field activities. Given India's significant role in the global economy and its vast and diverse economic landscape, presence of experts from India in the Technical Advisory Group and Governing Board of ICP would add a different perspective in the discussions and deliberations.	
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Statement provided by: National Statistics Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Government of India	
Agenda item	Item 5(f) Price statistics (E/CN.3/2025/31)
Statement: The efforts of Ottawa Group in the field of CPI is appreciated especially for exploring areas specially alternate data sources, the treatment of housing in the consumer price index, including rent, owner occupied housing and utilities, challenging areas of price measurement, including digitalization, which is an area of research for many countries. Interaction with global CPI experts and sharing of experiences on future initiatives on this platform will be helpful for India's CPI compilers.	
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Statement provided by: National Statistics Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Government of India	
Agenda item	Item 5(h) Common open standards for the exchange and sharing of data and metadata (E/CN.3/2025/33)
Statement: The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) commends the SDMX sponsors for their efforts in strengthening global data exchange frameworks. The advancements in SDMX standards, AI-driven tools, open-source solutions, and capacity-building programs are significant steps toward fostering global interoperability in data management and dissemination. • India's commitment to modernizing its statistical systems is closely aligned with SDMX principles. MoSPI recognizes the importance of adopting international standards for improving the quality, comparability, and accessibility of India's statistical outputs. • Current SDMX-Related Initiatives by MoSPI: • MoSPI is providing CPI data and quarterly estimates of GDP in SDMX format through its website. • Representatives from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), India, have been actively participating in global SDMX conferences, showcasing India's commitment to adopting and aligning with international standards for statistical data exchange. Participation includes attending major events like the 9th SDMX Global Conference in Manama, Bahrain (2023), 8th SDMX Global Conference virtually in 2021 and 7th SDMX Global Conference in Budapest, Hungary (2019). These engagements reflect India's proactive approach to contributing to and benefiting from the SDMX ecosystem at a global level. • The AI-based advancements highlighted in the SDMX report, such as StatGPT and conversational chatbots etc, are in line with India's emphasis on leveraging emerging technologies in the statistical domain. MoSPI supports these initiatives and emphasizes the need for multilingual adaptability to address the diverse linguistic landscape of India. • The advancements of SDMX standards to SDMX 3.1 (2024) and SDMX 3.2(2025) is a great step in addressing the challenges in managing high dimensional datasets in official statistics. • MoSPI acknowledges the importance of regional capacity-building efforts and seeks further expansion of SDMX-focused training programs in South Asia.	

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Collaborative capacity-building efforts with international agencies would support India's decentralized statistical systems and ensure effective implementation of SDMX standards for data and metadata exchanges.	
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