National Sample Survey (NSS)

Prelims : Current events of National and International Importance

Why in News?

Recently, 19th Statistics day was celebrated to commemorate 132nd Birth Anniversary of Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis with the theme '75 Years of National Sample Survey'.

> ***National Statistics Day** is celebrated on June 29th every year in India.*

- **Established in** – 1950, by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation.
- It was inspired by the vision of P.C. Mahalanobis
- **Objectives –** To provide reliable, timely, and comparable socio-economic statistics through sample surveys.
- **4 divisions**
  - Survey Design and Research Division (SDRD)
  - Field Operations Division (FOD)
  - Data Processing Division (DPD)
  - Survey Coordination Division (SCD)
- **Headed by** – A Director General, who is responsible for conduct of large scale sample surveys in diverse fields on All India basis.
- **Data collection –** They are collected through ***nation-wide household surveys*** on various socio-economic subjects, Annual Survey of Industries (ASI), etc.
- It also collects *data on rural and urban prices*.
- **Significance** – It plays a significant role in the *improvement of crop statistics* through supervision of the area enumeration and crop estimation surveys of the State agencies.
- It also maintains a frame of urban area units for use in sample surveys in urban areas.

Recent launches of NSS

• **e-Sankhyiki Portal** – It was launched on National Statistics Day 2024.
• It is designed to create a comprehensive system for managing and sharing data, facilitating the easy dissemination of official statistics across the country.
• **GoIStat mobile App** – It was launched to enhance the ease of access of official statistical data.
• It represents NSO's vision of creating an inclusive data ecosystem where every stakeholder can seamlessly access official data.

Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis (1893-1972)

- **Contribution** – He played a key role in establishing the
  - National Sample Survey
  - Central Statistical Organization
- These institutions continue to shape India's statistical landscape.
- His influence on India's Planning Commission, particularly the *2nd Five-Year Plan (1956-1961),* was significant.
- He served as the *chairman of the United Nations Sub-Commission on Sampling* from 1947 to 1951.
- **Recognition** - He was known as the "*Father of Statistics*" *in India*.

Reference

PIB| 75 Years of National Sample Survey

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