Statement by

Dr G. P. Samanta, Chief Statistician of India cum Secretary,
Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India

at

Eighth session of Committee on Statistics
on
Agenda item: 3 (a) Monitoring progress in line with the document entitled
“Advancing official statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: a collective vision and framework for action by the Asia-Pacific statistical community” and the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind

Bangkok August 23, 2022

Embassy of India, 46, Prasammitr, Sukhumvit, Soi 23, Bangkok - 10110.
Chairperson and Distinguished Delegates,

It is an honour and privilege for me to participate in the Eighth Session of the Committee on Statistics of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), and to share India’s views.

At the outset, I would like to express my appreciation to the ESCAP Secretariat for documenting the progress made towards commitments contained in the collective vision and framework for action and the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind.

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to take this opportunity to share the progress made by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India for advancing official statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Mr. Chairman,

In 2018, NSO, India developed a National Indicator Framework (NIF) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in sync with Global Indicator Framework, following due consultation with concerned Ministries/Departments, UN Agencies and other stakeholders. The development of SDG indicators is a continuing process and NSO, India consults with stakeholders on a regular basis for reviewing the suitability of existing indicators as well as identifying new indicators for the relevant target(s).

Government of India has also constituted a High-Level Steering Committee on SDGs. The Committee reviews and refines the NIF based on consultations and
recommendations of stakeholders.

Mr. Chairman,

Every year, NSO, India releases Sustainable Development Goals National Indicator Framework, Progress Report along with the revised NIF.

India, in its endeavour to increase awareness on SDGs, has developed a documentary film in Hindi, English and 15 other regional languages. These have been very helpful in creating awareness on SDGs at sub-national level.

Mr. Chairman,

India is also a member of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group for Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDG) of UN, representing South Asia and has been contributing in the refinement of the methodology of SDG indicators.

Mr. Chairman,

I sincerely hope that discussions, in this forum, would lead to innovative ideas and practical solutions in prioritizing our future course of action.

Thank you, Chair.

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