

NSO Nagpur Marks 20th Statistics Day, Highlights Role of Administrative Data in Governance

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The National Statistical Office (NSO), under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, celebrated the 20th Statistics Day in Nagpur on Monday, highlighting the growing importance of administrative data in strengthening evidence-based governance and informed policymaking. The programme was jointly organised by the NSO's Zonal Office (Coordination & Quality Control Division), Regional Office (Field Operations Division) and Household Survey Unit at the Indian Bureau of Mines, Civil Lines.



The event commenced with floral tributes to the portrait of eminent statistician Prof. P.C. Mahalanobis, whose birth anniversary is observed as Statistics Day, followed by the ceremonial lighting of the lamp and screening of a documentary on his life and contributions to India's statistical system.

Delivering the welcome address, Shri Srinivas Uppala, Deputy Director General, NSO, described statistics as the "eyes and ears of the Government" and underscored the need to integrate administrative and survey data for effective governance and improved public service delivery. Referring to this year's theme, "Unlocking the Potential of Administrative Data for Decision-Making," he said robust data systems are essential for responsive and citizen-centric policymaking.

Shri Niyati Joshi, Deputy Director General, NSO, highlighted the increasing relevance of statistics in the era of Artificial Intelligence, Data Science and Big Data, and encouraged young statisticians to leverage emerging technologies while upholding the principles of accuracy and

reliability in official statistics.



Guest speakers Dr. Aparna Samudra, Assistant Professor, Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, and Shri T.K. Basu, former Additional Director General, emphasized the ethical use of data and the transformative role of administrative data in research, governance and public welfare.

Poster-making, slogan writing, speech, quiz, crossword and word-search competitions were also organised as part of the celebration to encourage greater awareness among students and the public about the importance of statistics in national development.

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