

A study on Non Profit Institutions in India - some findings

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The Non-Profit Institutions (NPIs) sector is one of the largest institutional sectors in India, a finding based on number of such institutions registered with the government agencies. However, it has so far not been possible to assess its contribution to the GDP due to lack of availability of separate data on their economic activities, though the same is included in the GDP of the respective institutional sectors to which these NPIs are serving. The contribution of NPIs serving households (NPISHs) is included in the 'household sector'.

Keeping in view the necessity to have separate accounts for the NPI sector in the national accounts statistics, the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) has launched a survey on NPIs. The results of the survey would eventually enable the CSO to implement the UN Handbook on Nonprofit Institutions (NPIs) in the System of National Accounts, and institute a mechanism to separately publish accounts of NPIs in the national accounts.

The CSO's survey, which was launched in April, 2008, was planned to be conducted in two phases with the collaboration of State Governments. In the first phase, the manual records on NPIs available with their registering authorities in different States of the country, were to be computerized so that the frame of the registered NPIs in the country is available at one place. In the second phase, all the listed NPIs were to be visited by investigators to physically verify their existence and simultaneously collect employment and financial data from the functioning NPIs.

As of now, the first phase of the survey is more or less complete. From the results available from this phase, there are about 3.3 million NPIs registered in India, with the largest number of them being concentrated in the rural areas. Also, a maximum number of NPIs are involved in the community, social and personal services, cultural services, education and health services.

This paper presents the important results and findings available from the first phase of the CSO's survey on NPIs in India.