

IN THE NAME OF THE MOST HIGH

Today, on the eve of approaching the new Solar Hijri century, a century that has passed the age of information and communication, experienced the digital and virtual world, and is now facing the data revolution, the importance and vital role of statistics in the development and advancement of societies and good governance is highlighted and proved. Fortunately, having a certain day in our national calendar to celebrate the important standing of statistics and planning based on trust and reliable data is a good opportunity to remind its increasing importance to each member of the society, especially to planners, decision-makers, managers, specialists, academics, experts and other walks of life.

We live in an age that has been called the "Age of Data Revolution" and even the "Age of Data Governance". Statistics have long been recognized as an important tool for better governance of societies, and now in a world where we see modern advancements and achievements in the area of technology every day, without accurate and reliable data and without establishing a link between them, it will not be possible to analyze, plan and make decisions, and even go through the current affairs and make the simplest decisions soundly.

The importance of statistics and data is an issue that is well known not only at the national level but also at the global level. Today, sustainable and comprehensive development is not possible in a closed and enclosed context, but it must be materialized in a global and dynamic arena. Therefore, since 2010, the United Nations, in a special message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, has proclaimed 20th October as World Statistics Day to honor the role of statistics in the world socio-economic development, and this Day is celebrated by the United Nations, National Statistical Offices, Universities and Scientific every five years.

Recently, the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution has reaffirmed the importance and necessity of developing and launching information systems and connecting these systems, in other words, matching and integrating data to remove obstacles and initiate structural reforms in the country. In this regard, and according to the points raised above, with a sound understanding of national and international developments, the Statistical Centre of Iran, the only official focal point of statistics in the country, has defined and determined the theme of "Entering the new Solar Hijri Century with Data Governance in Modern Statistical System" as the national slogan of statistical system and put the slogan

as a basis for moving forward in this direction. This slogan will be the core of activities and coordination in the national statistical system.

Of course, considering its inherent duties and concerns and being aware of changes, increasing needs of the society and existing shortcomings in the national statistical system, the Statistical Centre of Iran, as the only legal authority and specialized institution for producing national official statistics, has put the modernization of this system in its agenda based on the latest developments and global recommendations. Accordingly, in order to eliminate the shortcomings, the SCI has developed a plan and taken measures and actions appearing in the Third National Strategy of Statistics Development (2017-2021). Now on the verge of developing the Seventh National Development Plan, considering this national slogan and the dominant tendencies in modernizing the statistical system, we do our best to continue and complete the previous measures.

"National Convergence for the Modernization of the National Statistical System" was the last year's national slogan of the National Statistical System, of which the most important symbol of the relative realization in the last year is the approval of the implementation of the Register-based Population and Housing in 2026 by the consonance and support of all government agencies, institutions and the Government Council in addition to expanding cooperation and understanding among institutions, scientific and academic authorities and the Statistical Centre of Iran.

This Census will be one of the most important cases for the modernization of the National Statistical System and the integration of data in good governance. Here, while congratulating the National Statistics and Planning Day and the World Statistics Day to all those involved in the National Statistical System, all interested parties and activists in this field, I express my satisfaction and gratitude to the government agencies, government institutions, and scientific and academic authorities nationwide for their efforts and cooperation with the Statistical Centre of Iran. I am sure that in the coming year, with the expansion of this cooperation and consonance, the Statistical Centre of Iran and the National Statistical System will take more robust steps in line with the modernization and the materialization of its goals to develop our Islamic homeland and achieve better data governance.

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