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PREFACE


India has a federal structure of the Government and its statistical system functions within the overall administrative set-up of the country. The Indian statistical system is largely a decentralized set-up in accordance with the major division of responsibilities between the Central and State Governments, i.e. on the basis of three fold classification of subjects viz. Union list, State list and the Concurrent list. 'Statistics' is in the concurrent list where both the Central and State Governments can operate. There is a further division of responsibility, by subjects or group of subjects, among the different Ministries/Departments of the Union Government and among the departments of the State Government, on the basis of their administrative functions.

The Central Government acts as the coordinating agency for presentation of statistics on an all-India basis, even where the States have the primary authority and responsibility for collection of data. The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) is the nodal agency for all statistical activities in the country. The State Directorates of Economics and Statistics (DEs) carry out the responsibility of coordination of all statistical activities at the State level and keeping liaison with the MOSPI for the purpose of coordination at all-India level, and for maintaining norms and standards in the field of statistics.

The present issue of the "Statistical Year Book" (earlier called "Statistical Abstract") is 44th edition of the publication in the series. It presents a large variety of socio-economic data at the State level as well for all-India. This issue is being brought out after a gap of 3 years, after the last publication viz. Statistical Abstract 2007 was released, mainly because the two other publications - "Compendium of Selected Indicators of Indian Economy Vol. I (Economic sector) and Vol.II (Social sector) giving time series data for over 50 years period, were compiled and published during the intervening period.

It will be noted that this publication contains voluminous data which involved extensive consultations with various source agencies besides huge amount of data collection, compilation, validation and updation including preparation of various charts/graphs. I would like to put on record the tremendous efforts made and commendable job done by the Research and Publication Unit (RPU) officers and staff primarily comprising of Smt Rajneesh Jain, Director, Shri D.K. Pandey, Director and Smt. Anupam Bhatnagar, Director, under the overall guidance of Shri A.K. Bhatia, Additional Director General and Shri. S.Maitra, Deputy Director General.

Any suggestion for improvement of the publication will be welcomed.


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