

Overview

The Compendium of Environment Statistics 2010 has been prepared under the broad Framework for Development of Environment Statistics provided by the United Nations Statistics Division and adopted by the Steering Committee on Environment Statistics set up by CSO during 1996. The five parameters of the framework, namely, biodiversity, atmosphere, land/soil, water, and human settlements have been used in this compendium. There are seven chapters, further divided into various sections, the details of which are given below. An attempt has been made, wherever possible, to elaborate the data in the tables and suitable graphs and charts for easy comprehension.

The first chapter on Environment and Environment degradation gives a general introduction of the concept of environment; development versus environment degradation; impact of development activities on environment; emissions, discharges and their sources; some major pollutants, their sources and related health hazards.

The second chapter on Development of Environment Statistics in India summarises the activities undertaken by the C.S.O. in Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for the development of environment statistics.

The third chapter is on Biodiversity which elaborates on the conditions of Flora; Forests and Fauna in India. The section on Flora contains some statistics on plant species found in India, species which are rare and threatened. It also gives some statistics on preservation measure of flora like Biosphere reserves, Botanical gardens and gene banks in India, including information on agro biodiversity. The section on Forests contains statistics on

Indian forests. It gives information on percentage of forest area to total geographic area (state-wise), wastelands and external aids received for social forestry. The section on Fauna gives the major biogeographic habitats in India, estimated number of species, rare and threatened species, national parks and wildlife sanctuaries, tiger reserves, livestock population in India, fish production etc.

In the fourth chapter on Atmosphere discussions are mainly on Atmosphere and air pollution, Role of Transport Sector, Energy sector and industries in air pollution, Greenhouse Gases, Ozone depletion and Noise Pollution. Data on Ambient air quality standards, state of ambient air quality in some selected cities and towns, Air quality monitoring programmes, measures taken in major cities to reduce air pollution, renewable energy sources etc are also presented in this chapter.

The fifth chapter on Land and Soil is divided into four sections: Land Uses, Agriculture, Mining and Natural disasters. The section on Land Uses contains nine fold land classification followed in India, and different land use patterns. The section on Agriculture contains information on area under principal crops; performance of crop production; use of agricultural inputs; consumption of pesticides statewide and their effect on soil. The section on Mining gives data on number of mines, production of minerals, mining machinery and consumption of explosives in mining, and status of afforestation. The section on Natural Disasters contains information on frequently occurring natural disasters; recent natural disasters in India; major earthquakes; number of drought-prone districts and damages due to droughts and supercyclonic storm.

In the sixth chapter on Water, data on rain water, surface water, ground water and water quality etc are elaborated and analysed. The information on rainfall performance; water flow in streams and ground water resources; water quality criteria and water quality monitoring, water pollution causes and effects etc are also presented here.

In the seventh chapter on Human Settlements discussions are mainly about Population and Poverty; Housing, Slums and Basic Facilities; and Waste

Management. Human development is adversely affected by the environmental degradation. Safe drinking water and sanitation are closely linked with two of the very important human development indicators viz. infant mortality and life expectancy. This chapter also discusses Information on population size, infant mortality rate, and expectation of life at birth, population below the poverty line, housing conditions and basic facilities, Slums, homeless population, solid waste and hazardous material management etc.