

प्रो. टी. सी. ए. अनन्त
PROF. T.C.A. ANANT



भारत के मुख्य सांख्यिकीविद्
Chief Statistician of India

राष्ट्रीय सांख्यिकीय आयोग
National Statistical Commission
भारत सरकार / Government of India
सरदार पटेल भवन, संसद मार्ग, नई दिल्ली - 110001
Sardar Patel Bhavan, Sansad Marg, New Delhi - 110 001
फोन / Tel. : 23742150 फैक्स / Fax : 23742067
E-mail : tca.anant@nic.in

FOREWORD


In the decentralized Statistical System of India where various entities, both at Central and State Level, are involved in the production and dissemination of statistics, the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, being the nodal agency, has been bringing out consolidated reports on diverse socio economic indicators for a long time. The Statistical Year Book (earlier called Statistical Abstract) brought out by the Central Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation is one such publication that provides both time series and cross sectional data on various sectors.

In the present publication (50 in the series), in addition to the already existing all India time series data, inclusion of time series data of state level has been initiated and the same is expected to provide a rich database on various indicators over the years. Further, to contextualize the performance of various sectors in India, introductory information has been included in the chapter wise commentary wherever feasible. References & sources of data have also been indicated for further research & analysis by the users of the data.

In view of the size involved, the full publication including all the tables is being brought out in electronic format and is also uploaded on the website (www.mospi.nic.in) for wider accessibility.

I take this opportunity to thank all the Ministries/Departments and other source agencies for their cooperation in supplying the data for the publication. I would also like to acknowledge and place on record excellent work done by the team of officers and staff of Research & Publication Unit.

Suggestions for improvement are most welcome.


(T.C.A. Anant)

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