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FOREWORD

A credible health database is the most essential pre-requisite for policy-formulation and prospective health planning. Central Bureau of Health Intelligence (CBHI) regularly brings out its annual publication "Health Information of India" based on the Health Data from Health Directorates of States/UTs and various central government agencies. CBHI has pursued further effort to present this health data in an analytical and reader friendly format on National Health Profile, which includes all the relevant information in broadly classified six health indicators viz. Demography, Socio-Economic, Health Status, Health Finances, Health Infrastructure and Human Resources; while bridging the gap that existed in Health Information of India.

It is a pleasure that the first issue of this "National Health Profile of India 2005" is being brought out by the CBHI, Dte. General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family welfare, Government of India in collaboration with WHO.

This national publication will be useful for planners, administrators, decision makers, academicians, researchers and all others concerned with health development in India. And this "National Health Profile" will replace the annual publication "Health Information of India" from the year 2006.

The valuable suggestions for further improvement of this publication will be highly appreciated, which may kindly be shared with.

(Dr. R. K. Srivastava)