Acknowledgement

This Ministry has been regularly compiling and disseminating information on rural health care delivery system through the annual publication titled “Rural Health Statistics”, based on data received from the States and Union Territories. The relevance of reliable and up-to-date statistics on rural health care system in formulation of appropriate schemes/programmes and in their effective implementation, particularly in the context of strengthening the rural health care infrastructure and human resources is well known. The present issue contains data upto March 2019. In order to increase the scalability and optimum usability of this publication the data pertaining to the Urban Health parameters and Health and Wellness Centres has been captured for the 1st time in this publication. The support and cooperation received from the States/Union Territories in facilitating preparation of this publication is commendable. I place on record this Ministry’s appreciation for the efforts made by the concerned officials of all the States/Union Territories towards this.

The overall supervision and guidance of Mr. D. K Ojha, DDG (Statistics) and Ms. Anjali Rawat, Director (Statistics) in bringing out this publication is commendable. Valuable support extended by Mr. Anindya Saha, Deputy Director (Statistics) and Dr. Rakesh Sharma, Consultant in compiling data and its critical analysis is duly acknowledged.

I am sure that the States/UTs will find this publication very useful in planning their programmes and in supporting their rapid strides towards achieving the goal of Universal Health Coverage.

(Vandana Gurnani)