Foreword

The importance of health care services in a fast growing economy is globally recognized. In India, Governments at various levels strive to ensure availability of health care services to the people even in the remote places. This requires addressing the needs of population by fully utilizing the existing capacities in the most effective and efficient manner, in addition to creating capacities by way of additional infrastructure, human resources etc. and introducing new programmes. The National Health Mission has placed considerable emphasis on this with a view to achieving the objectives of the Mission, for which availability of credible and real time data is necessary.

This Ministry has been bringing out a annual publication titled ‘Rural Health Statistics’, which provides detailed data on rural health infrastructure, human resources, facilities, training etc. in order to cater to the needs of health planners, policy makers, other government and non-government organizations and research institutions working in the field of health and family welfare. Since last year, information on availability of doctors, paramedicals and status of buildings of District and Sub-District Hospitals has been included in the publication. Information pertaining to tribal areas is also available in the document. The present issue gives information up to March, 2016.

To know the impact of NRHM, the comparison with respect to baseline indicators of the year 2005, when NRHM started is incorporated. I believe this document will benefit all the stakeholders immensely.

We will be happy to receive suggestions for improvement of this publication.

(C.K Mishra)