MESSAGE

I am glad to know about the publication of ‘Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India – 2006’ which is an annual publication of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) containing detailed information and analysis about incidents and suicides that took place during the year 2006.

Accidents – natural as well as those not attributable to nature – and suicides are the two important factors for premature end to precious human lives therefore collection, compilation and analysis of data related to accidental deaths and suicides becomes important not only for law enforcement agencies but also for other stakeholders like policy planners, psychologists, Transport department, Highway authorities, Public Works Department, Railways, development authorities and social scientists.

This publication seeks to fulfill the data needs of these stakeholders and presents comprehensive information on accidental deaths and suicides taking place in our country. Detailed analysis has been made with respect to various parameters like causative factors, age-group of victims etc which will be helpful for the study of problems from various aspects. I am sure that the publication will help all the stakeholders in understanding various aspects of the problems so that appropriate remedial measures could be planned and implemented.

I will also take this opportunity to thank all the State Governments/UT Administrations and Heads of various Law Enforcement Agencies for providing the statistics related to accidents and suicides and would request them to provide it by the month of February next year so that the report may be brought out by April 2008 in order to make it more useful and timely.

(ANITA CHAUDHARY)

November 16th, 2007
New Delhi

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FOREWORD

'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' is a compendium of data relating to loss of human lives as a result of accidents and suicides as the name indicates. The data for this annual publication of National Crime Records Bureau is supplied by the States, UTs and 35 Mega Cities. Present issue relates to year 2006 which is 40th volume of this publication since its inception in the year 1967.

Accidental deaths and suicides are two prominent forms of pre-mature termination of human life. Whereas the accidents could be both man-made and caused by nature but suicides are deliberate act of the victim himself to end his life. The loss of these precious human lives is mainly due to family problems, illness, fall in social or economic status, failure in examinations, love affairs, poverty etc. Such deaths cause immense distress not only to the relatives of the victims but also to the society at large, therefore it is necessary to study various aspects of these deaths so that suitable preventive and control measures could be considered and planned. This report aims to help policy makers, law enforcement agencies, researchers, psychologists, etc in their efforts to minimise such deaths so that the lives thus saved may be made more fruitful to the victims themselves and the society.

I am very grateful to the heads of Police of all the States, UTs and Mega Cities for making publication of this report possible by their cooperation in providing the data to us. It was our effort to publish this report by the month of April 2007 but it could not be possible due to non-availability of correct and authenticated data in time. I will request the States/UTs to provide the data by the month of February next year so that the report could be brought out by the month of April 2008. It is our constant endeavour to reduce the time-lag in the publication so as to make the report more relevant to the users.

I hope this issue will meet the requirements of its readers. I also take this opportunity to record my appreciation of the sincere efforts of the officers and staff of the Statistical Branch who have toiled hard to bring out this report.

We would appreciate if the readers send their suggestions to us in the feedback form attached at the end of this report to further improve the content and quality of the publication.

November, 2007
New Delhi.

(Sudhir Awasthi)