PREFACE

Birth and Deaths are the two most important vital events that define life of an individual. Not only do they describe the legal existence of an individual, registration of these events is a primary source of vital data of the population to which they belong. Civil Registration is a continuous, permanent, compulsory recording of the occurrence and characteristics of vital events, like births, deaths and still births. These vital statistics are invaluable for planning, monitoring and evaluating various programmes related to primary health care, family planning, maternal and child health, education etc. Nevertheless, information collected through registration process about vital events provides useful and important statistics.

2. This issue of the Report on ’Vital Statistics of India based on the Civil Registration System’ for the year 2018 provides an overview of the working of the Civil Registration System (CRS) in the country and presents a compilation of data on registered births, deaths, infant deaths and still births with rural-urban & sex-wise break-up and sex ratio at birth based on Civil Registration Records. Ideally, an Annual Report on vital statistics containing more detailed information should have been brought out. However, due to limited availability of information contained in the Annual Reports of some of the States, the report for the year 2018 containing key information of events pertaining to the time period 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2018 has been brought out for the convenience of users. An attempt has been made to present more detailed analysis as compared to previous Reports.

3. The publication is divided into two parts. Part I provides a brief review of the Civil Registration System and contains a summary analysis of data on registered births, deaths, infant deaths and sex ratio at birth at State level. Part II consist of the main tables which provide State and District-wise data on registered births, deaths, infant deaths and still births with rural-urban & sex-wise break-up.

4. The data source for the report is the statutory Annual Statistical Report prepared by the Chief Registrars of Births & Deaths of States/UTs. I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all the Chief Registrars of Births & Deaths of various States/UTs for their kind cooperation in providing the requisite information. I am thankful to each one of them for their invaluable cooperation. I am hopeful for the similar response from the states/UTs in future also. I am very positive that, more dynamic implementation of the provisions the RBD Act-1969 shall help reduce the time gap and establish this as a reliable source of information on the Birth and Death registration in country.

5. The report has been prepared by the CRS Section of this office. I would like to place on record my appreciation for the efforts put in by all the officers and staff working in the CRS Section of the Office of the Registrar General and the Officers/Staff connected with the Civil Registration system in the States/UTs.

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