

SAMPLE REGISTRATION SYSTEM - 1985

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P R E F A C E

In the absence of dependable data from Civil Registration System, the Sample Registration System (SRS) is the main source of information on fertility and mortality indicators at state and national levels. The SRS mechanism involves collection of data through two different procedures, viz., continuous enumeration and retrospective half-yearly surveys which is followed by a process of matching of the two records and subsequent field verification of unmatched and partially matched events. The methodology provides a cross-check on the correctness and completeness of events of births and deaths listed in either records.

This report while presenting data for the year 1985 gives a detailed account of the salient features of the SRS along with other aspects connected with the implementation of SRS. The report also contains an analysis of data relating to population composition, fertility and mortality. The analysis aims at describing the population composition by broad age-group, the levels of fertility both overall as well as for different age-groups of women, including married women, the overall level of mortality as well as the mortality level for various age-groups during the year 1985. It also aims at bringing out the rural-urban and inter-state differentials as well as sex-wise differentials wherever relevant. Further, the analysis aims at indicating the changes over the recent years. It may be noted that whenever comparative statements over time have been presented, only 15 major States are covered as against 17 in other statements. This happens because in two States viz. Bihar and West Bengal, SRS data had been deficient prior to 1980 and hence not presented.

The SRS is a Centre-State venture and the present study would not have been possible without active involvement of various state implementing agencies for whom my thanks are due. I am also thankful to the staff and officers of the Sample Registration Unit of Vital Statistics and Data processing Divisions for their hard work. In particular, I am happy to place on record my appreciation of efforts put in by Dr. S.S. Srivastava, Joint Registrar General, Shri V.S. Swamy, Deputy Registrar General, Shri Sant Ram, Deputy Director of Census Operations, Shri Anand Kumar, Assistant Director of Census Operations and Smt. C.P. Dua, Investigator in bringing out this report.

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REGISTRAR GENERAL, INDIA

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