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FOREWORD

I am happy to know that Directorate of Economics and Statistics has brought out the first Publication "Children Statistics of Puducherry-2009". Children are the future of India and hence Government of India has accorded high priority for implementation of policies and programmes for the welfare and development of Children. To fulfil the rights of children and give them the best possible start in life, Government has to step up the levels of investment in basic and social services.

Statistics is the key technology for identifying the thrust areas and for guiding the decisions of the government in planning and policy formulation in children related issues. DES is the apex statistical body in the Union Territory and has the major responsibility for addressing the emerging data demands from a wide variety of users both public and private. To meet the growing demand on statistics on children, DES has collected and compiled children related indicators .

The present Publication "Children Statistics" of Puducherry-2009 of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, gives an account of the status of children in Puducherry. The main purpose of this report is to provide the input needed by the Government for children development policies.

I hope this publication will be of immense use to the Planners, Policy makers, Social workers and Researchers and other data users interested in the welfare of children .

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