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PREFACE

Children are the future Citizen of India. India is home to nearly 20 % of the World's child population. They are the foundation and backbone of our society. It is needless to say that protecting the rights of the children and development of under privileged children holds the key to the progress of Nation.

In the recent years significant importance is given to children related issues. Children have the rights to live happy, healthy and secured life. As such the need for creating a data base on children is imperative for evolving policies and programmes for the welfare of children. The present publication "Children Statistics of Puducherry 2009" brought out by Directorate of Economics and Statistics on the "World Statistics Day, 20th October 2010" is merely a beginning of collection of data base for children of Puducherry. The publication highlights the status of children in sectors demography, health, education and nutrition. Areas on crime and exploitation of children are not covered in this issue. We intend to place the publication in our website and update and augment the coverage of the publication as and when data is available

The publication has been brought out with the active co-operation of various departments and I am grateful to them for their support and co-operation.

I appreciate the efforts taken by the officials of the Directorate for their dedicated effort in the preparation of the report.

I hope this publication will serve as useful tool to all government agencies such as Centre/State Governments, NGO's, Social Workers, experts and all those devoted to the causes of children.

Suggestions for improvement of the publication are most welcome.

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