

Foreword

Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) launched by the Government in 2005, a lot of emphasis has been given on strengthening of rural health infrastructure including physical infrastructure and buildings, manpower and other facilities. Timely and updated data is a pre-requisite to assess the effectiveness of various interventions under NRHM and monitoring their progress.

This Ministry is bringing out a regular publication entitled 'Bulletin on Rural Health Statistics in India' providing detailed statistics on rural health services in order to cater to the needs of health planners and policy makers as well as other government and non-government organizations and research institutions working in this field. This issue in hand is the latest edition in the series. The data given in this bulletin is based on the information provided by the States and Union Territories in the form of Quarterly Progress Reports on Rural Health Services. The current bulletin is a compilation of the latest available information upto the quarter ending **March, 2007**. The Government of India has also laid down the Indian Public Health System (IPHS) standards for these health centres and under the NRHM the health facilities are to be all upgraded to these IPHS standards in a phased manner.

I hope the Bulletin will benefit all those who are involved in the field of policy, administration, planning, management & research of health services.

I take this opportunity to put on record my appreciations for all concerned officers and staff of Statistics Division for bringing out this edition of the Bulletin. Please also visit the web site of the Ministry ([http: \\ www.mohfw.nic.in](http://www.mohfw.nic.in)) for the latest information.

We shall be happy to receive the suggestions for improvement of this Bulletin.

Naresh Dayal

Secretary

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New Delhi.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Government of India