



## FOREWORD

The incidences of drug abuse particularly among the economically and productive population of the country, especially in the North-eastern sector has always been a matter of concern to us. To deal with the problem, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment in partnership with Non-Governmental Organizations, Civil Society and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is undertaking various community based interventions as a part of its drug demand reduction strategy. A major challenge is to expand the coverage of existing interventions so as to reach the unreached. This may not be possible until we have basic understanding of the nature and extent of the drug abuse problem. Against this background, the Monograph on 'Drug use in the North-eastern States of India' is a timely initiative towards consolidating the information on drug abuse and drug driven HIV AIDS in North-eastern States.

I am confident that the monograph would be of immense help in understanding the problem of drug abuse and drug trafficking in the North-eastern parts of the country and in developing appropriate strategies to combat the menace.

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