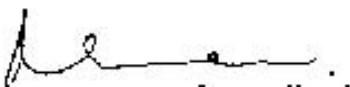


FOREWORD

The National Survey on Extent, Pattern and Trends of Drug Abuse in India comprising (i) the National Household Survey; (ii) the Drug Abuse Monitoring System; (iii) the Rapid Assessment Survey; and (iv) Focussed Thematic Studies on special population groups has addressed the long-felt need for having a realistic assessment of drug abuse in the country. The incidence and extent of injecting drug use has long been a subject of debate. Against this background, this monograph on “Injecting Drug Use and HIV/AIDS in India: An Emerging Concern” is a timely initiative towards consolidating the information on IDU which has emerged from the separate components of the National Survey. This monograph will help inform the policy planners and the implementing agencies and assist them in developing appropriate strategies on addressing this aspect of drug abuse that poses a real threat to the health of our population because of its direct linkage with the spread of HIV/AIDS.



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