

FOREWORD

In order to generate more knowledge in the area of drug abuse, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, Regional Office for South Asia commissioned a few thematic studies as part of their project, National Survey on Extent, Pattern and Trends of Drug Abuse in India. What has emerged from these studies are monographs, which attempt to analyse and disseminate data based on this research. One component of this project is a monograph entitled 'Women and Drug Abuse: The Problem in India'.

The monograph attempts to provide the reader an insight into issues pertaining to drug abuse by women on the one hand, and the burden felt by women as a result of drug abuse by someone in the family. It therefore deals with women affected and afflicted by drug abuse.

This study is certainly a stepping-stone towards generating meaningful data in future. I hope that these studies will raise more questions than they can answer, because the purpose of every study is not merely to provide answers to known questions but to begin a quest for more informative knowledge and understanding. I hope the monographs succeed in doing first that.

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