

राजीव माथुर, भा.पु.से.  
महानिदेशक

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## FOREWORD

'**Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India**' contains comprehensive information on various aspects of deaths due to accidents and suicides. Present issue relates to year 2008 and it is the 42<sup>nd</sup> in the series. The first issue of this report pertained to the year 1967.

Accidents – man-made and natural – and suicides are among the two most important phenomena leading to pre-mature end of precious human lives. Accidents resulted in a total of 3,14,704, 3,40,794 and 3,42,309 deaths during 2006, 2007 and 2008 respectively, thereby showing an increasing trend. An increasing trend in the incidence of suicides during the same period is also discernible with 1,18,112, 1,22,637 and 1,25,017 suicides taking place during the years 2006, 2007 and 2008 respectively. These trends are a cause of concern to every class of the society, be it researchers, law enforcement agencies, social scientists, policy makers or an ordinary citizen because these deaths are a loss not only for the family members of the deceased but also to the society at large. Devising effective preventive measures and strategies to combat these phenomena calls for detailed information. This publication seeks to fulfill these requirements of policy makers as it contains information on not only the incidence of accidental deaths and suicides but also many other details. The publication has been found useful for preparing replies to Parliament Questions relating to various Ministries, research purposes, media appraisals etc.

Some improvements have been attempted in the maps. With a view to benefit the stakeholders from all walks of life, this Bureau has, on its own

initiative, digitized this report pertaining to previous years and made them available on the website of NCRB.

I am grateful to the heads of Police of all the States, UTs and Mega Cities for making publication of this report possible by their cooperation in providing the data to us. We have been striving to reduce the time-lag in publishing this report as much as possible but it can be done only with the cooperation of States/UTs. I will take this opportunity to request the Police authorities of States/UTs to provide us the complete and consistent data by the month of February so that the report may be published by April every year.

I hope this issue will meet the requirements of various stakeholders. I also take this opportunity to record my appreciation of the sincere efforts of the officers and staff of the Statistical Branch of the NCRB who have toiled hard to bring out this report.

I would appreciate if the readers could kindly send their suggestions to us in the feedback form attached at the end of this report to further improve the content and quality of the publication.



**(Rajiv Mathur)**

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