## **FOREWORD**

The first edition of the Handbook of Statistics on Indian States 2015-16 was released in June 2016 with a view to providing State-wise statistics on a wide range of features of the regional economy of India *viz.*, social and demographic characteristics, state domestic product, agriculture, industry, infrastructure, banking and fiscal developments. This Second edition has updates of the existing data series and improvement in coverage of infrastructure.

Shri B.M. Misra, Principal Adviser, Department of Economic and Policy Research (DEPR) continued to be the guiding spirit for the Handbook and led a team consisting of Dr. P.K. Nayak, Director, Dr. Ramesh Golait, Assistant Adviser, Shri Sourit Das, Research Officer and Shri Mohan Kumre, Assistant of Regional Economy Monitoring Division. All DEPR Regional Offices were involved in updating/compilation of data for this Handbook.

The Handbook is available on the RBI's website (www.rbi.org.in)

Feedback/comments are solicited to help improve the content of the Handbook. They may be sent to us at deprremd@rbi.org.in

Michael Debabrata Patra Executive Director June 24, 2017