



Message

It is matter of great pleasure for me to introduce the second Human Development Report of the State.

The concept of Human Development Index was introduced by UNDP in 1990 for the first time under the leadership of late Mahbub-ul-Haq, the then Special Advisor to UNDP. Since then, human development has become the guiding principle in assessing the overall development. Human Development Index is mainly prepared to assess the quality of life of the masses with the help of a combination of the indices of Education, Health and Livelihood and this approach basically identifies three essential areas in which enlargement of people's choice must take place. These are, for people to lead a long and healthy life, to acquire knowledge and to have access to the resources deemed necessary for decent living. Thus, Human Development Report for the State provides a composite index of human development that goes beyond income based measures.

In the above background, an attempt has been made to prepare the second Human Development Report of Uttar Pradesh in pursuance of the methodology propounded by UNDP placing people at the centre instead of focusing on macro level achievements. The report benchmarks our status on Human Development Indicators and shares our concern and urgency in improving the same. It is worthwhile to mention here that the present Report includes the estimates of Human Development Index for all the districts of the state and a region-wise analysis has also been presented.

I would like to thank the Director, Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow for his valuable and rigorous efforts in coordinating with the experts of various fields who basically prepared the draft Report. I also appreciate the efforts of the officers of the Planning Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh for their dedicated and hard work in bringing out this document finally.

I hope that the Report will provide a sound basis for us to pursue the objectives and goals for further improving Human Development Status in the State.

(Atul Kumar Gupta)