## **PREFACE**

The statistics of land utilization constitute one of the important items required for planning and development of policy formulation in agriculture. The Directorate of Economics and Statistics in the Ministry of Agriculture has been collecting data on the nine-fold classification of land, irrigated area (source-wise and crop-wise) and total area under crops from States and Union Territories in the country. The present publication is the fifteenth in the series containing updated data for the period from 2003-2004 to 2012-13.

The detailed work involved in the preparation of this issue has been done under the guidance of Ms. Malti Devi Negi, then Adviser ably supported by staff members of the Special Data Dissemination Standards Division of this Directorate.

This Directorate is grateful to all the source agencies who have extended their cooperation in timely submission of data. Suggestions for further improvement would be welcome.

(Dr. Joseph Abraham)

Principal Adviser

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