

PREFACE

The statistics of land utilization constitute one of the important items required for planning and development and 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 state-wise data on Land Use Statistics (LUS) from 1998-99 onwards are available in digitized form on the website of Directorate of Economics & Statistics. However, so far data for the period 1950-51 to 1997-98 is available only in the form of printed reports.

The present publication is an effort to digitize the old data reports, to facilitate, a sound digitized database on Land Use Statistics and its availability in the public domain, for its wider use by general public and researchers.

As the old records are in very poor state and at many places print is difficult to read, it is a time consuming process. Hence it has been decided to complete the work in phases.

As of now digitization of old data reports for 1984-85 to 1997-98 has been completed and the same is being brought out in the form of e-publication titled "State-wise Land Use Statistics -1984-85 to 1997-98".

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