

**Report of the**  
**First SAARCSTAT Workshop on Classification and System of National Accounts**

**New Delhi June 5-6, 2008**

The First Meeting of the Heads of Statistical Organisations of SAARC Member States held at Kolkata, India on 26-27 May 2005 formed a Statistical Group called SAARCSTAT and *inter alia* also decided to make India as the Coordinator for Capacity Building in Statistics for the SAARC nations.

As a follow up of the decision taken during the Kolkata meeting, the Central Statistical Organisation, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, India organized the first Training Workshop on Classifications and System of National Accounts in June 5-6, 2008 at New Delhi **vide Annex I.**

Mr. Rajiv Chander Director and Mr. S.C.Sharma represented the SAARC, Kathmandu. Ms. Priti, Joint Secretary, MEA, Govt. of India was also present.

The Workshop was attended by the participants from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Dr. S.K.Nath, Director-General, CSO, India delivered the welcome address where he emphasized on Cross Border Statistical Cooperation (CBSC) in Capacity Building. The workshop was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation **vide Annex II.**

There were four presentations on Classifications. These are:

1. International System of Classifications
2. Economic Activity Classification in India
3. Product Classification: Indian experience
4. Classification of Occupation

While the first three presentations were made by Dr. S.K.Nath, Director-General, CSO, India the last presentation was made by Mr. P.K.Ray Deputy Director General of Employment and Training, Ministry of Labour, India. The working papers are attached at **Annex III to VI.**

On System of National Accounts, Mr. R. Kolli made a presentation on Development of a Framework for Inter-Regional Comparability of System of National Accounts (SNA 93) for the SAARC region **vide Annex VII.**