

## **FOREWORD**

Over the last three decades sales tax has emerged as the most important source of revenue at the disposal of the State governments in India. The system of sales taxation prevalent in the country is however far from uniform, each State having its own law and related rules. This is the outcome partly of evolution of the system in each State in its own way. It also reflects the preferences of the respective States for a structure of the tax which would best suit their economic structure and administrative resources. The problems encountered in implementing the tax however are often of a similar nature. Exchange of information regarding the sales tax laws and procedures in different States and their experiences in implementing them can therefore be of some help in improving the efficacy of the tax in all States.

While competent works on the sales tax laws of almost all the States are available, information regarding the basic features of sales tax systems in the States is not readily available in one place. The present compilation is intended to fill this gap. This is the third issue of this compilation.

The Institute is indebted to the sales tax administrations and the Commissioners of the States covered in the compilation, for responding to our request for going through the write-ups and indicating corrections and changes where needed. It is earnestly hoped that the Institute will continue to receive the same generous cooperation from the sales tax administrations in the future in updating and revising the compilation.

We hope this compilation will be of some use to the policy makers. Suggestions for improving the contents and design will be welcome.

The credit for preparation of this edition of the volume goes mainly to Ms. R. Jeeja Bai Manay, Consultant who completed it under the overall supervision of Prof. Mahesh C. Purohit of the NIPFP. Ms. Rita Wadhwa edited the Profile, Mr. Anil Sharma provided the secretarial assistance and Mr. N. Natrajan provided help in prompt production of the volume.

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**RAJA J CHELLIAH**  
**Chairman**