

## **About the Author**

The author of the book, Bihari Krishna Shrestha, has an M.A. in anthropology from Michigan State University, U.S.A. He has spent more than three decades as an officer of HMG/Nepal during which he served in a number of development-related Ministries, including the National Planning Commission. During his tenure in the Government, he played critical roles in the designing and implementing a number of reforms such as the rural development and decentralisation policies and the Basic Needs' Programme during the early and mid-Eighties. He has now retired from government service.

Mr. Shrestha has maintained his interest in academic pursuits throughout the whole of his career. He worked briefly as a Reader in Anthropology at the Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies of Tribhuvan University in the late Seventies. He has been a regular researcher on different national development issues. His areas of professional interest are poverty alleviation, rural development, and decentralisation aimed at the empowerment of beneficiaries.