## **Preface**

Population Census is perhaps the single largest statistical exercise that any country generally engages in, once every ten years. Such exercises produce wealth of information which properly analysed and interpreted can provide invaluable insights into several aspects of the people's life and the changes in them.

Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) of HMG/Nepal has been collecting, compiling and publishing census data and analysis since 1952/54. However, it is for the first time a comprehensive analysis of all available census data collected over the period 1952/54-1981 and the trend over time of various socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the population has been presented in the present volume.

This work is a fine example of the collaborative and dedicated efforts of a team of officers in the Population Division of this Bureau. The officers who have contributed to the success of this work are: (1) Sharada Manandhar (2) Bishnu Das Dongol (3) Badri Niroula (4) Radha Krishna Gharty Chhetry (5) Krishna Prasad Shrestha (6) Rabi Kayastha and (7) Pragya Pandey. I wish to express my appreciation and sincere thanks to each one of them.

I am also grateful to Dr. P. L. Joshi of National Commission on Population, Dr. Y. B. Karki of World View International Foundation, Dr. J. M. Tuladhar and Dr. B. B. Gubhaju of Nepal FP/MCH Project, for their kind collaboration with the Population Division of this Bureau in contributing chapters on *Sources and Quality of Demographic Data* (Survey and Vital Registration); *Sources and Quality of Demographic Data* (Census), *Trends and Differentials in Fertility; Population Policy and Family Planning* and *Trends and Differentials in Mortality* respectively.

Keshav Raj Sharma, Deputy Director of Population Division, provided active support and guidance for bringing this work to its fruition. To him, therefore, is due our special thanks.

Similarly, this work would not have been possible without the active involvement and rigorous efforts of Dr. Rafiqul Huda Chaudhury, the UNDTCD resident advisor in Demography. I wish to express my heartiest appreciation of his work and my sincere thanks to him.

Last but not the least, I wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation of the generous support provided by UNFPA for this work including the services of Mr. *H. N.* Mulepati who very ably assisted us in preparing the manuscript of this volume for the press.

Kathmandu, 1987

B. R. Regmi Director General