FOREWORD

I am glad to acknowledge the views expressed by Shri O. Achou Singh, Research Officer (Retd), Planning Department, Government of Manipur in the formulation of the first-three Five-Year Plans, Planning Process in the beginning of the plan era in Manipur in the early 1950s. I am very thankful to Shri O. Achou Singh for his generosity to let me study the few materials on the earlier plans of Manipur. I am benefited from various discussions at Chief Secretary’s Review Meetings that followed the Plan Discussions and Meetings at the Planning Commission, Yojana Bhabhan, New Delhi.

We believe that the onus is to the States themselves to implement the schemes through good governance and to achieve the various plan objectives for the greater good and societal well-being. How far I have succeeded in presenting an articulated, coherent, and detail account of the planning process, plan investment and its impact on development in Manipur, which, I believe, will be judged by scholars interested in planning process in due course, I cannot foretell. I felt it essential to keep as close as possible to the main purpose, and not to turn aside into controversial by-paths even for the purpose of drawing anticipated acclaim or criticism.

Vast literatures available on the subject under the present study have been referred to during the course of the research work. Where possible a reference has been made to individual writers, but at the same time, though not mentioned by name, I owe a great debt to the writers of scores of books and articles mentioned in the Bibliography.
Our research effort is directed towards identifying sectors having impact on development; finding ways of improvement; recommending a shift in the thrust or focus, if necessary, to direct planning process to a desired degree of development in an objective manner and for implementation through governance at every sector. This is also a constant theme in this work and we remain convinced that governance, seen as an agent which either advantaged or disadvantaged development process is a vital issue confronting developing states and today's societies.

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(RK. Radhesana Devi)