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K.N.Nair is Director of Centre for Development Studies (CDS), which is one of the Centres of excellence in social science research in India. He took his Ph.D in Economics from CDS in 1981 and did his post-doctoral training at the University of Florida (1983-84). Prof.Nair joined CDS as Lecturer in 1981 and became Associate Professor in 1983 and Professor 1993 and Director from December 2004. His main areas of research and teaching includes agrarian change and research development, natural resources management, environment and development, rural industrialization, decentralisation and local governments, knowledge generation and research policy. Prof.Nair was the executive director of the Multi-annual, Multidisciplinary research programme (MMRP) implemented in Kerala by CDS and promoted by DGIS of the Dutch Government. Prof.Nair has to his credit 70 papers in reputed professional journals and 12 books. Currently he is engaged in a study on Social Utilization of Knowledge under the MMRP's for DGIS.