

## **Mr Romesh Bhattacharji**

### **Former Narcotics Commissioner of India**

A specialist in trans-border trafficking and narcotics, Mr Romesh Bhattacharji was Narcotics Commissioner of India from July 1996 to December 2006. His responsibilities included the detection of heroin labs and other illegal facilities, the destruction of illicit opium poppy cultivation the supervision of legal poppy cultivation for medicinal purposes in parts of India. Before his retirement, other recent posts within the Government of India include Chief Commissioner of Customs and Additional Director General of Revenue Intelligence.

A freelance writer, Mr Bhattacharji has written numerous articles on security, insurgency, narcotics and tourism. He has also written a book on the insurgency afflicted north-eastern region of India. He has worked as a consultant for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on Afghanistan's opium crisis, and has conducted extensive field research in the farming communities of Afghanistan.