transitions, globalized travel and climate change, among others, affect the context in which public health systems operate. One trend that I thought particularly relevant to incorporate in India is the notion of 'Health in All Policies' (HiAP). This idea recognizes that policy decisions outside health impact the determinants of health as well. The implication is that public policies in all sectors should take into account the health and health system implications of the decisions that they make. This would avoid harmful health impacts of decisions made in other sectors.

Trauma care still has a long way to go in the developing countries in terms of quality, access and outcomes. The article by Reynolds *et al.* on 'The impact of trauma care systems in low- and middle-income countries', is therefore important. The authors assess a range of interventions across many countries, including India, and suggest several priority areas for research, programme development and funding.

I found myself engaged by the issues and articles of this volume of the *Annual Review of Public Health*. The articles are topical and hold a particular relevance to people across the world, including India. I am sure that this volume will be appreciated by researchers, public health practitioners and public health activists.

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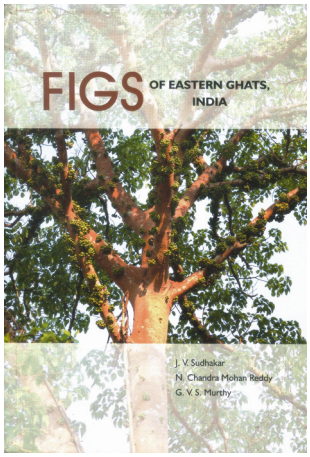

Figs of Eastern Ghats, India. J. V. Sudhakar, N. Chandra Mohan Reddy and G. V. S. Murthy. National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Chennai. 2017. xiv + 149 pages. Price: Rs 600.

Fig trees (*Ficus* spp.), one among the world's oldest trees, traced back to the earliest historical documents are considered sacred in many ancient civilizations and cultures. Figs symbolize knowledge, enlightenment, passion and fertility. They are considered as keystone species and in tropical and subtropical regions, an ecosystem has developed surrounding these trees. During flowering, a full-sized fig tree is visited by more than 2000 birds per day. The co-evolution of wasps with figs is an enchanting biological drama.

The Eastern Ghats is a broken necklace in India's physiography and is one of the least explored natural landscapes of the country. In this book, the authors have made an intensive and comprehensive study on the morphology of 27 wild and 10 planted fig species. They have compiled and documented the figs of Eastern Ghats in a systematic manner with excellent photographs arranged in an orderly fashion. The authors have also organized the habit, morphology, economic, religious and medicinal importance, propagation techniques, pollinators, pollination mechanism in both monoecious and dioecious fig species in a single book. The information provided in this book will be extremely beneficial to botanists, scientists, researchers, environmentalists and students.

The book serves to educate people not only on the wealth of biodiversity in a region like the Eastern Ghats, but also of the necessity to empower them for the protection of the environment. A deep commitment towards conservation of the ecosystem runs throughout this book.

Multi-head Ficus microcarpa cultivar

However, there is an ambiguity regarding the status of these plants. For example, *Ficus benjamiana* is considered wild here, but it is a planted species. Also, it is suggested that a compound key for all species (wild and planted) will be more useful, as the user is ignorant about its habitat. A comparison with figs of the Western Ghats in the book *Flowering Plants of the Western Ghats* by Nayar *et al.*[1] may be useful here. Nayar lists 34 wild and 8 cultivated species, among which are exclusively from the Eastern Ghats. The strengths and weaknesses of this book have been pointed out by Madhav Gadgil in his foreword.

1. Nayar, T. S., Rasiya Beegam, A. and Sibi, M., *Flowering Plants of the Western Ghats*, Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute, Palode, Thiruvananthapuram, 2014.

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