

aspects of technology transfer, innovation system and industrial development in the era of globalisation.

In the chapter 'Global Innovation Networks and Industry – University Interaction: A Study of India's ICT Sector', the authors analysed the information and communication technology (ICT) firm's interaction with university / RIs within India and abroad, hoping to shed light on technology transfer mechanisms while following the framework of global innovation networks (GIN). The authors critically examined the existing literature on GIN with the aim to identify research gaps and extended the GIN framework to make it more inclusive, introducing a national innovation system approach. The focus of the chapter 'Globalisation of Industrial R & D in Developing Countries' is on the impact of the ongoing process of globalisation on industrial R & D in developing countries. Having distinguished between multi-nationalisation and globalisation of R & D at the outset, it further distinguishes the globalisation of industrial R & D in developing countries from that of developed countries.

The authors in their chapter 'Technological Capabilities, Employment Growth and Industrial Development: A Quantitative Anatomy of Indian Scenario' analysed the impact of technology on employment generation using descriptive statistics and econometric models. The authors argued that industrial development in developed countries remained a dynamic process responsible for structural transformation of the economy and generated gainful employment opportunities for a

growing workforce. The ninth and final chapter 'Intellectual Property Protection, Innovation and Medicine: Lessons from the Indian Pharmaceutical Industry' examined the impact of the post – TRIPS (Trade – Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) regime on the innovation of the pharmaceutical industry of India. The author reviewed existing literature on the relationship between strong IPRs and innovations.

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Rural Development: Concept and Recent Approaches by Sujit Kumar Paul, Concept Publishing Company Pvt. Ltd 2015, Pages 416, Price : ₹ 1,500.

Rural Development has always been a significant concern in all debates pertaining to sustainable development, especially of developing countries, throughout the world. India, as a developing country is not an exception. Rural development has great importance for a country like India, where majority of the population, around 68.64 per cent (as per 2011 Census) of the people live in rural areas. The process of development has been considered as a guaranteed mechanism of progressive transformation. The term rural development includes a wide range of development initiatives that focus at developing rural areas through creation of all types of assets to ameliorate the condition of the rural people.

Rural development in India is essentially an aspect of planned development launched by the Government of India in terms of succession of programmes and strategies formulated in the Five Year Plans of national

development and viewed as an integral part of national development. The present strategy of rural development in India mainly focuses on poverty alleviation, better livelihood opportunities, financial inclusion, provision of basic amenities like health, education, communication, etc., infrastructure facilities and technological advancement through innovative programme resulting to inclusive growth of India's economy.

After Independence, rural India is witnessing exciting changes in terms of people's articulation of new demands, gender assertiveness, environment consciousness, grassroots movements and decentralisation. Simultaneously, dimensions of rural development and its problems are assuming greater complexities due to the emerging socio-political scenario in India. Keeping parity with the emerging situation, Government adopted various approaches and strategies for the development of rural people. One of the abiding tasks before the Government of India since Independence was integrated development of rural areas.

Rural development aims at improving rural people's livelihoods in an equitable and sustainable manner, both socially and environmentally, through better access to assets (natural, physical, human, technological and social capital), and services, and control over productive capital (in its financial or economic and political forms) that enable them to improve their livelihoods on a sustainable and equitable basis. This book made an attempt to highlight the most important aspects of rural development in India.

This book consists of 7 chapters. The history, concept, importance, problems, strategies and other various aspects of rural development in India are discussed in the first chapter. Livelihood development is defined as adequate and sustainable access to income and resources to meet the basic needs. The livelihood pattern of the population throws a searching light on the economic and social life of the area.

The Rural Livelihood issues have been discussed in second chapter. Decentralised governance has been conceived as a mechanism of local self-government for promoting healthy and sustainable development. Decentralised governance is assumed to provide more effective and competitive delivery of services at the grassroots level. In India, decentralisation and effective implementation is possible through Panchayati Raj Institutions.

The third chapter deals with the Decentralisation and Panchayati Raj Institutions. Self-Help Group (SHG) has emerged as the most successful strategy in the process of participatory development and empowerment of the majority of the rural population in India. Significant changes in the living standards of SHG members have taken place in terms of increase in income levels, assets, savings, borrowing capacity and income generating activities. Self-Help Group has been discussed in the fourth chapter.

After Independence, rural India was suffering from unemployment and poverty. To reduce the poverty and generate employment opportunities in rural areas, Government of

India was taking one after the other policies and programmes to solve both the problems but the success is not up to the level. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act [Now Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)] 2005 is a landmark legislation in the Indian history of social security legislation after Independence. MGNREGA and Rural Development have been discussed in the fifth chapter.

Tribals are the integral part of the Indian civilization. Various involvements of Indian civilization were contributed by the tribals. Tribal population constitutes a considerable percentage in our country. Since Independence, considering the general socio-economic backwardness of the tribal communities, Government of India has been planning and launching programmes to develop and integrate them with the mainstream of Indian national life. The sixth chapter discusses about tribal development.

The Millennium Development Goals (MGDs) constitute the first ever set of shared development goals at international level, on which there is an unprecedented level of consensus. India has an important role to play in the achievement of the Millennium Goals. As a largest democracy, India has the obligation to ensure national development and historic contributions that have been made to the ideals of modern global society. The Millennium Development Goals (MGDs) play an important role in development policies today. MGDs and Rural Development in India have been discussed in the seventh chapter.

On the whole, the book gives a holistic picture of rural development in India. This book though a little highly priced at ₹ 1,500, still will be useful to the students, researchers, teachers, academicians, development workers, policy-makers and various development organisations interested in rural development. This book will be extremely useful for the students of Rural Development, Social Work, Sociology, Economics, Political Science, Public Administration and the like.

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A Textbook of Microeconomic Theory by Pankaj Tandon, Sage Publications, 2015, Pages 465, Price : ₹ 495.

As all of us are aware, Economics is the study of those human activities that determine the production and distribution of goods and services in society and Microeconomics is that branch of Economics that attempts to understand economic activity by studying the behaviour of the individual decision – makers in the economy. Apart from the question of how prices are determined (questions of positive economics), Microeconomics is also concerned with questions of what prices should be (questions of normative economics). These kinds of questions make Microeconomics far more meaningful as we draw out the ‘policy implications’ of the theory.

This book has been divided into roughly two halves comprising twelve chapters. The first half (chapters 2 – 7) dealt with the basic building blocks of Microeconomics: the theories of Consumer and Producer Behaviour and then with the idealised world of perfectly competitive markets. This is where Marshall's