

Food Processing Industries (MoFP), Integrated Development of Coconut, Integrated Development of Fruits, National Horticulture Board (NBM), Integrated Development of Horticulture in Tribal / Hilly Areas, etc.

Dr. Gangaiah has made an attempt to refer the previous research studies and reports at macro level (1990 – 2009) and reviewed about 25 important studies in the second chapter as review of literature. In the third chapter, the author has presented the demographical profile of Kadapa district and its natural resources. In Chapter – IV, the author has analysed the status of fruits, vegetables, India's status in global ranking with reference to the area and production during the period 1990 – 2009, domestic supply and demand of horticulture products and potential export competitors. In Chapters V and VI, the author has attempted to examine the status of horticulture during 2001 – 2009 in Andhra Pradesh and Study Area Kadapa district during 1993 – 2009 on similar lines of Chapter – IV.

The author has discussed about the methodology adopted and the characteristics of the Obulavaripalle mandal in Kapada district and sampled households (105 No.) with respect to their occupation, landholdings, educational status, cropping pattern adopted, cost of cultivation of important crops, employment generated, etc.

In the last chapter, the author has summarised the findings and suggestions which are very superficial, except a few. The author has brought out a focused study of Obulavaripalle mandal (block), Kadapa district, Andhra Pradesh as a book. He could have tried to concise the volume through proper editing. This book is useful only to the beginners and planners of the district.

– Dr. V. Suresh Babu

Climate Change and New Challenges,
Edited by Vir Singh, Govind Singh Kushwaha

and Bipin Kumar, Published by Concept Publishing Company Private Limited, 2012, Pages-226, ₹ 750.

Climate Change is undoubtedly the hottest issue of our times. It also remains to be the most formidable challenge facing humanity, for an unfavourable change in the climate system of the bio-sphere beyond a certain point would not only pose a threat to the sustainability of production systems but also to the very existence of life on earth.

The effects of climate change can be already perceived in some fields, the most often in rural areas as natural disasters, drought and flooding, decrease of bio-diversity, invasive species, loss of agricultural productivity and even food shortage.

Increasing scientific evidence suggests that the impacts of warming will be more serious and will occur sooner than had previously believed. Eleven of the last 12 years are among the warmest years recorded since 1850.

The goal of environmental sustainability is to minimise environmental degradation and to halt and reverse the processes they lead to.

Chapterisation of the book and sequencing of the articles is very apt. The book is divided into three sections comprising 19 articles. The section of the book 'Living in a Climate of Uncertainty' emphasises new sustainable approaches to development for protecting the planet's fragile eco-systems and promoting the aims of human development. This chapter also deals with approach to sustainable development emphasising the need for new conceptions of global development that take cognizance of the fact that social and environmental problems are inter-connected. Sustainable development is emphasised to be about a more inclusive society which provides for better protection of the environment and use of natural

resources and shares the benefits of economic growth as widely as possible. The role of women in protecting the environment and promoting sustainability has also been discussed.

Global warming is one of the greatest environmental, social and economic threats facing the planet. Environmental change inevitably induces abnormal change. Community Based Eco-Tourism (CBET) has become a popular tour for bio-diversity conservation based on the principle that bio-diversity must pay for itself by generating economic benefits particularly for local people.

In the second section of the book on 'From the Climate of Despair to Climate of Hope', the authors have given elaborate explanations for the reasons and causes for the global warming and also the threats that are eminent if action is not taken to reduce carbon emissions, concentration of atmospheric green house gases etc. Lot of emphasis was given on Sustainable Agriculture, Joint Forest Management, Nano Technology, Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation.

The last section of the book 'Climate Change' emphasises the role of *Van* Panchayats educating hill women, agri-based community and community radio in spreading awareness about the global warming and climate change and strategies to mitigate and overcome the effects.

Since the book has been compiled from the village specific studies and contributions of eminent scholars and academicians, the content is rich and informative. The book will certainly stimulate and inspire the inner being of the readers and contribute to promote human efforts in the sacred cause of mitigating climate change.

The book may offer some possible ideas to approaches for management of

environment and would be invaluable for development professionals and policymakers.

– Dr. G.V.Krishna Lohi Das

Banking on Self – Help Groups: Twenty Years On, by Ajay Tankha, Sage Publications India Pvt. Ltd., Pages : 295, Price: ₹595.

'Banking On Self – Help Groups: Twenty Years On' is an overview of the existing state of affairs in respect of self-help groups movement and addresses the question of what should be the next phase of development of these groups. It makes an attempt to identify the policy gaps and opportunities that exist for the self-help groups to be mainstreamed further into the formal financial system.

The author has taken painstaking efforts to trace the origins of banking self-help groups and analyse the methodologies as an effective financial intermediary being evolved over the years. Sincere attempts have been made to piece together the documents and reports and to highlight the key theme of interest to policymakers and practitioners. There is no doubt that the compilation of so many facts and figures for this book is a challenging task because of the very existence of a large number of actors and stakeholders as well as the rapid growth of innovative changes around the self-help groups. Needless to add, this book is a must for every micro-finance practitioner who accesses the factor responsible for the growth process of the self-help groups in almost all geographical regions of the country as a whole. This book is a rare blending of qualitative and quantitative analysis with policy and action relevance inputs for the complete understanding of the functioning of self-help groups.

The book started with an Overview of Self-help Groups and ended with the 'Future Directions'; Chapter describing the expected