

extraordinary labour and patience which makes the reader enthusiastic to read the whole book. The language is very lucid and can be grasped by any common reader. The book will definitely guide the future development functionaries in carrying out assigned tasks more effectively provided they care to take a leaf out of this book.

– Pradip Kumar Nath

**Rural Development Administration in India**, by N.Sreeramulu, Serials Publications, New Delhi, 2011, pp. 411, ₹ 1495.

The book under review is based on outcome of the doctoral study aimed to investigate rural development administration in India, particularly of the dynamics of development administration in Andhra Pradesh. The author, at large, concentrates on existing development administration system in Andhra Pradesh, PRIs' role in planning and implementation of various rural development programmes, organisation and working pattern of administrative system under the PR at the District, Mandal Parishad and Gram Panchayat levels before and after the introduction of 73<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional (Amendment) Act in Andhra Pradesh; role of the development functionaries and the procedures for most effective administration etc. The author has chosen three districts viz. East Godavari, Chittoor and Nalgonda of which one development Mandal each was taken as sample for his study that covers all three regions of Andhra Pradesh. The collected data were analysed in the light of the objectives using suitable classifications and the available data were arranged under different heads and sub-heads meaningfully.

The researcher has organised this book into Six Chapters. In the first chapter, he provided the background, need and importance of rural development, presented the brief evolution of the present institutional arrangements for rural development administration. Also, in general, he provided a

review of literature on rural development administration in the country as a whole and Andhra Pradesh in particular. In the second chapter, the author discussed the evolution of rural development administration in Andhra Pradesh, starting with the administrative arrangements under Firka Development Scheme and Community Development Programmes. This chapter also highlighted the democratic decentralisation phase – the Panchayati Raj, discussed the changes in the administrative set-up at three levels – Zilla Parishads, Panchayati Samitis and Gram Panchayats and the steps taken to strengthen the PR system after introduction of the Andhra Pradesh Mandal Praja Parishads, Zilla Praja Parishads, and Zilla Pranalika Abhivruddi Mandals Act 1987.

By discussing the provisions of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional (Amendments) Act and Andhra Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1994, the third chapter examined the Gram Sabha at GP level, Mandal Maha Sabha at MP level, Zilla Maha Sabha at the district level, the composition and reservation of seats for the members as well as office bearers of GP, MP and ZP etc. This chapter also analysed various approaches to rural development and indicated the programmes undertaken in each of the approaches and analysed the performance of various rural development programmes.

The author devoted the fourth chapter solely to study the organisational aspects of existing arrangements for rural development administration at various levels and also explained the powers and functions of PRIs, elected representatives and other official functionaries relating to PRIs at different levels specifically to Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh.

In the fifth chapter, the author analysed the responses of officials and non-officials on various aspects relating to the organisation and working of the rural development administration, the relations between officials

and non-officials in the implementation of rural development programmes at the district, mandal and gram panchayat levels. This chapter also provided the views of officials and non-officials about the need for coordination, the need for finances and their resource mobilisation, role of PRIs in the development of agriculture, education, role in providing rural water supply, role in laying new roads and maintaining old roads etc. In the sixth chapter, the author presented a summary of findings and conclusions, thus drawn, to suggest remedial measures for strengthening rural development administration in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The author also analysed the view of the respondents about the importance of people's participation and the need for training to all the stakeholders of rural development.

Obviously, this book covers various aspects of rural development and administration particularly in the State of Andhra Pradesh. This volume is very useful for research scholars, especially those engaged in political science and development administration arena, social workers, non-governmental organisations, and other social scientists who look forward to impact of rural development administration not merely confined up to reducing the poverty but also reducing the regional imbalances of the country.

– Dr. R. Murugesan

**Land Policies for Inclusive Growth,**  
 Edited by T. Haque, Published by Concept  
 Publishing Company Pvt Ltd Pages : 495, Price:  
 ₹ 1200.

Among the four factors of production, land is the only factor which is finite and limited. Therefore, it is always subjected to special treatment in the history of agrarian economy in India. Land policies adopted by the government have been playing a role in providing equitable justice as well as

enhancing the income of the rural poor. However, there have been many controversies surrounding the land in the context of its distribution as well as acquisition. Tenancy is another aspect of land, the case for legalisation of which is gaining momentum in the context of its potentiality to enhance the production base of landless, marginal and small farmers. The book under review is a compilation of various papers presented in a National Seminar jointly organised by Council for Social Development and Rural Development Institute, New Delhi. There are about nineteen papers in the book which made an in depth analysis on i) Redistributive Land Reforms : Old and New Approaches ii) Tenancy Reforms iii) Land Rights for Women and Tribals V) Land Acquisition and Inclusive Development.

There are seven papers which made an indepth discussion in the section on 'Redistributive Land Reforms'. The paper on "Land Reform in the 21st Century: New Challenges and New Responses" by Roy L. Porsterman and Tim Hanstad discussed about the potential benefits of land reforms on increased crop production and economic growth. The paper by T. Haque on "Land Policies for Social Inclusion in India" discussed at length on the three different phases in the evolution of land policy in India and championed the need to have an appropriate land use policy for the country. The paper by Robert Mitchell and Tim Hanstad on "Small Home Garden Plots and Sustainable Livelihoods for the Poor" examined the ways in which the poor can use small extent of land to establish home gardens to advance their livelihood objectives. In his paper on "Access to Land : Some Issues", Srijit Mishra presented a matrix of issues confronted by the tillers of the soil and suggested some measures such as provision of some land for kitchen garden while providing homestead plots which may need some serious thinking under Indira Aawas Yojana. Shri. K.N. Nair and Shri Arindam