

there are some NGOs who sincerely believe in their crucial but conditional role in the empowerment of women, tribal and other weaker sections, in helping the tribal oustees cope with the problems of organisation, leadership and intercession with authorities for faster development. In addition, they constantly strived to bring to the notice of the authorities the unintended negative consequences of action.

Finally, in chapter four the resettlement and rehabilitation policy human rights perspective had been elaborated. It was expressed that the paradigm of rehabilitation and resettlement policy could change drastically if the human rights approach to be adopted in development spree. Any development goals, informed by human rights principles would therefore not only have effects on the structure of the economy, but also influence societal growth on the basis of equity and would thereby go beyond conventional developmental policy. Right to development, defined as the right to a particular process of development, but ensures the realisation of all human rights that are recognised as indivisible. The approach taken under the Right to Development establishes that realisation of human rights is more than a judicial or statutory process; the realisation is also dependent on a favourable societal and economic environment that, along with social change, includes the need for economic growth. Amartya Sen conceives of entitlement as being more than legal obligations of the State. He notes that the human rights approach embraces the idea that individuals, collectivities and social institutions have duties to facilitate and enhance human development. Hence, the need to promote the participation and inclusion of the poor people, actively realise their rights and the obligation of the state to help make this possible.

Development is a process of change in the nature of resources for the benefit of resource owning as well as the resourceless classes. The Government policy is to balance

the benefits and costs more towards the resources available for consumption/development and the dire need of the poor for their wherewithals keeping in view of today and of tomorrow's interest which could fulfill the people's requirements. The book is of utmost use in general as well as for researchers and the students.

Dr. S.S.P. Sharma

Traditional Irrigation System - Issues and Challenges by SSP Sharma and U H Kumar, Published by Serial Publications, 4830/24, Prahlad Street, Ansari Road, Darya Ganj, New Delhi-110002 (India), Price ₹ 595, Pages-133.

The book is primarily a Case Study of traditional irrigation practices in the State of Bihar in Gaya, Aurangabad and Nawada districts, where the traditional irrigational system through "Ahar-Pyne" has been augmenting the modern irrigation practices to cater to irrigation requirements of the area. The authors tried to examine the current scenario of traditional irrigation system in selected district of Bihar, examine comparative advantages of community participation and tried to identify issues and challenges in maintaining a traditional irrigation system in Bihar. The authors appear to have been concerned on the dismal situation of traditional irrigation system, in Patna and Gaya regions, leading to acute shortage of water. As Bihar is primarily an agrarian economy, the estimated shortage of more than 60 per cent in rice production, may pose a serious challenge, attributed to improper and inadequate irrigation support system. Even though Bihar has rainfed agriculture, the traditional Surface water schemes like Ahars & Pynes, in Patna, Magadh, Munger and Bhagalpur Division of Bihar in 17 districts, through rainwater conservation storage, distribution and groundwater recharge, promotes the watershed management in rainfed areas. The authors are of the view that lack of traditional irrigation system is impinging on the prospects of being prosperous and impact the agriculture yields. Lack of proper policy

framework for irrigation, made people drifted from traditional systems and drift towards conversion of the same into agriculture fields. Further, the repair and maintenance of Ahar – Pyne involving cleaning and desilting of Ahar and Pyne, periodic clearance of silt, the repair of small branches of the ahars and field channels are carried by the cultivators themselves before the onset of monsoon. Thus, people's collective action finds place in operational as well as in maintenance works, as a preventive measure against sudden damage of protective works. As the sustainability of ahar-pyne system, operational since centuries, caters to water saving and flood control, increases crop yield, increases farm income, increases cropping intensity and crop diversification, increases farm employment, and increases recharge of groundwater.

The abolition of Zamindari System, modern irrigation system, convergence of numerous irrigation system, lack of governance, leadership and institutions has brought denigration of the ahar-pyne system. The encroachments, Gomam (collective action), riparian system, anthropogenic pressure, growing demands of water affected the traditional irrigation system. Promotion of indigenous/ traditional irrigation technology, optimum resource management, participatory irrigation management, water rights, efficient riparian systems, people contribution, sharing of water was on rotation basis, punishment for illegal usage of water etc., are suggested for a judicious and optimum traditional irrigation system at local level in Bihar State.

The book is a case study on traditional irrigation systems in Bihar State, which has great research value for researchers and of policy implications for water resources, agriculture and land productivity. The revival of ahar-pyne system and regeneration of various structural systems, both modern along with the age old traditional system, could bring expeditors development scenario in the water resources development.

Dr. V Madhava Rao

Investment Behaviour in Indian Sugar Industry: An Econometric Study by P.Srinivasa Suresh, Global Research Publications, New Delhi, ₹ 750.

The book is based on a research study by the author for his Doctoral Thesis accepted for its award. The current study is an econometric investigation into investment behaviour of Indian sugar industry, its response to markets and public policy instruments. The book is a compilation of various aspects on history, problems and prospects of Indian sugar industry prior to the introduction of the economic reforms in 1991.

The book discusses the topic in seven chapters enclosing references and appendix at the end. Chapterisation in the book is legible bringing out discussions on issues involving the theme of the study, problem setting, review of theoretical issues, fixed investment, inventory investment, external finance and dividend behaviours, their determinants and a simulation of all the three aspects. A comprehensive review of literature highlighting the research gaps and detailed discussions on theoretical models has a scientific significance in the study. Subsequent chapters have handled the objectives of the study very amicably bringing in the analyses through the application of mathematical models. The author has also made an attempt to study the subject in time series method. In the last chapter, efforts to establish inter-dependence amongst the variables is very interesting.

In a nutshell, the main focus of this work is to study the investment behaviour of large public limited sugar companies (over the years) which are non-governmental with a paid capital of ₹5 lakh or more. The data coverage is from 1965-66 to 1986-87 which are analysed through econometric models. Investment behaviour though a volatile component is an important part of economic process contributing to development trends and improvements in the environment. It holds the key in generating demand, dividends and external finance which