

Book Notes*

Zafar Altaf. *Entrepreneurship in the Third World.* London: Croom Helm. 1988. 224 pp.

This book presents the view that the literature available on entrepreneurship and small business development is specific to the developed world only and does not apply to the developing countries. It is, therefore, necessary that because of the differences between the developed and developing countries theories of entrepreneurship that apply to developing countries be developed keeping in view the conditions that prevail there: for example the less developed banking system; the expectation that breadwinners provide for extended families etc. The book presents data on entrepreneurship and examines the policies which third world countries have instituted to encourage the growth of small businesses. The book concludes by drawing policy implications from the research undertaken by suggesting ways to improve policies affecting small business development.

Anrudh K. Jain and Pravin Visaria (eds.). *Infant Mortality in India: Differentials and Determinants.* New Delhi: Sage Publications. 1988. 398 pp.

This book consists of a collection of essays on infant mortality in India. An important feature of the book is the distinction between neonatal and post-neonatal mortality. The articles include a review of the literature on infant mortality; a multivariate analysis to assess the relative contribution of vaccination, birth attendants, mothers' literacy and poverty in explaining inter-state variations in infant mortality; an examination of the correlates and determinant of infant mortality and a review of the analytical frameworks and methodological issues involved in studying the determinants of infant mortality.

Avijit Gupta. *Ecology and Development in the Third World.* London and New York: Routledge, Chapman and Hall. 1988. vi + 80 pp.

Environmental degradation in the Third World can be linked to the effects of global economic development and increasing population pressure. This book introduces the inter-play between ecology and development in the Third World. The author discusses local, national and global methods for protecting the environment and emphasizes the importance of an integrated approach to ecodevelopment, which employs not only physical but also social, economic and political solutions to environmental problems.

U. R. Panchamukhi, Rajesh Mehta and G. A. Tadas (eds.). *Savings, Investment and Trade in the Third World: A Macro-economic Analysis*. New Delhi: Research and Information System for the Non-Aligned and other Developing Countries. 1987. xv + 223 pp.

This book makes an attempt to estimate some macro-economic structural parameters like marginal propensity to consume, marginal propensity to save, capital-output ratios etc. for about 100 developing countries on a comparable basis. The book also examines the growth performance, savings and investment patterns, determinants of the savings behaviour, factors influencing capital-output ratios etc. for these 100 developing countries.

R. C. Mascarenhas. *A Strategy for Rural Development: Dairy Cooperatives in India*. New Delhi: Sage Publications. 295 pp.

It has become part of the conventional wisdom that the best way to develop rural areas in Third World Countries is through decentralized programmes which are actively supported by the rural populations during the planning and implementation stages. One notable example of such an approach are the dairy co-operative societies set up in the Kaira district of Gujrat as a protest against monopoly milk procurement. This model was replicated in other rural areas of India and the objective of this book is to examine the effectiveness of such an approach to rural development. The methodology followed is inter-disciplinary.

Clem Tisdell and Priyatosh Maitra (eds.). *Technological Change, Development and the Environment: Socio-economic Perspectives*. London and New York: Routledge, Chapman and Hall. 1988. 351 pp.

Technology transfer can result in stimulating economic growth. However, this transfer of technology is not without cost. This book evaluates some of the major social, economic and environmental questions raised by the role of new technology in development both in the developing and developed countries. Case studies are used extensively for illustrative purposes.

Shyam Bhatia. *Nuclear Rivals in the Middle East*. London and New York: Routledge, Chapman and Hall. 1988. 119 pp.

This book details the evolution of nuclear research in the Middle East; in particular in Pakistan, Israel, Egypt, Libya, Iraq and Iran. It concludes that while it may no longer be possible to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons technology in the Middle East, however, ways and means can be found to reduce the rate of proliferation. The book is well written.

S. C. Gulati. *Fertility in India: An Econometric Analysis of a Metropolis*. New Delhi: Sage Publications. 1988. 203 pp.

This book examines various socio-economic hypotheses with respect to fertility based on data collected from 5624 female respondents from the Delhi metropolitan region by the use of multivariate techniques. As a result of the analysis various policy implications can be drawn suggesting ways in which fertility can be regulated.

H. H. de Haan. *Alternatives in Industrial Development Sugarcane Processing in India*. New Delhi: Sage Publications. 1988. 177 pp.

The main objective of this study examines alternative techniques in the sugar-cane processing industry in India. In particular, a comparison is made between the traditional and semi-modern techniques of processing sugar *vis à vis* modern large-scale techniques. The various technologies utilized are evaluated within a cost-benefit framework.

The book is the first volume in a series of studies sponsored under the Indo-Dutch Programme on Alternatives in Development.

John W. Mellor and Raisuddin Ahmed (eds.). *Agricultural Price Policy for Developing Countries*. Baltimore: International Food Policy Research Institute, The Johns Hopkins University Press. 1988. xiii + 327 pp.

In this book noted experts look at agricultural price policy in a broad perspective. The issues that are addressed by the authors include the political nature of price policy; its role in allocating resources for short and long-run objectives not only within agriculture but also between economic sectors and domestic and foreign production; the limited ability of government to maintain artificial prices without influencing long-term balance in supply and demand, and the complex interplay of micro- and macroeconomic forces in price policy. The authors of the articles make pragmatic suggestions for managing price fluctuations so that the needs of both producers and consumers are met.

B. M. Bhatia. *Indian Agriculture: A Policy Perspective*. New Delhi: Sage Publications. 1988. 191 pp.

This book lists the problems and challenges that face policy-makers and planners in India in the agriculture sector. It outlines the progress made so far in agricultural production and the short falls that remain. It argues that India's successive five-year plans have adopted a short-sighted developmental model which has neither aided balanced agricultural growth nor increased employment. This is because there has been a lack of a clear cut policy perspective for the agricultural sector. The book delineates an alternative strategy for agricultural development which would assist in the achievement of an accelerated and equitable growth in agricultural production while simultaneously promoting the socio-economic objectives of alleviating poverty and unemployment.

OECD. *Structural Adjustment and Economic Performance*. Paris. 1987. 371 pp.

This report published by the OECD is concerned basically with structural adjustment and economic performance i.e. the supply and allocation of factors of production, taxing, spending and regulatory functions of the public sector, international trade, financing the public sector, and social policies all of which have been explained in detail under different chapters in the technical report section.

Secondly, the report concentrates on microeconomic policies by examining aspects of post-war economic growth, and the different ways in which OECD economies responded to the slowing growth, reform of microeconomic policy and the relations between the reform of microeconomic policy and broader social and economic goals.