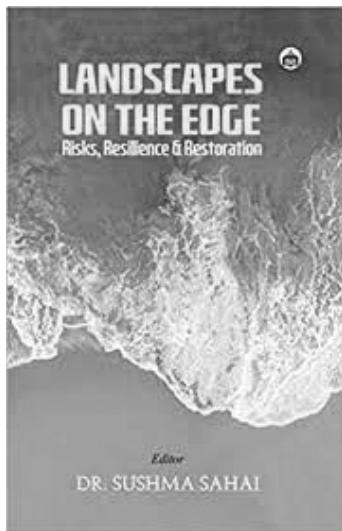


Book Review

L. N. Satpati



Landscapes on the Edge

Risks, Resilience & Restoration

Ed. **Dr. Sushma Sahai**

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Foreword by Prof. Dipankar Gupta, Former Professor, CSRD, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

The book under review contains 22 chapters, divided into 2 parts. The contributors include leading scholars and researchers mainly from the discipline of geography and allied fields of humanities and social sciences. Part-A of the volume is an outcome of deliberations of a national seminar organised by Loreto College, Kolkata on the same topic as of this book; and Part-B constitutes contributions from the alumnae of the college. Notable contributions in the volume include discussions on environmental impacts of ground water in urban areas by P. K. Sikdar; hydro-politics of trans-boundary rivers between India and Bangladesh by Kalyan Rudra; critical geopolitics associated with Indian landscape by Sudeepta Adhikari, wise-use of water by Tapas Kumar Ghatak; urban waste management by Arunabha Majumder; disaster preparedness by Jude Henriques; and ethnic diversity and conflict in Manipur by Sharmila Ray Kumam. The book covers multi-faceted dimensions of landscapes on the edge with special reference to risks, resilience and restoration citing various well documented case studies, like social forestry of Sagar Island, West Bengal; lifestyle and vulnerability of urban youth of Kolkata; role of technology on Bengali culinary; environmental implications of placer mining in Goa; evaluation of predictive models for landslide susceptibility; urban livelihood of the slum dwellers in Kolkata; environmental governance in the context of climate change in Indian Sundarban region; state of women in credit landscape of rural India; man and wildlife conflicts due to loss of habitats; study of colonial landscape of Kolkata by using historical maps and literatures; issues of ageing in India (with special reference to West

Bengal); restoration of coastal landscape; home environment and household assets of Magh Barua community in Kolkata; and the city and social justice in the context of Kolkata.

Almost all of the chapters are well-written with identification of the specific problem, statement of the objectives, acceptable methodology and data (and/or information), adequate discussion on the results to reach at logical conclusions. The index is quite useful to find out the relevant topic/issue discussed in the chapter(s). The introduction part is very comprehensive and lucid to provide an overall summary of the book.

Quality of printing of the texts is standard of its kind, but the maps, figures and photographs could have been more legible. However, on the whole, the book is expected to be appreciated by the academicians having interest in the topics discussed in this volume.