
BOOK REVIEW

Planning and Management of Natural and Human Resources in Mountains : A Micro-level Approach with Special Reference to Central Himalaya, by S. L. Shah, (Published by Yatan Publications, 208, Defence Colony, Flyover, New Delhi 110 024) 1986, pp. 239, Price: Rs. 200 in India, Elsewhere: \$ 40.

The Seventh Five Year Plan envisages integrated watershed management as the main strategy for planning and management of the natural resources of the hill region. However, landuse approach for planning on the watershed basis has not been put into practice on a larger scale, and integration and involvement of human resources as part of ecosystem management too has been neglected. The book emphasizes the importance of micro-level planning and management of natural and human resources in the mountains, with special reference to the geodynamically and ecologically fragile central sector of the Himalaya (Kumaun-Garhwal divisions of U.P. and Nepal). The author with his vast experience of working in the hills has taken a holistic and integrated approach to assessing the various problems and suggesting remedial measures thereof.

Chapter 1 deals with the general description of physiography and the problems of ecological degradation, and chapter 2 describes the existing and projected biotic pressures in the hill districts of U.P. and Nepal. Emphasizing the importance of watershed as a unit of landuse planning and management,

the third chapter covers aspects of planning and management of natural resources — the concepts methodology and constraints. Chapters 4–5 are devoted to the cropping pattern, fruit production, their existing status, costs, returns, policy issues and the economics. Chapters 6–8 cover aspects of forestry — their classification and management, problem, livestock enterprises and policy suggestions, and the appraisal of water resources at micro-level. The last chapter deals with the aspects of human resource development for eco-management of natural resources along with concepts and strategies.

The book is well written and the get-up is satisfactory. Had the author included the energy resource development (conventional and non-conventional) at a watershed level and mineral resources of the region, the value of the book would have been greater.

The planners, administrators, researchers and students interested in planning and resource-management will find the book very informative and useful. Individuals will find it difficult to afford the book, as the price is too high.

C. C. PANT

Department of Geology,
Kumaun University,
Nainital 263 002.

ANNOUNCEMENT

ALL INDIA CONFERENCE ON RECENT ADVANCES IN MATHEMATICAL TECHNIQUES AND APPLICATIONS-II

The fifth Shimla Conference on Recent Advances in Mathematical Techniques and Applications-II is organised by Dr Y. S. Parmar Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Hainault, Shimla, during 18–20 May 1988. The Conference is open to research workers actively engaged in mathematical and physical sciences research. Besides a number of

invited Lectures, a session will be devoted to paper reading in the following fields: 1. Mathematical physics, 2. Mathematical methods, 3. Biofluid dynamics, 4. Chaos, stability and turbulence.

Further particulars may be had from: Dr S. P. Katyal, Secretary, Dr Y. S. Parmar Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Shimla 171 002.
