

in demand for manufacturing goods and more so for services. In the context of the above structural changes, the paper focuses on five issues, i.e. the rate of growth of the economy, changes in poverty structure, scope for additional employment opportunities, the extent of inequality and the level of human development.

The paper on 'Economic Growth, Inequality and Poverty in Odisha' examines the economic growth in the State of Odisha, how it affected the poor and how the income distribution in the State changed. The paper on 'Economic Inequality and the Kuznets Process: An Indian Recast' shows an Indian profile to the set of issues raised by Kuznets in his Presidential lecture of American Economic Association in 1954 on inequality.

The paper on 'Political Implications of Inequality in Post-Reform India' is an attempt to understand the political implications of the growing inequality. The analysis is at two levels: the micro-level which deals with unequal access to resources; and at a macro-level which deals with regional inequalities leading to tensions in India's federal polity. The paper on 'Inequality – Growth Link in the Post-Reform Indian States : Role of Human Capital' explores the growth– inequality link in the Indian States in the post-liberalisation era through the functional role of human capital. The paper on 'Regional Inequalities in Human Development in India' evaluates the relative performance of fifteen major Indian States on human development with special reference to education and health.

The paper on 'Post-Reform Economic Growth and Regional Inequality in India' goes

through a brief review of earlier studies concerning economic growth, income inequality, and convergence/ divergence, and presents the methodological aspects for measuring the growth and income inequality. The paper on 'How Inclusive is Odisha's economic growth?' examines whether the current growth process of Odisha is inclusive or exclusive. The paper analyses the growth trend of gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of the Odisha State and its composition and examines whether the growth is spatially inclusive by comparing the growth of 30 districts. It also provides the inter-district disparity in Monthly per Capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE) and examines whether the output growth has reduced poverty among various social groups and regions. The paper on 'Consumption Inequality in India: An Analysis of New Trends' is an attempt to examine patterns of consumption inequality and causes of inequality in India.

Providing a comprehensive and analytical review of various dimensions of inequality in post-reform India, this book will attract the researchers, planners, policy makers, social workers and economists interested in inclusive growth and inequality issues.

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Gender Issues in Water and Sanitation Programmes: Lessons from India, Edited by Aidan A. Cronin, Pradeep K. Mehta and Anjal Prakash, 2015, Published by Sage Publications India Pvt. Ltd., B1/1-1, Commercial Block, Mohan Cooperative Industrial Area, Mathura Road, New Delhi - 110 044, pp.313, Price ₹ 995.

A National Conference on Women-led Water Management was organised by the SM Sehgal Foundation in partnership with UNICEF India in November 2012. The conference shared success stories related to women's leadership and participation in water management and sanitation, needs assessment, planning, decision making, implementation, monitoring and social audit. This book collated good experiences and is an excellent documentation of work on gender relations in the water and sanitation sectors.

The book is divided into 4 sections and 16 chapters. Section one provides a conceptual overview of gender in the water and sanitation sector in India. Chapters in this section focus on exploring ways to incorporate gender dimensions in water management and sanitation agendas in India.

Section two provides case- studies involving women in the water sector and discusses women's participation, roles and voices. Section three focuses on the cases of women's participation in the sanitation sector with the focus on innovative ways in which women's role and participation can be upscaled.

Chapter one of section one, by Prakash, Cronin and Mehta gives the introduction of achieving the desired gender outcomes in water and sanitation. They focus on exploring ways in which gender dimensions can optimally be included in the water sector. Chapter two by Lala, Basu, Jyotsna and Cronin reviews the existing conceptual frameworks and current practices to strengthen the implementation of WASH programmes in India. They review a series of gender frameworks

and critique timelines and processes required for strengthening gender outcomes in the WASH context. The chapter also presents potential indicators to measure the effectiveness of each phase.

Chapter three by Kabir, Vedantam and Kumar assesses the vulnerability of rural households due to lack of sufficient water for domestic and productive needs and shows how multi-use approach of water can help. The authors developed an index that helped to compute the vulnerability of households for problems associated with lack of water for domestic and other productive needs. The proposed index has six sub- indices in the areas of water supply and use; family occupations and social profile; social institutions and ingenuity; climate and drought proneness; water resources availability; and financial stability. Using the case studies from three regions of Maharashtra, the authors argue that identification of vulnerable households can help in devising systems to reduce the hardship faced by women.

Chapter four by Prakash and Goodrich documents the approaches, outputs and outcomes of a unique initiative called 'Crossing Boundaries' (CB). The project focused on education, impact oriented research, networking and advocacy as a combined effort to contribute to a paradigm shift in water resource management in four South Asian countries. This chapter documents the regional, collaborative, partnership-based capacity building initiatives undertaken by the project.

Chapter 5 of section one by Sinha, reviews the current capacity building initiatives of WASH in India from a gender and

equity lens. The chapter suggests that the training curricula lack focus on gender issues and the recipients of this training are largely men. The author raises several critical questions on training.

Section two examines successful case studies involving women in water management and has six chapters. Chapter 6 by Wani, Anantha and Sreedevi identifies critical factors essential for enhancing gender participation through watershed programmes. The authors argued that watershed programmes should look beyond land development activities to address rural livelihoods to make substantial difference in the socio-economic status of women and vulnerable groups.

In Chapter 7, Bastola attempts to understand women's participation in decentralised water institutions established by the Jalswarajya Project in the State of Maharashtra. The chapter highlights how the gender and caste based discrimination that is existing in the society, restricting women to take part in community decision-making process and argues that good water governance projects should address existing social dynamics and then only hope for change of women, poor and marginalised sections can be expected.

Chapter 8 by Mehta and Saxena addresses the questions related to the extent and type of women's participation in water related issues and their implications in Mewat- a water- scarce region. The author highlights the differing gender water priorities in which men stress the distance of water source while women give priority to water quality and source.

Chapter 9 by Chekma, Medeazza Singh and Meshram outlines the impact of fluoride on tribal women in selected parts of Madhya Pradesh and exemplifies interventions involving women which have led to improvements in the nutritional and health situation. The chapter postulates that even though excessive fluoride levels in water affect the entire population, the impact is more profound on women. This is due to the lower nutritional levels of women, their reproductive function and the higher burden of household chores they bear, including fetching water.

Chapter 10 by Mani, Rao, Reddy and Babu details the different processes adopted in mainstreaming gender for improved water use efficiency. It deliberates on the policy matters related to role of women in natural resource management. The chapter presents the case of Andhra Pradesh Farmer Managed Groundwater System (APFAMGS) project, which has successfully implemented an approach to the just usage of available water resources in seven drought-prone districts in the State based on women empowerment.

Chapter 11 by Prasad, Acharya and Basu reviews the implementation of a drinking water supply system project in the eastern State of Jharkhand from gender lens. This project was rolled out through a government-NGO partnership whereby women's SHGs were centrally involved in planning and implementation.

Third section explores experiences from developing and middle income countries in gendered approaches and participation of women in sanitation sector. Chapter 12 by Kale and Zade focuses on dealing with issues of gender role and participation through an

innovative approach developed by Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR) in the State of Maharashtra. Authors felt that if appropriate and adequate opportunities and institutional spaces are created for women with sound capacity building strategy and financial autonomy, then domestic water availability and accessibility, health and sanitation may be effectively addressed.

Chapter 13 by Medeazza, Jain, Tiwari, Shukla and Kumar presents lessons from the implementation of community-led total sanitation (CLTS) in Madhya Pradesh and shows how women play a decisive role in rendering their community Open Defecation Free (ODF) under the State level sanitation campaign.

Chapter 14 by Saxena, Mujumdar and Medeazza discusses a new and innovative approach-tailored towards training women to provide inclusive and women centric WASH services. The chapter draws from the learning of 80 camps held at Gram Panchayat level in Madhya Pradesh.

Chapter 15 by Mehrotra and Singh, examines the role of ASHA workers in accelerating sanitation in the State of Uttar Pradesh. In this project, over 13,000 ASHAs were trained on WASH behaviours in eight districts of Uttar Pradesh by Government of India.

Chapter 16 of section 4 is concluding chapter, which pulls together the central themes of case studies where new insights on gender inclusion in WASH are offered and key action agendas are outlined.

Overall the present book shares various field experiences and fills the knowledge gap. To answer the question of how to achieve the desired gender outcomes, real-life case studies are illustrated. It is a good suggestive book for practitioners, students, academics, policy makers and all those with an interest in water, sanitation and hygiene sector.

By reading the book, an individual develops knowledge on the gender issues related to water, sanitation and hygiene and how gender impacts and strengthens these initiatives. It is informative and readability is smooth. The language used is simple and the style of presentation is good. In the overall assessment, the book is a good resource book and has great relevance to development functionaries working in water, sanitation and hygiene.

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