

past two years except in the case of PDS.

The study finds that as there are wide variations between the services on many parameters, there are significant variations in service quality and satisfaction with specific services between the four divisions too. Belgaum and Mysore are the two divisions that have received lower ratings for several service dimensions and overall satisfaction.

Thus the study calls for urgent attention at policy level on the following major issues: the access barriers in some service, quality dimensions, the gap between the declared norms of service and the reality on the ground, the low public awareness of their rights and entitlements, the prevalence of corruption in several services, and the wide variations in service dimensions between the four divisions.

A study of this nature is very important in good governance characterised by transparency and accountability of state to its citizens in a democracy. It has developed very precise parameters of judging the performance of public services and might be very useful for other studies of this nature. These parameters suggest precise actions which can be taken by service departments. However, case studies provide in-depth understanding of the process of service delivery including the role of citizens in improving different services.

– Dr. V. Annamalai

Socio-economic and Cultural Dimensions of Entrepreneurship in North East India by M. Kennedy Singh, Concept Publishing Company Pvt. Ltd., Pages 226, Price ₹ 750.

The book spread over seven chapters strived to discuss divergent issues related to entrepreneurs *vis-a-vis* socio-economic and cultural dimensions related to

entrepreneurship development focusing on Manipur in general and *Kakching of Thoubal* district in particular. *Kakching* was in the news during Second World War and it was the site where many battles took place between Kings of Manipur and Burma in 18th and 19th centuries.

The North-east of India comprising eight States with different cultures, languages, religions portrays a mini-India. With proper development of entrepreneurs, issue of unemployment can be addressed to a great extent in the region as unemployment is the root cause of terrorism in the region. The volume based on field study carried out in Manipur particularly *Thoubal* district of *Kakching* block analysed traditional and modern entrepreneurs and issues related to their development. The first chapter as introductory one covered many issues like meaning of entrepreneur, needs for entrepreneurship development, etc., in Manipur *vis-a-vis* with review of literature. Many studies based on historical, economic, social and cultural aspects have been referred in the chapter. Second chapter is fully devoted to cultural and historical perspectives related to development of enterprises in Manipur. With local term and by referring names of local God, the author related to entrepreneurship development. While discussing stages of entrepreneurship development in Manipur, the author has touched upon three points – pre-British period, British period and the present phase. Third chapter is the crux of the book as based on the field study carried out among 137 entrepreneurs of *Kakching*, the author has brought out various issues related to entrepreneurs' development. The analysis has been made with different age groups (starting from 16 years to 61 years and above), occupation, income, type of enterprises etc. This chapter has been enriched with few case studies depicting cases of individual entrepreneurs. It is pertinent to mention that the people of *Kakching* have social

entrepreneurial group which controls the irrigation system in the area from long ago. "It has been handed over generation after generation among the *Kakching* people," the author observes. Social relationship and organisational behaviour is the focus of chapter –IV which apart from theoretical analysis included some case studies which have made the chapter sublime. In chapter-V, while discussing entrepreneurship development programmes, which are sine qua non in a State like Manipur because of unemployment many youths have been moving towards insurgency, the author has mentioned different courses extended by different organisations for the potential entrepreneurs in *Thoubal* district. Such information is undoubtedly beneficial to local unemployed youth as at glance they can get an idea which trade may be suitable for them. Chapter –VI has dealt with socio-cultural changes in entrepreneurship development. In *Kakching*, entrepreneurship development has brought some changes in rural areas. According to the author, socio-cultural and technological change in rural and tribal areas of Manipur "is very slow unlike the changes which are taking place in the complex urban areas;" but even then change have been taking place. While summing up and concluding in Chapter-VII, the author observed that a number of unemployed youth have come up with various activities for developing their own enterprises. Although such development has been taking place at slow pace, the same has been penetrating in rural Manipur. The author feels that development of entrepreneurship is the need of the hour in Manipur in general and *Thoubal* in particular and for this regular supply of power, continuous supply of raw materials, upgradation of skills etc., are sine qua non.

The volume albeit, titled as 'North East' is purely based on micro study carried out at *Thoubal* district of Manipur. However, it is an

important publication for researchers, academicians, and policymakers as it is based on field study and portrays plight of entrepreneurs in *Thoubal* district of Manipur.

– Dr. Shankar Chatterjee

Transforming Indian Agriculture – India 2040 – Productivity, Markets and Institutions, By Marco Ferroni, 2013, Published by SAGE Publications India Pvt. Ltd, B1/I-1, Mohan Cooperative Industrial Area, Mathura Road, Post Bag 7, New Delhi -110 044 (India), pp. 357, ₹ 995 (Hardback).

This book originates from a study proposed, financed and technically supported by the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture. This book consists of series of thought provoking background papers commissioned by Centennial Group, Washington, DC. The study was managed by Harinder S. Kohli, Praful Patel and Anil Sood of the Centennial Group and brought out a publication entitled "India 2039: An Affluent Society in one generation" during 2010. The study was closely coordinated with the Planning Commission of India, and with the Ministry of Agriculture, Shenggen Fan of the International Food Policy Research Institute; Ch. Hanumantha Rao of the Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad and M.S. Swaminathan of the Economic Advisory Council of the Prime Minister all served as members of the Advisory Committee of this study.

Book comprises two parts viz., Part – I (consisting of five overview sections based on the summary report of a project led by Hans P. Binswanger – Mkhize and Kirit Parikh and background papers written by several renowned authors) and Part – II (with six chapters based on background papers prepared by a group of experts on Indian agriculture).