

and observations as well.

Though the book is embellished with several figures, diagrams and maps, unfortunately the details are not legible because of the size of the maps and this is a real constraint in understanding the maps and the text especially. Figure 5 : India—Resource Development Regions : RDR, taken from the Planning Commission, makes an interesting reading. The first order, second order and third order regions have been analyzed in detail and form the basis of the suggested new federal structure involving more states than what they are to-day.

Overall, the book breaks a fresh ground in understanding the historical, cultural and socio-economic aspects of India. Fig. 3, which depicts tribal regions, cultural course and industrial complexes, is quite noteworthy. It is hoped that the book will inspire other geographers and economists to think about regionalization in the new context of modern India and its economic development.

*P. R. Karmarkar*

*Geography of Minerals of the Oceans* : Atar Singh Yadav; Concept Publishing Co.,

New Delhi, 1992; pp. 103, Rs. 200/-.

This booklet based on articles, pamphlets and books gives a summary account of the geography of oceans, their biotic and abiotic resources, exploitation of ocean minerals and the Indian efforts, both scientific and techni-

cal, to exploit the resources of the oceans. The book is handy and makes an easy reading. For its size it is over-priced.

*K. R. Dikshit*

*BIHAR : Geographic Information System* : Manosi Lahiri; Popular Prakashan,

Bombay 1992; pp. 197, Rs. 200/-.

The book, which one may also call an atlas, is the outcome of painstaking research by its author Ms Lahiri. Unlike other state planning and resource atlases, the present one has involved a far greater enterprise in developing the Geographical Information System (GIS) and Cartographic Data Base (CDB) of Bihar, from the stage of conceptualization to the installation of necessary hardware, choosing suitable software packages and finally developing the requisite GIS and presenting them cartographically, through a series of graphs, maps, cartograms and thematic

maps. The project, funded by International Development Research Center (IDRC), an agency of the Government of Canada, and centred at Kirori Mal College, Delhi, where Ms Lahiri has a full time teaching assignment, has been well designed, meticulously executed and sets a model for all those interested in the study and application of GIS system. The reviewer has not come across any other book of this kind and hopes that this becomes a trail blazer to be followed by books presenting India and individual states through the GIS system.