

and a very useful addition to literature on the subject. The earth scientists may find in it a very useful text book that provides a general treatment of causes and consequences besides some interesting case studies.

The reviewer will recommend the book to students and teachers interested in flood studies, and to libraries that have interest in having on their shelves books on earth science, particularly hydrology.

—K. R. Dikshit

‘A RESOURCE ATLAS OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH’

(by Surendra Singh, published by the Government of Auranachal Pradesh 1999, xiii+161pp., price not stated)

For a state situated in the north-east corner of India, with its hilly terrain, reaching the Himalayan heights and snow covered peaks and often desolate stretch of land, the home of some of the civilised tribal communities, including the famous Apa-tanis, Arunachal Pradesh is on the upswing in resource exploitation and development, as is clearly reflected in this well brought out atlas of the State. Dr. Surendra Singh, the author of the atlas, who teaches geography at N. E. H. U. is eminently suited to have undertaken the work and produced an atlas which gives a fairly good idea of the resources of the State and their utilisation.

The atlas contains 58 plates, 26 illustrations, 27 tables with XXII appendices. Every plate is accompanied by a brief but concise note, tables and diagrams that help the interpretation of the maps and make them appear meaningful, imparting greater clarity. Another feature of the atlas is the maps based on derived values which have to be worked out from the given statistical sources. Maps showing water balance, soil losses, land capability classes and such other maps have been prepared after considerable work on the primary data. It is quite easy to read the drainage structure of the

region, not only from the plate, but equally from the diagram giving the trunk rivers and their tributaries indicated by certain code numbers which could be read in the appendix. The longitudinal profiles and the hypsometric integral add value to the relief map of the area. The climate section has not only rainfall, but also rainwater availability. The vertical cross section of the forests from the Assam alluvial plain right upto the highest snow covered peak combines both the relief cross section as well as the typology of forests as they change with altitude.

Landuse and land cover for each district or a combination of a few districts, with an advantage of increased scale, produces a clearer picture. The maps on population follow the usual pattern, though block diagram to depict size, density and growth of population is unusual. Distribution, density, growth, literacy and employment as attributes of population are shown. This is followed by maps showing delivery of services of development agencies. The atlas closes with a map of the resource regions of the State.

Appended at the end is a bibliography and some useful tables like soil losses for different

basins worked out on the basis of modified USLE area, yield and production of different crops, and others related to irrigation, population and infrastructure.

A diagrammatic representation of the widely publicised water management of the Apamtamis is very refreshing.

To people coming from other parts of India or the world, the North-east has high concentration of tribal population but the reviewer has not noticed any map depicting the different tribal groups and their distribution and concentration. One hopes that whenever there is a reprint or revision of the atlas a

couple of plates is developed to the 'people' and not only population.

En ensemble, the atlas is well worked out and a comprehensive presentation of the North-east reality. The Government of Arunachal Pradesh deserves credit for sponsoring and publishing the atlas and Dr. S. Singh deserves the admiration of the academic community preparing an atlas of an Indian state which has embarked on a development programme of its choosing. Those who are interested in regional studies will also find it very useful.

– K. R. Dikshit

KALYANI POPULAR SCIENCE SERIES IN GEOGRAPHY

Editor Prof. R. C. Chandna

So far, the publishers have brought out eight geography books in this series that includes books on population, atmosphere, earth and environment awareness. The book on population has a Hindi and a Punjabi edition besides the one in English. The books are reasonably priced and are available with Kalyani Publishers, 4779, Ansari Road, 23, Daryaganj, New Delhi 110 002.

The objective of bringing out such a volume is to provide information on various themes of common interest which should provide easy reading material for common man, and at the

same time provide handy material for other interested groups. The editor and the publishers already have on the anvil books like 'The Art of Map Making and Map Reading' and 'Urbanisation'.

One hopes Prof. R. C. Chandna, with his rich experience as a University Professor and an eminent researcher is able to bring out similar reasonably priced books on other branches of geography and related disciplines. We really appreciate his involvement in this venture and the dedication with which he is trying to bring out a series of easy-readers on difficult themes.

– Editor