

BOOK REVIEWS

Fishery sector of India, by U K Srivastava, B H Dholakia, S Vathsala & K Chidambaram (Oxford & IBH Publ Co, New Delhi), 1991, pp. xxviii + 437, Hard cover, Rs.295/-.
[ISBN 81-204-0609-5]

Since this book deals with one of the most important economic sectors in the country, it should attract a wide spectrum clientele to make use of it. While the scope of the book is very vast, the authors tried to give a brief account of the present status of fishery resources from the sea, brackish water and fresh water environments. Each of these sectors is so large and the technical and other considerations are so complex that it will be difficult to do justice for total treatment in a single book. However, the authors' selection of subjects in each of the subsectors is quite appropriate and are of topical interest.

The subjects covered include the resource potential, exploitation, infrastructure, processing and marketing of fish and fish products. Examples of case studies especially on processing, marketing and transportation of fish and fish products are provided. A review of the fishery research, training, institutional finance has been made. Future strategies for domestic and export markets have been outlined. Critical constraints for growth of the three major sectors of the fisheries have been identified and the strategies for future development given. A highlight of the book is

the portion dealing with some project files on important and current subjects like mechanised fishing in the inshore area, deep sea fishing, production of tunas, squids and cuttlefishes and their export, fishing harbours, brackish water aquaculture, individual quick frozen plants, retail and domestic markets, reservoir fisheries etc. Annexure II provides basic information on the inter-relationship between environment and fishery resources.

The discussion on financial assistance, policy support and investment opportunities for development, resource mobilisation, marketing and export is a valuable contribution in the context of present status of the fishery sector.

A number of tables are included in the book along with a select bibliography covering relevant references. The authors made best attempts to provide upto-date information on the fishery sector as a whole. Thus this book should serve as a valuable reference publication for all those interested in the development of the fishery sector in the country.

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