

Kanchan Chopra

Development and Environmental Policy in India

The Last Few Decades

 Springer

Contents

1	Development and Environmental Policy	1
1.1	Introduction.....	1
1.2	The Context of Development: The World View.....	2
1.3	Responses and Policy Responses: The Conceptual Underpinnings.....	4
1.4	Policy-Making and Linked Social-Ecological Systems.....	6
1.5	The Backdrop in India up to the 1980s: Development, Equity and Poverty Alleviation.....	7
1.6	The Decade of the 1980s: The Rise of Environmental Concerns Within the Government.....	9
1.7	The Decades Since Then.....	10
1.8	Drivers and Impacts: The Present Volume.....	11
	References.....	12
2	Land and Forest Policy: Resources for Development or Our Natural Resources?	13
2.1	The Issue.....	13
2.2	The Legacy: Centrally Governed Forest Land and Privileged Private Land.....	13
2.3	India's Common Lands: An Un-understood and Neglected Category.....	15
2.4	Taking Partial Cognisance of Field Reality: Change Through the JFM and Watershed Guidelines in the 1990s.....	17
2.5	Forests as a Case Study: A Story of Policies, Acts, Rules and Judicial Intervention	18
2.6	The Judiciary in Forest Policy	19
2.7	And What of Institutional Change to Decentralised Community Management?.....	21

2.8	The Tilt Towards Growth: To and Fro Movement	22
2.9	Conclusions: Stakeholders, Participation and Complexities of Public Policy.....	24
	References.....	25
3	Climate Change Policy in India	27
3.1	Climate Change Policy: Early Phases.....	27
3.2	Climate Policy Within India: The Indian Position from the 1980s	29
3.3	India in the World: A Self-Created Isolation (1997–2005).....	30
3.4	Beginnings of Change: Participation in the CDM and Being a Part of the Solution	31
3.5	International Stance and Domestic Imperatives: A Contradiction of Sorts.....	32
3.6	The Changing International Scenario	33
3.7	Future Directions for Climate Policy: Co-evolving Institutions.....	34
	References.....	35
4	Rights-Based Approaches: Do Environmental Movements Make a Dent on Policy?	37
4.1	Environmental Movements	37
4.2	Successful Early Movements in India: The Silent Valley and the Chipko Movements.....	38
4.3	Narmada Bachao Andolan: A Movement with Limited Immediate Success.....	40
4.4	The Vedanta Case in Orissa: The Role of Political Economy	41
4.5	Protests Around Water and Air Pollution.....	43
4.6	Local Movements and the National Agenda in India: Did They Impact It?	44
4.7	Expert Committees, Political Economy and Policy-Making: The Western Ghats Case	45
4.8	From Peoples' Movements to Elected Representatives: At Local and/or State Levels.....	47
4.9	Conclusions.....	47
	References.....	48
5	Does a Good Knowledge Base Influence Policy-Making	49
5.1	Prologue	49
5.2	The Natural and Social Science Anchor	50
5.3	Concepts, Theories, Models and Environmental Policy	50
5.4	Conceptual Frameworks	52
5.5	Concepts in Environmental Policy Formulation: Sustainable Development, Sustainability and Resilience	54
5.6	More Concepts: Vulnerable People and Vulnerable Places	56

5.7	More Conceptual Approaches: ‘De-growth’ and ‘Radical Ecological Democracy Green Growth’	57
5.8	Developments in India: The National Environmental Policy (2006), Green Accounting and Low-Carbon Growth	58
5.9	Looking Forward in India: Mixed Signals.....	60
	References.....	61
6	Addressing Environmental Issues of the Future	63
6.1	The Picture Circa 1990: Where Did We Begin from?	63
6.2	Evolution of Environmental Policy in India: A Quick Review.....	65
6.3	State of Knowledge on Policy Choices and How They Should Evolve	67
6.4	A Few Underlying Dilemmas and Their Implications.....	70
	References.....	71