

EMERGING TRENDS IN DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH

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FROM THE EDITORS' DESK

The objective of bringing out a research journal like 'Emerging Trends in Development Research' (ETDR) is to provide a long needed forum for dissemination of the findings of ongoing researches and exchange of views between various scientific disciplines, policy makers and planners concerned with various dimensions of the development process in the 'Third World' countries.

In the recent past, particularly after the down fall of Russia and East-European communist block a number of doubts were being raised by the theorists and policy makers of developing countries about the socialistic model of development which has attracted the attention of the twentieth century thinker's and rulers the most. In India the social thinkers like Gandhi, Jai Prakash, Vinoba, Ambedkar and Politicians like Nehru and Indira Gandhi had accommodated in one way or the other some elements of this prominent ideology of the nineteenth century propounded by Karl Marx and his followers as an alternative of the capitalist ideology.

These changes not only provided an opportunity to the theorists and politicians of the capitalist nations to attack on the socialistic model of development but also to influence the policies of the developing nations like India, to leave the socialist path and to adopt the policy of 'Privatization, Liberalisation and Globalization' which emphasises upon the opening of the market of Third World countries for the consumer goods and free trade for Multinational companies of the developed world. On the one hand, the Dunkel proposal and GATT are being considered as new instruments of the developed countries to control over the developing nations by a set of academicians and politicians. On the other, ruling class and the trading class are welcoming these changes and claiming that these policy changes will solve all the problems and a state of high mass consumption level along with sustainable economic growth on the line of Rostowian model shall be attained by these societies in coming years.

All these changes at the international Scinario initiated a debate among social scientists, politicians and activists about the impact of these policies on the socio-economic structure of these societies. Is it a beginning of another form of colonialism for these countries? or will it enable these countries to attain a state of sustainable development in near future?

Keeping these views in mind the ETDR has decided to focus upon some of these issues in its coming volumes and invites academicians, policy makers and other related persons to send their contributions in the form of articles, short notes etc. We have also decided to start a new column 'Letters to the Editor' from the next issue in order to facilitate the vital

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communication among our readers and the ETDR. The task of publishing a research journal is not only challenging from academic point of view, particularly in a developing country like India, but also from financial point of view. We express our gratitude to all those who contributed their articles for the inaugural issue. We are thankful to our advertisers who liberally contributed for an academic cause. We are personally thankful to our colleagues, friends and students who helped us in various ways in bringing out the first issue of the ETDR.

1st July, 1994

VIRENDRA PAL SINGH

MANJU SINGH