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## Book Review

### ‘COVID-19 PANDEMIC TRAJECTORY IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD: EXPLORING THE CHANGING ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC MILIEUS IN INDIA’ BY MUKUNDA MISHRA AND R.B. SINGH (EDS.)

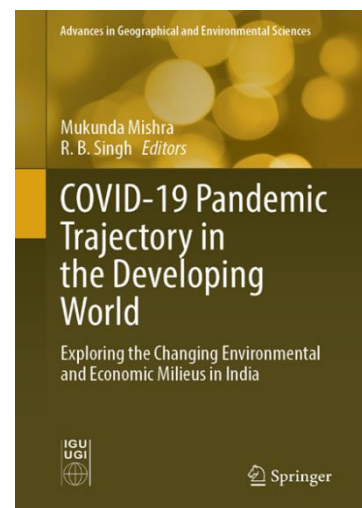
Rupai Hembram<sup>1</sup>✉

#### Book Details:

<b>Title</b>	: COVID-19 Pandemic Trajectory in the Developing World: Exploring the Changing Environmental and Economic Milieus in India
<b>Author</b>	: Mukunda Mishra and R.B. Singh
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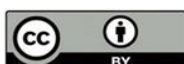
The book named “COVID-19 Pandemic Trajectory in the Developing World: Exploring the Changing Environmental and Economic Milieus in India”, edited by two renowned geographers Mukunda Mishra and R.B. Singh, with the aims of tracing out the COVID-19 pandemic trajectory in the developing world, which is compiled with critical thinking of environmental up-gradation, economic degradation, human development and about the preparedness to cope with the pandemic situation.

The above ideas are further detailed in four parts of this book. The first part discusses the course of life-threatening COVID-19 disease; how the virus has made its journey from Wuhan, China, to the whole world. The various challenges and opportunities during the pandemic trapped world are discussed. Rio-de-Janeiro city is



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chosen as the representative of the developing world cities. Here the pandemic hit the urban peripheries very badly, which have less or no resilience power. One example of how to combat this virus is displayed in this part; Beijing fought with the virus by adopting three types of policies 'coordination, classification, and collaboration,' and won the battle.

The second part opens a window into the emerging debates in the dark sky of COVID-19. The impact of COVID-19 is negative for the economy whereas positive for the environment. The authors have specifically highlighted the reason behind air pollution. Here, the question has been aroused in which way we shall walk? The authors suggest keeping the balance between these two. Another important thing the authors pointed out here is the hazard we are inviting unconsciously when fighting against COVID-19. The authors have emphasized the government's initiatives to reduce the economic inequality within the society and keep the environment green. Another big challenge addressed in this part is the reopening of educational institutions. They depicted the bleak picture of our education system and gave some suggestions for the reopening of the school.

Part three discusses human development and the environment in the pandemic trapped world. The developmental activities came to a halt due to lockdown. The flow channel, i.e., the public transport system, has been disrupted. The authors have found people shifting towards private transport and work from home culture wherever it is possible. In this concern, migrant workers are the worst affected. The authors have warned that if the lockdown continues for a long time, the unorganized sector workers will suffer more. At the end of the chapter, the authors mentioned the name of community health workers (CHW). They argued that the CHW could play a crucial role to combat COVID-19, as they acted very well to reduce maternal death and infant mortality and make India polio-free.

In the last part, the authors describe various models on how to combat any hazard. They have mentioned about the 'Disaster Resilience Scorecard and its Public Health Addendum'. This is a tool to assess the resilience power of a city against any disaster. Another model they discussed is the 'Community Resilience Model'. It would help researchers and policymakers to assess the resilience power of a particular administrative unit. Finally, they highlighted the importance of traditional pieces of knowledge and methods to move towards sustainable development.

The book carefully describes the economic and environmental aspects but is confined in a particular context. As India passes through the second wave of COVID-19 the economic and environmental aspects have also changed. The socio-political dialogues have also been changed.

However, the book has a clear layout on how the COVID-19 disease reached every continent of the world and at which pace it spread to every corner of it. The book also mentioned the way out on how we can fight against it. The authors have highlighted the emerging debates very well and described vividly about our education system. They are worried about the waste generated when we are taking various protective measures, i.e., mask, sanitizer, Personal Protective Equipment, face shield, hand gloves etc., to protect ourselves from COVID-19. This is the uniqueness of the book, where the whole world is worried about health and economic problems, and some others are excited about the fresh air. This book goes beyond these discussions and makes us aware of the environmental problems generated when we are fighting against COVID-19. The authors depict the impact of lockdown on the economy's lifeline, i.e., the public transport system, and describe the condition of migrant workers minutely while they were coming back home. Some other positive signs of this book are –

It gives us the idea about

i) How CHW can act as a mitigating agent against COVID-19.

ii) How 'Disaster Resilience Scorecard and its Public Health Addendum' can help to assess the resilience power.

iii) How traditional knowledge can make us self-sufficient.

iv) How the 'Community Resilience Model' can make us prepare for any unknown hazard.

Ultimately, it can be said that the book is very useful for researchers and policymakers, especially those interested in knowing about the COVID-19 pandemic situation and its economic and environmental aspects; and, for those who are searching for a way out from the pandemic trapped world.