

## India S River Linking Project The State Of The Debate1

Papers presented at a workshop held at CEPT University on August 6, 2010.

Many cities across the globe are rediscovering their rivers. After decades or even centuries of environmental decline and cultural neglect, waterfronts have been vamped up and become focal points of urban life again; hidden and covered streams have been daylighted while restoration projects have returned urban rivers in many places to a supposedly more natural state. This volume traces the complex and winding history of how cities have appropriated, lost, and regained their rivers. But rather than telling a linear story of progress, the chapters of this book highlight the ambivalence of these developments. The four sections in *Rivers Lost, Rivers Regained* discuss how cities have gained control and exerted power over rivers and waterways far upstream and downstream; how rivers and floodplains in cityscapes have been transformed by urbanization and industrialization; how urban rivers have been represented in cultural manifestations, such as novels and songs; and how more recent strategies work to redefine and recreate the place of the river within the urban setting. At the nexus between environmental, urban, and water histories, *Rivers Lost, Rivers Regained* points out how the urban-river relationship can serve as a prime vantage point to analyze fundamental issues of modern environmental attitudes and practices.

*Water Policy Science and Politics: An Indian Perspective* presents the importance of politics and science working together in policymaking in the water sector. Many countries around the developed and developing world, including India, are experiencing major water scarcity problems that will undoubtedly increase with the impacts of climate change. This book discusses specific topics in India's water, agriculture and energy sectors, focusing on scientific aspects, academic and political discourse, and policy issues. The author presents cases from the interrelated sectors of water resources, supplies, sanitation, and energy and climate, including controversial topics that illustrate how science and politics can work together. Challenges the linear and conventional approaches to water management and water policymaking in India that are also applicable in developing countries across South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. Presents best practice ideas and methods that help science and politics work together. Highlights a key gap of communication between science and policy in water research, with solutions on how this can be addressed.

ING\_08 Review quote

"CGIAR Challenge Program on Water & Food; Future Harvest"--Cover.

This book presents a radical rethinking of Border Studies. Framing the discipline beyond conventional topics of spatiality and territoriality, it presents a distinctly South Asian perspective – a post-colonial and post-partition region where most borders were drawn with political motives, ignoring the socio-cultural realities of the region and economic necessities of the people. The authors argue that while securing borders is an essential function of the state, in this interconnected world, crossing borders and border cooperation is also necessary. The book examines contemporaneous and topical themes like disputes of identity and nationhood, the impact of social media on Border Studies, trans-border cooperation, water-sharing between countries, and resolution of border problems in the age of liberalisation and globalisation. It also suggests ways of enhancing cross-border economic cooperation and connectivity, and reviews security issues from a new perspective. Well supplemented with case studies, the book will serve as an indispensable text for scholars and researchers of Border Studies, military and strategic studies, international relations, geopolitics, and South Asian studies. It will also be of great interest to think tanks and government agencies, especially those dealing with foreign relations.

Contributed articles.

Nowadays number of competitive and recruitment examinations test the writing ability of the aspirants by including a descriptive English section in the exam. The Descriptive English section covers essay and passage writing to evaluate the effective writing skills of the aspirants. The present book contains ample number of modern essays which are or may be asked in a number of competitive & recruitment examinations. The present book on Modern Essays has been divided into ten sections namely Current Affairs, Society & Social Issues, Economy & Infrastructure, Education, Science & Technology, Great Personalities, Constructive Writing: General Topics, Environment, Ecology & Climate, Famous Proverbs & Sayings and Miscellaneous. The Current Affairs section covers Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM), Make in India: Mission to Glory, Ebola, Kailash Satyarthi, etc whereas the Society & Social Issues contains Social Evils, Curse of Dowry System, Female Foeticide, Drug Abuse, Generation Gap, Corruption in India, Population Explosion, Poverty in India, etc. The Economy & Infrastructure section covers Agriculture in India, An Indian Farmer, Mineral Wealth of India, Banking in India, Economic Reforms, Indian Economy, Globalisation, etc whereas the Education section covers Right to Education (RTE), Vocational Education, Sex Education in School, etc. The Science & Technology section has been divided into Internet Boon, India: A Software Super Power, Blossoming of Social Media, Health Advancements, A Flat on Moon, Cloning, etc. whereas the Great Personalities section covers Ashoka the Great, Nelson Mandela, Sir CV Raman, Kalpana Chawla, Abraham Lincoln, Helen Keller, MS Dhoni, Milkha Singh, Mary Kom, etc. The Constructive Writing section has been divided into Independence Day, My Childhood Memories, My Favorite Games, On the Top of the World, The Role of Indian Cinema, My Favourite Author, etc whereas the Environment, Ecology & Climate covers Forests of India, Wildlife of India, The Fury of Floods, Climate Change, Green Revolution, Tiger Conservation, Earthquake: A Natural Calamity, etc. The Famous Proverbs & Sayings section covers A Thing of Beauty is a Joy Forever, All that Glitters is Not Gold, Boys Prefer Sports, Girls Prefer Clothes, Look Before You Leap, Sweet are the Uses of Adversity, Small is Beautiful, etc whereas the Miscellaneous section covers Indian Railways: In Need of Revival, Meditation: The Ultimate Nirvana, Online Shopping, Delhi Metro, Photography, Information Media, Right to Information (RTI), etc. As the book contains ample number of sample essays of varied variety, it for sure will prove to be beneficial for essay writing for school students and for different competitive examinations.

India is killing the Ganges, and the Ganges in turn is killing India. The waterway that has nourished more people than any on earth for three millennia is now so polluted with sewage and toxic waste that it has become a menace to human and animal health. Victor Mallet traces the holy river from source to mouth, and from ancient times to the present day, to find that the battle to rescue what is arguably the world's most important river is far from lost. As one Hindu sage told the author in Rishikesh on the banks of the upper Ganges (known to Hindus as the goddess Ganga): "If Ganga dies, India dies. If Ganga thrives, India thrives. The lives of 500 million people is no small thing." Drawing on four years of first-hand reporting and detailed historical and scientific research, Mallet delves into the religious, historical, and biological mysteries of the Ganges, and explains how Hindus can simultaneously revere and abuse their national river.

Starting at the Himalayan glacier where the Ganges emerges pure and cold from an icy cave known as the "Cow's Mouth" and ending in the tiger-infested mangrove swamps of the Bay of Bengal, Mallet encounters everyone from the naked holy men who worship the river, to the engineers who divert its waters for irrigation, the scientists who study its bacteria, and Narendra

Modi, the Hindu nationalist prime minister, who says he wants to save India's mother-river for posterity. Can they succeed in saving the river from catastrophe - or is it too late?

In spite of the UN Convention, riparian nations pitch their respective claims and counterclaims based on their interest and interpretation. Water as an instrument and tool of bargain and trade-off will assume predominance because the political stakes are high. The book attempts to analyse the water relations and the existing problems due to some of the ongoing projects.

This comprehensive look at the river-linking project in India provides an unbiased analysis and considers the pros and cons associated with the project, giving insight into how such projects can be analyzed by pointing out gaps in feasibility reporting and project planning. The expert information provided is factually based and does not rely on rhetoric or emotion, leaving readers to form their own opinions about the project.

Beyond the dense urbanism of Mumbai (Bombay) or the IT centers of Bangalore and Hyderabad lies the Ganges River basin--today home to over one-quarter of India's billion-plus population--a space historically defined by a mythological constellation of terrestrial sites imbued with celestial significance. Not only is it one of the most densely populated river basins in the world, but it also undergoes dramatic physical changes with the onslaught of the wet monsoon, where over one-meter of rainfall occurs in the span of three months. This book focuses on the intersection of these two observations. It is an atlas of built and unbuilt projects designed to transform the river into a giant water machine. Since the middle of the nineteenth century, this mythical watercourse has functioned as a laboratory to test and build a new civilization around the culture of water. Jointly authored by people and nature, the Ganges River is today a monstrous water machine in which the entire basin became a workshop of human-made experience, defined by a hydrological system best described as a supersurface: a surface engineered from the scale of the soil to the scale of the nation. Everything from diffuse urban projects and green revolutions to colossal public works programs and architectural transformations constitute the genesis of the Ganges Water Machine. Whether to thwart massive peasant uprisings or to redirect monsoonal rains to productive ends, never before has a river that inspired the realization of unbelievable architectural and infrastructural projects received as little scrutiny as the Ganges river basin. Reaching through the very heart of some of India's most densely populated cities, small towns, industrial zones, sacred sites, and mountainous forests, *Ganges Water Machine* by Anthony Acciavatti, composed of eight years of field and archival research, explores and theorizes the people and infrastructures that shaped this territory. *Ganges Water Machine* is an atlas of the enterprise to make the Ganges River basin into a highly engineered landscape: it reveals the narratives and explanations that allowed engineers and planners to realize fantasies previously only imaginable on paper or in myth.

Recent studies of past climate and streamflow conditions have broadened understanding of long-term water availability in the Colorado River, revealing many periods when streamflow was lower than at any time in the past 100 years of recorded flows. That information, along with two important trends--a rapid increase in urban populations in the West and significant climate warming in the region--will require that water managers prepare for possible reductions in water supplies that cannot be fully averted through traditional means. *Colorado River Basin Water Management* assesses existing scientific information, including temperature and streamflow records, tree-ring based reconstructions, and climate model projections, and how it relates to Colorado River water supplies and demands, water management, and drought preparedness. The book concludes that successful adjustments to new conditions will entail strong and sustained cooperation among the seven Colorado River basin states and recommends conducting a comprehensive basinwide study of urban water practices that can be used to help improve planning for future droughts and water shortages.

Since 2008, energy and food markets--those most fundamental to human existence--have remained in turmoil. Resource scarcity has had a much bigger global impact in recent years than has been predicted, with ongoing volatility a sign that the world is only part-way through navigating a treacherous transition in the way it uses resources. Scarcity, and perceptions of scarcity, increase political risks, while geopolitical turmoil exacerbates shortages and complicates the search for solutions. *The New Politics of Strategic Resources* examines the political dimensions of strategic resource challenges at the domestic and international levels. For better or worse, energy and food markets are shaped by perceptions of national interest and do not behave as traditional market goods. So while markets are an essential part of any response to tighter resource supplies, governments also will play a key role. David Steven, Emily O'Brien, Bruce Jones, and their colleagues discuss what those roles are and what they should be. The architecture for coordinating multilateral responses to these dynamics has fallen short, raising questions about the effective international management of these issues. Politics impede here too, as the major powers must negotiate political and security trade-offs to cooperate on the design of more robust international regimes and mechanisms for resource security and the provision of global public goods. This timely volume includes chapters on major powers (United States, India, China) and key suppliers (Russia, Saudi Arabia). The contributors also address thematic topics, such as the interaction between oil and state fragility; the changing political dynamics of climate change; and the politics of resource subsidies.

The South Asian security complex refers to security interdependencies between the states in the region, and also includes the effect that powerful external actors, such as China, the US and Russia, and geopolitical interests have on regional dynamics. This book focuses on the national securities of a number of South Asian countries in order to discuss a range of issues related to South Asian security. The book makes a distinction between traditional and non-traditional security. While state-centric approaches such as bilateral relations between India and Pakistan are considered to be traditional realist approaches to security, the promotion of economic, environmental and human security reflect global concerns, liberal theories and cosmopolitan values. The book goes beyond traditional security issues to reflect the changing security agenda in South Asia in the twenty-first century, and is a useful contribution to studies on South Asian Politics and Security Studies.

This book and its companion volumes, LNCS volumes 9140, 9141 and 9142, constitute the proceedings of the 6th International Conference on Swarm Intelligence, ICSI 2015 held in conjunction with the Second BRICS Congress on Computational Intelligence, CCI 2015, held in Beijing, China in June 2015. The 161 revised full papers presented were carefully reviewed and selected from 294 submissions. The papers are organized in 28 cohesive sections covering all major topics of swarm intelligence and computational intelligence research and development, such as novel swarm-based optimization algorithms and applications; particle swarm optimization; ant colony optimization; artificial bee colony algorithms; evolutionary and genetic algorithms; differential evolution; brain storm optimization algorithm; biogeography based optimization; cuckoo search; hybrid methods; multi-objective optimization; multi-agent systems and

swarm robotics; Neural networks and fuzzy methods; data mining approaches; information security; automation control; combinatorial optimization algorithms; scheduling and path planning; machine learning; blind sources separation; swarm interaction behavior; parameters and system optimization; neural networks; evolutionary and genetic algorithms; fuzzy systems; forecasting algorithms; classification; tracking analysis; simulation; image and texture analysis; dimension reduction; system optimization; segmentation and detection system; machine translation; virtual management and disaster analysis.

The eighth volume in NBR's Strategic Asia series assesses the major strategic choices on Asia facing the new U.S. president and administration as well as the broader policy community. Through a combination of country, regional, and topical studies, the book analyzes the impact of U.S. policy and geopolitical developments on Asia's transformation over the past eight years. The year 2007 could perhaps accurately be described as the year when climate change finally received the attention that this challenge deserves globally. Much of the information and knowledge that was created in this field during the year was the result of the findings of the Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which were disseminated on a large scale and reported extensively by the media. This was the result not only of a heightened interest on the part of the public on various aspects of climate change, but also because the IPCC itself proactively attempted to spread the findings of its AR4 to the public at large. The interest generated on the scientific realities of climate change was further enhanced by the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to the IPCC and former Vice President of the US, Al Gore. By taking this decision in favour of a leader who has done a great deal to create awareness on climate change, and a body that assesses all scientific aspects of climate change and disseminates the result of its findings, the Norwegian Nobel Committee has clearly drawn the link between climate change and peace in the world.

A new edition of the veteran science writer's groundbreaking work on the world's water crisis, featuring all-new reporting from the most recent global flashpoints Throughout history, rivers have been our foremost source of fresh water for both agriculture and individual consumption, but looming water scarcity threatens to cut global food production and cause conflict and unrest. In this visionary book, Fred Pearce takes readers around the world on a tour of the world's rivers to provide our most complete portrait yet of the growing global water crisis and its ramifications for us all. With vivid on-the-ground reporting, Pearce deftly weaves together the scientific, economic, and historic dimensions of the water crisis, showing us its complex origins--from waste to wrong-headed engineering projects to high-yield crop varieties that have saved developing countries from starvation but are now emptying their water reserves. Pearce argues that the solution to the growing worldwide water shortage is more efficiency and a new water ethic based on managing the water cycle for maximum social benefit rather than narrow self-interest.

Interlinking of Rivers in India Issues and Concerns CRC Press

This book examines the political economy that governs the management of international transboundary river basins in the developing world. These shared rivers are the setting for irrigation, hydropower and flood management projects as well as water transfer schemes. Often, these projects attempt to engineer the river basin with deep political, socio-economic and environmental implications. The politics of transboundary river basin management sheds light on the challenges concerning sustainable development, water allocation and utilization between sovereign states. Advancing conceptual thinking beyond simplistic analyses of river basins in conflict or cooperation, the author proposes a new analytical framework. The Transboundary Waters Interaction NexuS (TWINS) examines the coexistence of conflict and cooperation in riparian interaction. This framework highlights the importance of power relations between basin states that determine negotiation processes and institutions of water resources management. The analysis illustrates the way river basin management is framed by powerful elite decision-makers, combined with geopolitical factors and geographical imaginations. In addition, the book explains how national development strategies and water resources demands have a significant role in shaping the intensities of conflict and cooperation at the international level. The book draws on detailed case studies from the Ganges River basin in South Asia, the Orange-Senqu River basin in Southern Africa and the Mekong River basin in Southeast Asia, providing key insights on equity and power asymmetry applicable to other basins in the developing world.

Can humans flourish without destroying the earth? In this book, experts on many of the world's major and minor religious traditions address the question of human and earth flourishing. Each chapter considers specific religious ideas and specific environmental harms. Chapters are paired and the authors work in dialogue with one another. Taken together, the chapters reveal that the question of flourishing is deceptively simple. Most would agree that humans should flourish without destroying the earth. But not all humans have equal opportunities to flourish.

Additionally, on a basic physical level any human flourishing must, of necessity, cause some harm. These considerations of the price and distribution of flourishing raise unique questions about the status of humans and nature. This book represents a step toward reconciliation: that people and their ecosystems may live in peace, that people from different religious worldviews may engage in productive dialogue; in short, that all may flourish.

The uprooting and displacement of people has long been among the hardships associated with development and modernity. Indeed, the circulation of commodities, currency, and labor in modern society necessitates both social and spatial mobility. However, the displacement and resettlement of millions of people each year by large-scale infrastructural projects raises serious questions about the democratic character of the development process. Although designed to spur economic growth, many of these projects leave local people struggling against serious impoverishment and gross violations of human rights. Working from a political-ecological perspective, Anthony Oliver-Smith offers the first book to document the fight against involuntary displacement and resettlement being waged by people and communities around the world. Increasingly over the last twenty-five years, the voices of people at the grass roots are being heard. People from many societies and cultures are taking action against development-forced displacement and resettlement (DFDR) and articulating alternatives. Taking the promise of democracy seriously, they are fighting not only for their place in the world, but also for their place at the negotiating table, where decisions affecting their well-being are made.

Description of the book Geography of India is one of the major subjects of UPSC civil services both in preliminary and main examination for General Knowledge and optional papers. This is not only useful for humanities candidates but also a large number of science background civil service aspirants. The book has also covered UPSC syllabus and the University syllabus. The successful preparation for the preliminary and mains examinations requires deep study of the relevant subjects. The questions asked in both prelims and mains are highly at application level. The content of this book was decided after a detailed analysis of previous question papers of UPSC prelims and mains exams. Before finalizing the book, feedback was taken by aspirants.

The entire book is divided into 19 units as per the UPSC syllabus, each unit being dealt with in a practical manner. In addition to this each unit is supported by a large number of maps, tables, graphs, relevant and recent statistical data and key points are provided throughout the text. Lastly, the book provides previous years solved prelims questions on Geography of India from 1991 to 2021. I hope it will be more useful to the reader in making the ideas clear. This book is prepared based upon on my one and a half decade teaching experience both at university and competitive exam centers. It is a reliable, comprehensive and up to date book on the subject. It studies the availability and potential of various physical, economic and human resources of the country. The book has been written in a simple manner and it includes recent information. I hope the students and teachers get maximum benefit out of it. Contents UNIT-I-GEOLOGICAL STRUCTURE OF INDIA UNIT-II-GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION, SIZE AND EXTENT OF INDIA UNIT-III-PHYSICAL OR RELIEF FEATURES OF INDIA UNIT-IV-DRAINAGE OR RIVER SYSTEM OF INDIA UNIT-V-CLIMATE OF INDIA UNIT-VI-NATURAL VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE UNIT-VII-SOILS OF INDIA UNIT-VIII-LAND UTILIZATION IN INDIA UNIT-IX-MULTIPURPOSE RIVER VALLEY PROJECT UNIT-X-AGRICULTURE UNIT-XI- ANIMAL RESOURCES UNIT-XII -MINERAL RESOURCES UNIT-XIII -ELECTRICITY UNIT-XIV-INDUSTRIES UNIT-XV-TRANSPORT AND COMMUNUCATION UNIT-XVI-RACE, TRIBES, RELIGION, LANGUAGES IN INDIA UNIT-XVII-NATURAL HAZARDS AND DISASTERS OF INDIA UNIT-XVIII- FOREIGN TRADE UNIT-XIX-POPULATION OF INDIA PREVIOUS YEARS SOLVED PRELIMS QUESTION PAPERS 1991-2021 TOPIC WISE

In this book, contributions from several experts specializing in the area of flood risk management are assembled into a single volume. Application and testing of numerical and statistical models that can simulate the complex reality along with effective flood management strategies that are being implemented in various nations are presented. This collection of topics will provide an update to the reader as to the state of the art in this important technical field.

Rivers are a vital component of ecology-the earth's hydrological cycle depends on them. However, across the world, rivers are under stress and even in crisis. With rising populations, the demand for river water is increasing. Many rivers fail to reach the sea because of excessive withdrawal of water, and many other rivers are heading toward the same fate. Conflicts over river water are increasing, and climate change is making matters worse. River policies pursued so far are often aggravating these challenges rather than solving them. Yet, sustainable development requires healthy rivers. Urgent change in the approach and policies toward rivers is therefore required. In this book, Nazrul Islam points to the ways in which river policies need to change to ensure sustainable development. He offers a new conceptual framework, using such concepts as the Commercial and Cordon approaches to rivers and their opposite, the Ecological and Open approaches. He shows that while the former generally work against sustainability, the latter are conducive to sustainable development. The book illustrates this reality by drawing upon worldwide experience regarding rivers. Going forward, river policies therefore should be based on Ecological and Open approaches. Islam argues further that the use of the new conceptual framework offered in this book can help to connect the river related discussion of experts with that of activists. It can thus help to move the discussion of river policies from the narrow confines of experts to the wider arena of the public, who should have a greater role in formulation of river policies in order to safeguard public interests and ensure sustainability. The book serves as a valuable guide for those interested in learning about river policy changes necessary to promote sustainable development.

Perspective of Indian agriculture, industry and infrastructure are themes sought after by many in various organisations, including the academic community, for extensive research, policy formulation and implementation. Under these four heads, a number of specific topics have been covered in this publication through thoughtprovoking papers. These are contributions fro specialists associated, with research work, implementors and practitioners of programmes. The contributors present considerable insights into review of progress, gains and shortfalls of implementation, and directions for the future. They throw light on what needs to be done for accelerating economic growth at national, state and sub-regional levels. To enable India to become a developed nation, efficiency of the use of physical resources and human resources is vital, along with effectiveness of the use of capital, advanced technologies, and adoption of modern methods of governance. A few of the specific themes covered are: (a) Agriculture: food security, Indian agriculture scenario, tobacco, cotton, dairy development, and networking of rivers; (b) Industry: enhancing, competitiveness among small and medium enterprises, and Indian industry as a whole, parents, quality improvement and pharmaceuticals; and (c) Infrastructure: export promotion industrial parks, rural infrastructure, power sector.

Water Resource Conflicts and International Security: A Global Perspective is an edited collection by Dharendra K. Vajpeyi which analyzes the increasing global demand for water in economic and social development, and the dire need to efficiently manage this vital natural resource, particularly in water-scarce countries in the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. Several environmental- and human-induced factors, such as urbanization, industrialization, climate change, and agricultural needs, have created a near-crisis situation in many countries. Subsequently, there is an increasingly intense competition to utilize available water resources in these most heavily-affected regions; transboundary rivers, lakes, and streams which are shared by more than one country pose potential for political conflict, armed conflict, and, in the best of cases, cooperation. The contributors of Water Resource Conflicts and International Security present ten case studies in seven chapters, highlighting the competition between countries in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. In his conclusion, Dharendra K. Vajpeyi suggests several policy measures that governments may implement in order to minimize the potential for conflict.

This book reviews and analyzes emerging challenges in water policy, governance and institutions in India. Recent times have seen the contours of water policy shaped by new discourses and narratives; there has been a pluralization of the state and a changing balance of power among the actors who influence the formulation of water policy. Discourses on gender mainstreaming and Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) are influential, though they have often remained rhetorical and difficult to put into practice. Debate over property rights reform and inter-linking of rivers has been polarized. At the same time, there has been a rising disenchantment with policy initiatives in participatory irrigation management, cleaning up of water bodies and pollution control. Fast depletion of groundwater resources and the importance of adopting new irrigation methods are getting increased focus in the recent policy dialogue. The contributors review current debate on these and other subjects shaping the governance of water resources, and take stock of new policy developments. The book examines the experience of policy implementation, and shows where important weaknesses still lie. The authors present a roadmap for the future, and discuss the potential of alternative approaches for tackling emerging challenges. A case is made for greater emphasis on a discursive analysis of water policy, to examine underlying policy processes. The contributors observe that the ongoing democratization of water governance, coupled with the multiplication of stresses on water, will create a more visible demand for platforms for negotiation, conflict resolution and dialogue across different categories of users and uses. Finally, the authors propose that future research should challenge implicit biases in water resources planning and address

imbalances in the allocation of water from the perspectives of both equity and sustainability.

The paper reviews the existing methods used in India for estimation of flow characteristics at ungauged sites. It focuses on low and high flows, long-term mean flow and flow duration curves. Since it lists the actual formulae, it can be used as a quick reference guide for selecting a suitable technique for various geographical regional and/or river basins in India.

Dirty, Sacred Rivers explores South Asia's increasingly urgent water crisis, taking readers on a journey through North India, Nepal and Bangladesh, from the Himalaya to the Bay of Bengal. The book shows how rivers, traditionally revered by the people of the Indian subcontinent, have in recent decades deteriorated dramatically due to economic progress and gross mismanagement. Dams and ill-advised embankments strangle the Ganges and its sacred tributaries. Rivers have become sewage channels for a burgeoning population. To tell the story of this enormous river basin, environmental journalist Cheryl Colopy treks to high mountain glaciers with hydrologists; bumps around the rough embankments of India's poorest state in a jeep with social workers; and takes a boat excursion through the Sundarbans, the mangrove forests at the end of the Ganges watershed. She lingers in key places and hot spots in the debate over water: the megacity Delhi, a paradigm of water mismanagement; Bihar, India's poorest, most crime-ridden state, thanks largely to the blunders of engineers who tried to tame powerful Himalayan rivers with embankments but instead created annual floods; and Kathmandu, the home of one of the most elegant and ancient traditional water systems on the subcontinent, now the site of a water-development boondoggle. Colopy's vivid first-person narrative brings exotic places and complex issues to life, introducing the reader to a memorable cast of characters, ranging from the most humble members of South Asian society to engineers and former ministers. Here we find real-life heroes, bucking current trends, trying to find rational ways to manage rivers and water. They are reviving ingenious methods of water management that thrived for centuries in South Asia and may point the way to water sustainability and healthy rivers.

This volume identifies existing statist approaches and political economies of river management in South Asia. These rivers are heavily suffering from millions of people who in contrast consider them as holy and worship them. Edited by Professor Imtiaz Ahmed, the contributors of this book from India, Nepal and Pakistan are leading readers on a journey through the transboundary rivers of South Asia where rivers are vital for the life and living. The book explains why the region needs a framework for cooperation on the wellbeing of these rivers. River management is the key to sustaining healthy river systems. The authors stress that right of the rivers must be codified and guaranteed by the state and the people in South Asia. However, the statist approach to the transboundary rivers in South Asia actually conceives them as national rivers. This volume contributes to the current campaign of overcoming the water dystopias in South Asia.

Much of the discussion of India in the public sphere has focused on economic policy settings and restructuring, annual growth rates, trade relations and the nation's status as an economic and political actor within the international system. This collection considers other dimensions of socio-economic transformation in India and its profound impact on society and nature. While economic and ecological fragility are now very apparently problems of a 'global' scale they are nevertheless grounded and experienced at the local scale where vulnerable and marginal people located in the urban periphery and in rural areas confront these 'crises' most acutely. The studies in this collection encompass many of the most important social and political concerns of India in this age of crisis, namely, the politics of water resources and land acquisition and use; the interaction between food security, markets, and institutions; the politics and strategies of labour movements; narratives and practices of 'development' and contestation over forms of agrarian production in India; the link between urbanisation and local class, caste and political actors; and the potential for civil society to either be co-opted or to contest neoliberal logics and forms of governance. This book was published as a special issue of the Journal of South Asian Studies.

Focusing on transboundary river systems and their basins, the authors explore the fresh water crisis of Himalayan Asia. While the region hosts some of the world's mightiest rivers, it is also home to rapidly modernizing, increasingly affluent, and demographically multiplying societies. This combination ensures both the depletion of water resources and the increase in disputes over ownership of transboundary river waters. In a thorough investigation, based on extensive field research across Asia, the authors examine how these disputes impact the present and future interstate relations of this key region.

Inter-basin water transfers are complex human interventions on natural systems that can have profound adverse as well as beneficial social, economic and environmental implications. India's plan to interlink its rivers (ILR) and to transfer water may, according to one set of views, generate positive benefits through improved and expanded irrigation

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