

## punjab geographer



A JOURNAL OF THE APG, INDIA AND ISPER INDIA, PANCHKULA



## **BOOK REVIEW**

## Geography Development Public Policy- Select Essays of Gopal Krishan (Eds.) Dr. Surya Kant and Dr. Nina Singh

(Published by: R. K. Books, 4215, Ansari Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi, 1100025, (2015), Pages 1-395, Price Rs. 3000/-)

The book edited by Dr. Surya Kant and Dr. Nina Singh is a compilation of select essays of Dr. Gopal Krishan, Professor Emeritus, Department of Geography, Panjab University, Chandigarh. The editors have put their arduous efforts first in selecting the best and then grouping into different streams of knowledge such as Geography, Development and Public Policy. A study of the book containing multidimensional research studies of Dr. Gopal Krishan reveals the infinite scope of Geography that attempts to study the Earth and its inhabitants in their fullest multi-dimensional relationship. This relationship, aspect-wise, community-wise, at settlement level, at regional level and their inter-relationship with terrain of the region are some of the highlights which make these essays of immense value for the scholars dealing with various aspects of the Earth as a living planet. This book is a ready reckoner (compendium) of knowledge, relating to the spatial dimensions of geography as a methodology and approach for development and framing people centric policies that brings geography to the pivotal position among social sciences. Thus, the book is of utmost use for the scholars who are interested in the studies of man, his environs, his activities and interrelationships, both at spatial and temporal levels. In addition this book has attempted to simplify the dichotomy of rural and urban

complexities of life, while comprehending the issues and challenges and framing the development policies based on the multi-dimensional relationship between the Earth and its inhabitants which form the reality of the Earth.

The works of Dr. Gopal Krishan are hard to weigh for choosing the best because, an individual or a group of individuals weigh the works by setting their own standards which may vary from an individual to individual or groups of individuals. But, I am sure, it will be very difficult for others to come to the standards of Dr. Surya Kant and Dr. Nina Singh for grouping the research works, their presentations and edits. I complement both of them for such a magnificent production of the personage of Dr. Gopal Krishan and his works.

I recommend to the policy framers of urban, rural and regional development, the urban and regional planners, the scholars of regional and rural studies, who are interested in the multi-dimensional relationship of the Earth with the man, within a social group and among the groups, must study this book.

## K. Surjit Singh,

Secretary General,

Institute for Spatial Planning and Environment Research,

Panchkula, Haryana