BOOK REVIEWS

have attempted innovative ideas which will provide policy leads to the State and therefore, these are confined to the library stack only to be referred by another researcher working in the same area of research. Second, the research is undertaken when sponsored by funding agencies and therefore pitched to the objectives of these agencies. Here the funding agencies not only monitor the funds, but in the recent past (as my experience goes) also ‘monitor’ the results of such research. Hence the policy leads emerging out of such researches are always dictated by the funding agency and parroted by the researcher. Thirdly, there are sporadic instances where the research is taken just to provide answers to the policy questions usually sponsored by the governments, and if the relationship between the sponsor and the researcher is congenial and continued, then such researches provide good policy interventions and many of them have been seen in the field. Fourth, there are researchers who get interested in the ongoing developmental issues and therefore identify the problems confronting a particular sector or a scheme and investigate it in order to provide better implementation process. Lastly, there are a good number of civil-society organizations as well as non-governmental organizations which undertake social science research to improve the lives of the poor and enhance the aggregate welfare. It is essential to understand that governance and policy making is not similar in the domains of ‘haves’ and ‘have-nots’ and therefore, when one deals with policy it is essential to keep in view the requirements of the ‘have-nots’.

The book under review is a well-documented study that helps researchers to lead their findings to policy. Based on diverse case studies the author provides a good reading to researchers, policy makers and research donors in their efforts hunting for an implementable policy threshold. The book will be useful to social scientists desirous of reaching policy, donor agencies to fund proper policy-related research and the administrators. One important view here is that many policy-oriented researches funded by donors come attached with a tag of their views, and thus funded research (under the infamous ToRs) often reaches the known policy domains.

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DST SPONSORED TRAINING PROGRAM ON CAPACITY BUILDING IN PLANT TAXONOMY
27 September–8 October 2010
Organized by
Botany Division, Forest Research Institute, Dehradun
Tel: 91-135-222 4491; Fax: 91-135-275 6865

Applications are invited from research scholars, post-docs, young faculty members and scientists of universities/institutes/organizations in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi to participate in ‘A twelve-day training programme on Capacity Building in Plant Taxonomy’ to be held from 27 September–8 October 2010 at the Forest Research Institute. The programme is designed to equip participants with a wide knowledge of plant diversity and its investigation, and a practical insight into various techniques used in plant taxonomy including chemotaxonomy and molecular approaches through lectures, demonstrations and hands-on training. A maximum of 25 candidates will be selected. Candidates selected for attending the course will be provided traveling allowance (as admissible for in service candidates and sleeper class train fare from the nearest point to research scholars) and free boarding and lodging facilities for the entire duration of the workshop by the organizers. Interested candidates may send their nominations consisting of CV along with a brief write-up on their current research interests duly forwarded by the Head of the Institution so as to reach Dr Veena Chandra, Scientist F and Course Director, DST-Training Program on Plant Taxonomy on or before 13 September 2010. Advance applications can be sent via e-mail to: chandrav@icfri.org however, please note that only applications received as a hard copy via proper channels before deadline will be considered for final selection. Only selected candidates will be contacted with further intimation.

Dr Veena Chandra
Course Director