

# Cumulative Index to the Economic Journal of Nepal Volume 14 - 19

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## INTRODUCTION

The Economic Journal of Nepal is a research oriented quarterly publication of the Central Department of Economics (CEDECON), Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal, devoted to the study of economics and social development with emphasis on the problem of Nepal. With the publication of research papers and articles, the journal has been playing significant role in the enrichment of the economic literature of Nepal.

It is interesting to note that the journal had its beginning with the title "**Economic Monthly**". the first three issues came out bimonthly. It is only from its fourth issue that the Journal got the present title **The Economic Journal of Nepal** and the publication schedule became quarterly. Since then, the journal is being published regularly. Commenced in November 1977, The Journal has covered 19 years of its publication is December 1996. During this period the Journal published in all 398 articles and 69 book reviews. An attempt has been made here to prepare a systematic bibliography of all the articles and books reviews, published in 14 (1) to 19 (4), where as articles book reviews published in volume 1(1) to 13(4) has been already indexed in Vol. 14(2) April - June 1991 issue, which can be easily accessible to students readers and researchers for their study and research.

In the present bibliography, all the articles are arranged systematically by subject according to the Dewey Decimal Scheme and to this classified list is appended author - entries of book reviews. I believe, it will be of interest to any one involved in the study and research in *economic and social development* in general and with special reference to Nepal in particular.

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## BOOK REVIEW

Holcombe, Susan (1995) *Managing to Empower*. Zed Book Ltd., 7 Cynthia Street, London, PP 202 including Appendix and Index, Price not mentioned.

In recent years one of the sources of modest optimism in development has been the growth in number and positive impact of indigenous, non-governmental organisations working in communities of local level. Examination of these concrete experiences with a view to the lessons that can be learned for participatory, gender sensitive and environmentally sustainable. In this background the book under review is a holy venture on diverse experiences to an analysis of the management of a bank that by mid 1994 was serving nearly two million poor clients in rural Bangladesh with the proven fact that it can be replicated everywhere in poverty ridden rural poor of the globe.

Divided in nine chapters the book deals with the tale of Grameen Bank, which is by now a familiar one — the phenomenal repayment rate, in excess of ninety eight percent; the documented ability to reach more than ten million poor rural households in Bangladesh with small loans, the equivalent of US \$ 60 to 70 on average, that can make such a difference to a family well being and self sufficiency; the measurable improvement in income and assets of borrower members, ninety one percent of whom are women. This success story of a curious hybrid of a commercial bank and an organisation dedicated to alleviating rural poverty, have been chosen by the author as the central theme of the book.

Dealing under the heading of poverty and development, using the lens of management, the author relates this stimulating success story emerging against a backdrop of renewed debate about the future of international cooperation for development. Since 1988, overseas development assistance has barely kept pace with development. Many of the Northern industrial countries are actively debating a retrenchment of their international involvement. The threat comes from many sources, including aid fatigue, competing domestic priorities, sluggish economies, and lack of public understanding.

The author deals at length the present world scenario of poverty and poverty alleviation programme in chapter two and opines that challenges of poverty, hunger and malnutrition in Bangladesh; and rest of the developing world, will not be more of the same, even a lot more. So, something new is needed, a new paradigm of development, an approach that goes by many names, but on the UNDP call *Sustainable Human Development*, which author has dealt in chapter three and fourth, with laudatory note on the work of Grameen Bank, that in many ways embodies the best of this approach.

In chapter five it has been argued that sustainable human development also is *participatory*, ensuring that people have a share in the decisions that shape their lives. In this context the author takes us inside the management of Grameen Bank, Bangla version of village as the culture of *Grameen*, showing how a framework of shared vision and values has enabled *Grameen* to build a system that brings borrower-members into decision - making roles, and motivates a large and widely dispersed field staff to turn in a level of consistent, honest performance, which amazes many development thinkers.

In the chapter sixth, seventh and eighth, the author introduces the world with an ironic exemplary note of estimated 13 to 18 million people dying from hunger, malnutrition and poverty related causes every year equating to hundred fully loaded jumbo jets crashing daily, and to turn off this disaster machine suggests to address the silent crisis of underdevelopment,\_\_\_ growing poverty, mounting population pressure and wide spread environmental deterioration\_\_\_ Grameen Bank which has provided guide posts for this effort.

Development practitioners persist in search for models of poverty alleviation. Does the single intervention of targeted credit work best? Or do we need multiple interventions in order to create sustainable improvements in the lives of poor people? The quest for a good model is driven by the need for efficient use of scarce resources for poverty alleviation. Reference to this context, the author, in concluding chapter, the ninth one, puts forward the empirical proofs that Bangladesh tells us that very different model has been working remarkably successful in ameliorating poverty.

Last, but not the least, the book is very useful for those in the development community looking for model who by pass the experiences of Grameen Bank's grassroots development, and who really want to feel that.

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