

überzeugt in Ansatz und Methodik und eignet sich trotz einiger Einwände im Detail, auf die hier nicht näher eingegangen werden kann, sowohl für den akademischen Unterricht als auch für das Selbststudium und ist den Konkurrenzprodukten in vieler Hinsicht deutlich überlegen.

Die Gestaltung der beiden Bände ist großzügig, mit viel freiem Raum gehalten, sie eignen sich deshalb ausgezeichnet zum Arbeiten; die meisten Übungen können direkt im Buch gemacht werden. Dringend ändern sollte der Verlag jedoch in nachfolgenden Auflagen die Hindi-Schrift; der verwendete Devanagari-Font stammt aus der Computer-Steinzeit, wirkt insgesamt unausgeglichene, oft krakelig; sicher keine Einladung zum Lesen. Heute stehen so viele schöne und gut lesbare Schriften zur Verfügung, dass es für ein derart dürftiges Schriftbild in einem ansonsten mit solchem Aufwand produzierten Lehrwerk keine Rechtfertigung mehr gibt. Auch für die Transliteration wäre eine echte Kursivschrift anstelle der hässlichen, digital schräg gestellten Times Roman schon aus Gründen der Lesbarkeit gewiss vorzuziehen.

Zwei durchweg gelungene Audio-CDs ergänzen das Lehrwerk. Die Dialoge wirken schon in den frühen Lektionen weitgehend natürlich und lebendig; es gibt genügend unterschiedliche Frauen-, Männer- und Kinderstimmen. Zusammen mit den CDs kann हिंदी बोलो! *Hindi bolo!* daher auch uneingeschränkt zum Selbststudium empfohlen werden.

Rainer Kimmig

MICHAEL VON HAUFF / AMITABH KUNDU (eds), *Imperatives of Sustainability and India's Development Path*. Marburg: Metropolis-Verlag, 2013. 258 pages, € 34.80. ISBN 978-3-89518-976-0

There is no doubt that in the past two decades sustainability has become the buzzword of the development discourse and the international development agenda. India has figured prominently in the debate on sustainability, especially since its economic dynamism was unleashed in the early 1990s. From dwindling biodiversity to recurring climate change-based natural disasters, from resource-depleting growth to low levels of energy generation and efficiency, from unfettered population growth to dismal and enduring high levels of poverty, from ever more complex social relations to growing problems of governance – it seems that India has it all. Given the existing challenges to sustainable development in a socio-economically diverse country such as India, paving the ground for a strategy for sustainable development, therefore, indeed becomes imperative. As the editors of *Imperatives of Sustainability and India's Development Path* remark on page 11: “It is the belief of the authors and editors of the volume that serious research studies are needed to help building India’s strategy for sustainable development in a dispassionate and transparent manner so that they can

have a greater social and political acceptability. The volume attempts to make a modest contribution towards that objective.”

Michael von Hauff's and Amitabh Kundu's edited volume is the outcome of a conference in October 2010. The volume only partially delivers on its self-defined goal. The collection of essays compiled is noteworthy in that it provides a plethora of conceptual clarifications of sustainable development, including some of its lesser known aspects, a genuine Indian perspective at a time when one-size-fits-all solutions to sustainable development dominate the discourse, a focus on the integration of the various dimensions of sustainable development, and some in-depth case studies of pressing challenges for sustainable development in India. But, overall, it leaves a lot to be desired when it comes to the analysis of concrete adaptation and mitigation strategies undertaken in India, the presentation of new empirical evidence or innovative solutions to India's manifold sustainability problems.

The volume starts with a very interesting conceptual piece on the measurement of climate change vulnerability that provides not only a good overview of existing indices, but also an analytical framework for determining climate change vulnerability by country. The merits of this framework lie in its effort to combine measures of climate change with those of vulnerability as suggested by the human development approach, thereby integrating the different dimensions of sustainability. Even though at times redundant, this essay could easily have acted as a reference point for subsequent chapters. The following chapter is another introductory piece which delves into the ideological underpinnings of the concept of development and discusses sustainable development with special reference to existing indicators. The chapter, however, offers nothing new, is interspersed with ideologically charged statements (e.g. on page 62 the author states that “[t]errorism, one of the extreme forms of violence, is essentially an unlawful activity of the victims of unilateral global hegemony”) and, to a certain extent, fits awkwardly with the rest of the book. Wolfgang-Peter Zingel's chapter on the “Political Economy of India's Environmental Policy” is the first India-specific contribution to the volume. From an economist's perspective and largely anecdotal, it gives an overview of some of the fundamental environmental problems in India, especially those related to water resources, and presents some of the attempts at finding solutions to these problems. At the same time, it highlights the political, bureaucratic, social and judicial entanglements related to environmental policy and activism in India, and in so doing points to the need to closely consider context-specific factors until globalisation results in greater convergence of environmental problems and solutions. Chapter Five, which tries to establish a link between law and sustainability and refers to India only in passing, appears to be rather far-fetched (apart from the valuable point that the law should consider not only the constitutional tradition of India, but also its normative traditions) and bears no connection to the main theme of the volume. It is followed by an interesting chapter on the role of education in the

achievement of sustainable development, with a focus on the social dimension of sustainability and the interplay of education, social capital, social justice and sustainable development. It argues that an education system in accordance with the principle of sustainable development not only contributes to the creation of human capital and intra-generational justice, but in the long run also has the potential to contribute to the creation of social capital and inter-generational justice. The Indian education system, which is touched upon briefly, is said to be incompatible with the concept of sustainable development – reservations and quotas notwithstanding – and therefore not able to contribute significantly to intra-generational justice. Michael von Hauff's chapter on "The Relevance of Water Resources for the Economic Development of Emerging Nations: The Case of India" traces the relationship between water resources and industrial growth. The latter is of special importance given India's need for sustained industrial growth as a country whose economic development is characterised by the attempt to bypass industrialisation and leapfrog from agriculture to services. According to von Hauff, India has to improve institutional preconditions for effective water management in order to secure sufficient water resources to guarantee further industrial growth. Chapter Eight on tribal development and Chapter 11 on ecotourism both deal with a crucial dilemma of India's development agenda: that between conservation and development or, for that matter, the need to preserve and improve the livelihood of local (indigenous) population groups. Chapter Eight highlights the many environmental and societal constraints that impede tribal development, especially the highly bureaucratic, antiquated and corruption-prone system of forest management prevalent in India. In this regard, it would have been worthwhile to explore the impact of the introduction of the Forest Rights Act of 2006 which grants recognised forest-dwelling indigenous individuals as well as communities a variety of rights over the forest and its resources. Chapter 11 looks into the role ecotourism could play in the management and conservation of India's Protected Areas and, at the same time, benefit the local population. It advocates combining ecotourism efforts with the market and financial incentives of the REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) plus mechanism through which developing countries can sell the carbon stored in their forests to developed countries which need to offset carbon emissions in their own countries to meet targets. The two remaining chapters of the volume deal with a local and a global dimension of India's sustainability problems, respectively. Chapter Nine provides an in-depth investigation into the problem of passenger transport in the Indian megacity of Kolkata and recommends several adaptation and mitigation strategies to achieve the long due overhaul of the city's local transport system in order to reduce pollution without compromising the need for cost efficiency. Chapter Ten adds the much needed global dimension to the discussion of sustainable development in India and takes the example of India's natural stone industry and the concomitant debate about socially and environmentally responsible mining and pro-

duction conditions to illustrate various stakeholders' perspectives and the need to alter the governance of global value creation chains.

Despite the flaws described above, *Imperatives of Sustainability and India's Development Path* is a timely contribution to the debate on sustainable development in India and is useful for those interested in the more general aspects of sustainable development and India experts alike. That is, with one major caveat: the volume could have done with a more diligent proof-reading to avoid the many spelling errors and redundancy.

Clemens Spiess

BISWAMOY PATI / MARK HARRISON (Hg.), *The Social History of Health and Medicine in Colonial India*. London / New York: Routledge, 2009. 241 Seiten, £ 85,00. ISBN 978-0-415-46231-0

In den 1980er-Jahren erschienen zunächst wenige, wenngleich grundlegende Werke zur Medizingeschichte Britisch-Indiens. Den Anfang machten Radhika Ramasubhan mit seinem Buch *Public Health and Medical Research in India. Their Origins and Development under the Impact of British Colonial Policy*, Stockholm: SAREC, 1982, sowie, allgemeiner, der Sammelband von Roy MacLeod und Milton Lewis (eds), *Disease, Medicine and Empire: Perspectives on Western Medicine and the Experience of European Expansion*, London: Routledge, 1988. Besonders im Jahrzehnt danach erfuhr die Medizin des britischen Kolonialregimes dann ein gesteigertes Interesse seitens der akademischen Forschung (David Arnold, *Colonizing the Body: State Medicine and Epidemic Disease in Nineteenth-Century India*. Berkeley: University of California Press 1993; Mark Harrison, *Public Health in British India: Anglo-Indian Preventive Medicine 1859–1914*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press 1994).

Auf die ständig wachsenden Beiträge in diesem Forschungsbereich machten die Herausgeber des hier zu besprechenden Buches in einem von ihnen bereits im Jahr 2001 herausgegebenen Sammelband aufmerksam (Mark Harrison and Biswamoy Pati (eds), *Health, Medicine and Empire: Perspectives on Colonial India*. Delhi: Orient Longman 2001, siehe besonders die „Introduction“, S. 1–3). Inzwischen, so die beiden Herausgeber in der Einleitung des vorliegenden Sammelbandes, habe dieses Wachstum weiter zugenommen (S. 1). Besonders betonten sie die neue Dimension der Beiträge, die aus diversen Doktorarbeiten hervorgegangen sind. Gegenüber den eher groben Pinselstrichen der früheren Arbeiten würden nun die feinstreichen und tief gehenden Arbeiten der gegenwärtigen Studien auffallen. Zweck des vorliegenden Sammelbandes sei es daher, einen Ertrag dieser jüngsten Forschungen zu präsentieren. Dass die Beiträge nicht in sinnvolle Rubriken geordnet werden können, sondern in einer eher wahllosen Reihung erscheinen, darf unter diesen Umständen nicht weiter verwundern.