along with economic, agricultural and social-structural changes. The latter, however, are beyond the scope of this study. The book contains no mention of the cost of financing the Academy’s activities, which extended to about 100 villages in 1964 when the study was made. This question is of great importance because of the necessity of estimating the likely costs of modernizing the 58,000 villages of East Pakistan if the Comilla approach is adopted.

Another important question concerns the extent to which the success of the Academy depends not on new principles of organisation and communication but on the dedication and drive of one or a few exceptional individuals. One may even suspect if the charisma of the present Director of the Academy is not a highly important factor, which it may not be possible to reproduce in other areas.

The book is a welcome addition to the literature on the Comilla experiment and will be of interest to those who are concerned with rural development not only in Pakistan but also in other developing countries.

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Entrepreneurship and Agricultural Development by Dr. D. L. Narayana. Bombay: Indian Institute of Asian Studies, July 1966. Pp. 120, Rs. 10.00 (Indian) or US$ 3.00.

Mr. Shrinivasan’s book is mainly a compilation of data concerning India’s agricultural development during the first and second five year plans (1951 to 1961). The major part of the book presents a detailed description of the efforts that were made during the fifties—particularly by the government—to develop agriculture and improve the farmer’s condition. The discussion is divided into seven categories—technical, organizational, financial, demographic, sociological, and capital formation. The data are comprehensive and well presented. What is unfortunately lacking is an analysis of the relative efficacy of the numerous measures taken. This question is of particular interest now, since the predicted growth of the agriculture sector has failed to materialize. Nevertheless, the book is a good concise, though detailed, description of what occurred during this period and as such should serve as a useful reference work for those interested in studying India’s agricultural problems.

Dr. Narayana’s book contains two essays on problems of agricultural development. The first, which gives the book its title, contains a long and
occasionally rambling discussion of entrepreneurship in general and its role in agricultural development in particular. He classifies entrepreneurs according to a scale which descends from the dynamic "innovator" down to the "drone" and the "parasite" and makes the observation that farmers in traditional agriculture tend to be grouped towards the lower end of the scale. We might observe that the distribution of populations in general is probably similarly skewed except in the most exceptional cultures. The problem is that the farmer is necessarily some kind of an entrepreneur whilst the rest of us can avoid this role.

The author seems to believe that forces outside the control of the farmer are primarily responsible for their being grouped at the lower end of the scale. The supply of information and highly productive inputs are inadequate and erratic; the farmer lacks the economic capacity to undertake innovations and the incentive (as a result of inadequate land reform, etc.) to create this capacity; and finally, the farmer suffers from a certain amount of inertia.

His recommendations for overcoming these obstacles are, for the most part, fairly standard. He supports land-reform measures in spite of the admitted unimpressive results that have often followed. He also makes the rather unusual recommendation that the government induce internal migration—not from rural areas to urban areas, but within the rural sector. His reasoning is that since migrant farmers often do much better in newly irrigated areas than the farmers who were settled there previously, increased migration will make all farmers more enterprising.

However, this raises the basic question: were the farmers enterprising because they migrated or did they migrate because they were enterprising? If the latter is the case, is it more efficient to concentrate the more enterprising farmers in one locality or to have them spread throughout the country demonstrating the benefits of innovations to other less enterprising farmers? This question must also be answered in regard to the package-programme approach that the author recommends. Should the government undertake this programme intensively or extensively? The author concludes that the "intensive approach" is more efficient. This reviewer is not so sure. The total package of inputs might be supplied at less cost per farmer if the programme were concentrated in a small area, but the spread of these innovations to other farmers would probably not occur as rapidly. For instance, the remarkable growth in private tubewells in the Punjab can be traced to the adoption of the "extensive" approach.

One defect of the book is that no attempt has here been made to determine the characteristics of the enterprising farmers who already exist in India. Dr. Narayana admits that there is a much wider spread between the successful farmers
and the unsuccessful ones in India than exists in most other agricultural societies. This raises the question: can we determine what it is that differentiates the dynamic innovator as he exists from the ordinary farmer? This would seem to be the point from which to begin an analysis of what is required to convert the ordinary farmer into an innovator needed for rapid agricultural development.

Dr. Narayana’s second essay, entitled “Agricultural Take-off and Economic Development”, deals with the question of whether the primary emphasis should be placed on agriculture or on industry for economic development. He argues that agriculture can also supply the required impetus for economic growth, perhaps even more than industry can. All in all, Dr. Narayana’s book makes an interesting reading.

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Editors of “readers” (collections of articles focussing on a particular topic) usually tread lightly on the hands of contributors once they have been selected, but S. Chandrasekar’s imprint is well marked in this book which contains studies of Seven Asian countries, Australia, an overview of Asia as a whole and two papers on Australia’s immigration policy. Chandrasekar’s editorship is evident in two ways which make this a unique and valuable collection of articles.

All too often, collections of articles are strung together in a loose way by an often unbounded general theme. The articles are, therefore, uneven, dealing solely with a particular scholar’s particular academic interest. This is useful, of course, in some cases, but in a “reader”, designed to deal with Asia’s population problems, the purpose is better served by a well-structured presentation of discussions having a similar focus.

The first evidence of Chandrasekar’s guidance is in the outline which was apparently supplied to the experts selected to write the country surveys. Roughly, each chapter dealing with a particular country along with Chandrasekar’s introduction to Asia as a whole is organized (and in most cases so labelled) in three major sections: I—The Facts, II—The Problem, III—Population Policy.

In the “facts” section the authors were apparently requested to deal with selected topics, for the following topics are discussed sequentially in most survey chapters: geography, quality of statistical data, population density, structure,