

SANDEE's 5th Set of Research Grants, June 2003

SANDEE recently made several research grants to researchers from South Asia. A brief description of these grants is presented below. This information may be particularly useful to new applicants seeking to obtain SANDEE research funding.

- **CPRs as Drivers of Development: A study of NTFPs in Himachal Pradesh, India: Purnamita Dasgupta, Delhi, India.**

So far the CPRs have been viewed as mere livelihood providers. This study seeks to map the role of CPRs as a source of sustainable rural income in the context of opportunities created by the development process such as improved access to markets. The income generating potential of the CPRs will be studied in terms of two NTFPs, namely medicinal plants and fruits collected by rural households. The researcher has identified two sites in Himachal Pradesh as sites for the research.

- **Development of an Appropriate Financial Support System for Soil Conservation in Tea lands in Sri Lanka: J.A.A.M. Jayakody, Tea Research Institute, Talawakelle, Sri Lanka.**

The productivity of tea gardens located on higher elevations is less than the low-lying ones due to land degradation. The researcher finds it relevant that the tea growers be encouraged to implement soil conservation and rehabilitation practices. The overall objective of the study is thus to identify most suitable mechanisms for doing so.

- **Valuation of Urban Air Pollution: A Study of Kanpur Nagar, Uttar Pradesh: Usha Gupta, Bhimrao Ambedkar College, New Delhi, India. T**

The study aims at quantifying in monetary terms the benefits of improved air quality by valuing air quality as an environmental resource. The research will estimate costs of health damage caused by air pollution. The motive is to provide inputs for designing appropriate environmental policies and initiate corrective measures. The site for the study is Kanpur city of Uttar Pradesh, India.

- **Pesticide use in Rice Production and Human Health - A Study in Kerala: P. Indira Devi, Kerala Agriculture University, Thrissur, India.**

This study aims to analyze the pesticide-based economy of the state of Kerala in general and focuses on its direct effect on human health as an externality. The overall goal of the research is to evaluate the rationale of present investment on pesticides in rice production.