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## Research Projects and Issues

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## II. RESEARCH PROJECTS AND ISSUES

### \*SNOWMELT-RUNOFF MODELS FOR HIMALAYAN RIVER BASINS

Researcher: Dr. Balaram Dey, Dept. of Geology and Geography, Howard University

Dr. Balaram Day has received a grant from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to develop snowmelt-runoff models for the Himalayan River Basins. Satellite images are being used to derive the depleted spring snow cover area from the Brahmaputra, Ganges and Indus River Basins. The weekly depleted spring snow cover areas are being correlated with river discharge data. The snowmelt-runoff prediction models are expected to be very useful for agriculture and irrigation. (Courtesy of Bulletin of Asian Geographers).

### \*CNAS RESEARCHERS UNDERTAKE COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF MUSTANG

Researchers at the Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies under a grant from the International Development Research Center (Canada) have begun a comprehensive baseline study of the Mustang region to provide information for further academic and applied research. The research project is coordinated by Prof. Dor Bahadur Bista. Naven Rai is the project chief for anthropology, Prayag Raj Sharma for archaeology, D. B. Bajrayacharya for history, and Durga P. Ojha for regional socio-economy. Four researchers are now being chosen to assist the project chiefs. An inception visit to Mustang was made last fall and intensive research will begin this spring.

### \*POPULATION AND POVERTY IN NEPAL

SCHOOL OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES/OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT GROUP  
UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA, NORWICH, U.K.

Dr. David Seddon, of the School of Development Studies at the University of East Anglia (UK), is currently writing a report on Population and Poverty in Nepal for the International Labour Office. The project was funded by the ILO and carried out by Dr. Seddon in collaboration with Dr. Piers Blaikie and Ms. Sally Westwood under the auspices of the Overseas Development Group at the University of East Anglia. Based on the accumulated data from several previous research projects, some of which has already been utilised in a number of publications on the roots of inequality in Nepal<sup>1</sup>, and on more recent materials collected during 1982 in Nepal, the study explores the complex inter-relationships between population dynamics and the reproduction of poverty. The draft report will be completed by the end of 1982 and will consist of the following chapters: 1) class relations in the countryside; 2) agricultural technology and the physical environment; 3) causes and consequences of population change; 4) dimensions of deprivation; 5) the role of the state. Further details are available from David Seddon (School of Development Studies, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK) and the individual chapters should be available shortly as discussion papers in the series produced by the School of Development Studies. (See "Research Proposals" below).

<sup>1</sup>Blaikie P M, Cameron J and Seddon J D, Nepal in Crisis: growth and stagnation at the periphery, Oxford University Press, 1980; Seddon J D, Blaikie P M and Cameron J, Peasants and Workers in Nepal, Aris & Phillips, 1979; Blaikie P M, Cameron J and Seddon J D, The Struggle for Basic Needs in Nepal, OECD, 1979; Blaikie P M, Cameron J and Seddon J D, Centre, periphery and access in west central Nepal: aspects of social and spatial inequality, School of Development Studies Monograph, 1979.