



Dhanasree Jayaram

English Literature

B A - 2007 - 2010

Dhanasree Jayaram is currently a Research Associate at the Centre for Air Power Studies (CAPS), New Delhi. She was awarded the Outreach Fellowship by the Centre in 2011 to produce this work. She completed her Master's in Geopolitics and International Relations from Manipal University, Karnataka in 2012. Her Master's dissertation (submitted in 2012) is titled - 'India's Perspectives on Environmental Change and National Security.' She is a gold medallist in B.A. English Literature (2007-2010) at Stella Maris College, Chennai. She was granted a scholarship place at the International Summer School, University of Exeter, United Kingdom in 2012, in which she pursued a course on 'Global Climate Change: Environment, Technology and Society.' She has published in journals, edited volumes and has been invited to be a guest speaker at national and international conferences and seminars. She is also a Carnatic vocalist and has worked for *Deccan Chronicle* (newspaper).

The book traverses several pathways including the basics of science and geography, geopolitics and international relations, strategic and security studies, policy-related and diplomatic dialogues, as well as socio-cultural and economic perspectives in order to bring out a holistic picture of how environmental change has shaped the international system and India's position in it. The central argument of the book that environmental change can change/is changing geography and in turn can change/is changing international relations has been substantiated by detailed analysis of the drivers of India's environmental policies, international climate change negotiations, role of state and non-state actors in the international environmental discourse both in theory and practice, and finally the interconnectedness between environmental change and national security. The volume tries to find the right balance between the international scene embodied by the negotiations driven by hardcore economics on the one hand, and the domestic realities of India that steer its climate change policy based on energy security and developmental concerns. The need to address the larger issue of environmental change rather than concentrating on one aspect of it – climate change – to reduce the amount of polarisation that surrounds the global environmental debate especially in the wake of the introduction of the issue at the United Nations Security Council, has been reiterated throughout the work. It contains policy recommendations in terms of methods of adaptation, mitigation, energy management/diversification, enhancement of the role of think tanks as well as diplomatic manoeuvring (principles-based) at the climate change negotiations and other international debates. This area of study is comparatively new in India while the West has been dedicating a significant amount of resources towards research in energy and environmental security for the past two decades. Therefore, one of the objectives of the book is to evolve an Indian perspective on these strategic issues in a Western literature-dominated arena. Though the book brings to light several gaping holes in India's policy and strategy, it contends that India has a plethora of options and opportunities to not only maintain its own national security but also help the world 'adapt' and 'mitigate' in times of environmental change.