

Rural Mechanisation

A Driver in Agricultural Change and Rural Development

This book looks at the spread of mechanisation in Bangladesh and some other Asian countries. It is argued that Bangladesh is a special case and that rural mechanisation played a central role in agriculture and rural development. This book examines this proposition by reflecting on the processes from the 1970s to the present day. The pace of mechanisation has been determined not only by national resource conditions, but also by the historical, political, institutional, economic and policy context. While there have been great increases in agricultural production and diverse economic activities in rural areas, Bangladesh has not followed a path taken by other countries, and the Punjabi model of the Green Revolution bears little resemblance to the policies and strategies taken by Bangladesh. An implication of this is that policies influencing rural industrialisation in individual countries and regions have to be specific to their current political, institutional and economic contexts.



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Editors

M. A. Sattar Mandal
Stephen D. Biggs
Scott E. Justice



Institute for Inclusive Finance and Development (InM)



Institute for Inclusive Finance and Development (InM)

For Copies Please Contact the Knowledge Management Division, InM
Phone: +88 (02) 8181066
E-mail: info@inm.org.bd

