

The Puzzle of India's Governance: Culture, Context and Comparative Theory



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Reviews

This publication is really gripping and exciting. It really is basic but unexpected situations in the 50 % in the book. It is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding, once you begin to read the book.
(Prof. Salvador Lynch)

THE PUZZLE OF INDIA'S GOVERNANCE: CULTURE, CONTEXT AND COMPARATIVE THEORY



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Routledge, London, UK. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. First Edition. India no longer gets an easy ride as the world's largest democracy. Spectacular terrorist attacks on India's Parliament and places of worship, communal riots of unprecedented ferocity, lingering separatist insurgency and violent caste conflict in impoverished regions have combined to cause a closer appraisal of India's capacity to sustain the rule of law. This book examines how India has been able to sustain democratic governance while undergoing substantial social, economic and political changes through a neo-institutional rational choice model of governance, bounded by local culture and context. The author applies the central logic of bounded rationality to fresh data derived through quantitative and qualitative methods from a geographically diverse, multi-ethnic post-colonial state. It sheds light on governance in India and generates findings relevant to cross-national studies of governance. The book shows how elites, by drawing on the logic of human ingenuity, driven by self-interest rather than mechanical adherence to tradition, and innovating new procedures when it suits them, can enhance governance through appropriate policies, institutions and processes. This book will be invaluable to researchers and students of South Asia and will be of special interest to those studying governance and the rational actor model. Contents List of figures List of tables Foreword Preface Abbreviations 1. Introduction: a comparative theory of governance The problem stated Locating the puzzle Power and legitimacy: the two faces of governance The Indian context The stakeholder's dilemma: governance as a game on the rules of the game Methodological individualism and the issue of bias A neo-institutional model of governance based on elite strategies Rules, discretion and human agency Security, welfare and trust: some hypothetical parameters of governance The liminality of governance and its genealogies Culture, context and the rational actor: bringing politics back...



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