



Special Economic Zones in India

Myths and Realities

*Palit Amitendu and Subhomoy Bhattacharjee,
with a Foreword by Bibek Debroy*

Pub Date: July 2008
Binding: Hardback
Price: £50 / \$80
ISBN: 9788190583534

Extent: 216 pages
Size: 234 x 153mm; 9.2 x 6
Illustrations: 30+ figures, tables
 and boxes

Category: BUSINESS & ECONOMICS /
 International / Economics
BISAC code: BUS069020
BIC code: KCM

Rights Held: World, excluding South
 Asia (i.e. India, Nepal, Pakistan,
 Bangladesh, Myanmar, Bhutan and
 Sri Lanka)

Description

The first book to examine India's Special Economic Zones and the different popular perceptions – both good and bad – surrounding this issue.

Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are turning out to be one of the stiffest challenges for India's economic policy reforms. Since the announcement of SEZ rules on 10 February 2006, these zones have aroused unprecedented controversy. The emotionally charged debate on SEZs has often produced inflexible positions on either side. The unusually strong public reaction has also forced policymakers to revisit several aspects of the policy in recent months.

Why are SEZs so controversial? Will they really exacerbate income inequality, endanger food security and worsen regional imbalance? Or will they help Indian industry in taking its final leap onto the global arena? Only time will provide the answers. As the first book on India's SEZs, this volume examines different popular perceptions - both good and bad - surrounding these zones. Apart from the international evidence and the Indian story, the book looks closely at critical issues like financial viability, land requirements, extant rules and the political economy of SEZs. Admitting that the last word on the subject is far from being spoken, the book contends that the SEZ saga will be a test of strength for the country's social and political consensus on its economic policies and future reforms. Introduced by eminent economist Bibek Debroy, this book is a must read.

Readership: For academics and students of economics, and observers and historians of Modern India.

Contents

Preface; Foreword by Bibek Debroy; Why Economic Zones?; The New SEZs: Where, What and Why?; Are SEZs Financially Viable?; The Political Yatra; The Rules of the SEZ; The Land of SEZs; Not the Last Word; Appendices; Bibliography; Index

About the Authors

Amitendu Palit is a Visiting Fellow at the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), Delhi.

Subhomoy Bhattacharjee is the Resident Editor, *Financial Express*, Delhi.

Ordering in the UK/Rest of the World

Marston Book Services
 P.O. Box 269
 Abingdon, Oxfordshire
 OX14 4YN, United Kingdom
 Tel: +44 (0)1235 465577
 Fax: +44 (0)1235 465556
 direct.orders@marston.co.uk
 trade.orders@marston.co.uk

Ordering in North America

Books International
 P.O. Box 605
 Herndon, VA 20172-0605
 United States
 Tel: +1 703 661 1570
 Fax: +1 703 661 1501
 bimap@presswarehouse.com