

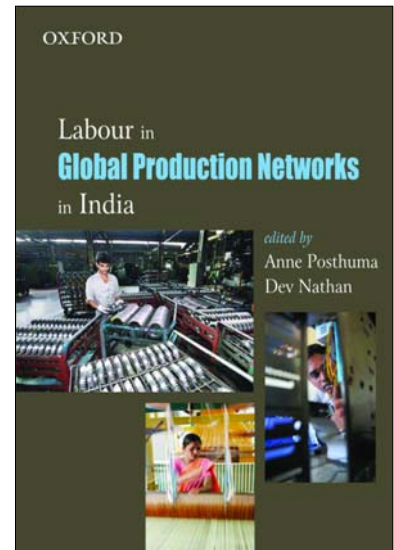
Labour in Global Production Networks

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Since the advent of liberalization in India in 1991, much attention has been directed towards India's substantial economic growth rates, the pressures of globalisation on its labour market, and its potential role in the global economy in future. Though there have been studies on India's position in the global economy, relatively few studies have examined how engagement with global production networks is impacting upon companies and workers in India.

This volume reveals that economic growth in India has created new opportunities for large and small firms, as well as new jobs for both highly-skilled workers and relatively low-skilled workers. However, the impact is uneven, even as opportunities for larger firms at the top of supply chains filter downwards. Moreover, economic upgrading does not necessarily translate into improved terms and conditions in the job, especially for workers embedded in lower tiers of global production networks. Instead, vulnerable jobs are on the rise for workers in the unorganised sector, and for some workers in the organised sector as well. With detailed sector-level studies spanning labour-intensive, skill-intensive and knowledge-intensive industries, this volume provides an analytical perspective on labour in an increasingly globalised economy. It further discusses how global production could be harnessed to yield better quality and more evenly-spread opportunities for firms and workers. Timely and topical, this book will appeal to scholars and researchers working on labour and employment studies, urban studies and gender studies; economists, political scientists, sociologists, administrators and policymakers, industry associations, and international institutions.

February 2010 | 390 pages | Hardback
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Labour in global production networks in India contributes to filling the research gap in this area. It is an excellent and timely collection that is likely to have an impact on current debates. One of the world's leading emerging powers and now the fourth largest economy, India has become a critical global supplier across a range of sectors, from labour-intensive agro-foods, garments and footwear to capital-intensive automobiles and. Yet global production arrangements often do not observe these distinctions. In fact, as some argue, they systematically require engagement with informalized and marginalized labour – often referred to as “unfree” – as a means of ensuring flexibilities in production arrangements and maximizing competitive gains (Phillips, 2011). Production integration. Vertical/bureaucratic. Horizontal/networked. Control. Internalized/hierarchical. These production or value networks are the lines through which value is created and divisions of labor established in the global economy. More recently, emphasis has been placed on understanding how firms in particular places in an international spatial division of labor can attempt to reposition themselves and to upgrade activity to capture higher levels of value added and profit. This process of upgrading has involved the capturing of certain types of activity and some of the command and control functions in the global economy from global buyers. Labour in Global Value Chains in Asia. Global Production Networks and Labour Process. Labour in Global Value Chains in Asia. Labour in Global Value Chains in Asia. Chapter. Chapter. Because of its greater analytical openness to a complex reality, this framework also allows for productive dialogues with different branches of heterodox economics and beyond, including labour process theory, which is of particular importance in this paper. Underpinning the GPN framework is the idea that there is increasing global competition between multinational companies to tap into new markets, use cheap labour to exploit economies of scale and to cut down the cost of production (Gereffi et al., 2001; Humphrey, 2003). The emergence of global production networks, or global value chains, raises various challenges for sustainable production and consumption. Existing inequalities may be reinforced as transnational and public governance struggles to regulate and control flows that cross national borders. Farmers and firms must meet stringent barriers to entry within global production networks, and face difficulties in moving out of lower value-added activities to capture the gains. Workers often face extremely difficult everyday conditions producing goods and services for major companies in global markets. Yuna Lee - A New Normative Labour in Global Production Network: The dynamics of employment relationship in the Vietnamese textiles and apparel industry. This article starts with the recognition that labour has received less than its fair share of empirical and analytical attention in scholarship on global production networks. Little is known about how jobs for export markets fit into workers' wider livelihoods strategies, or how workers react to new employment opportunities available to them. Based on evidence from the Tiruppur garment cluster in Tamil Nadu, South India, the article takes labourers, their livelihoods and their social reproduction as its starting point. It reviews relevant labour geography and GPN literature, and suggests that labour

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