

NAKED EXPOSURES (1987). By Janak Raj Jai. Rajiv Publications, New Delhi. Pp. 116. Price Rs. 35.

THE BOOK under review¹ is more of a political nature than an academic exercise on an important subject like white collar crime. As pointed out by the Santhanam Committee on the Prevention of Corruption:

The advance of technological and scientific development is contributing to the emergence of mass society with a large rank and file and a small controlling elite, encouraging the growth of monopolies, the rise of managerial class and intricate institutional mechanisms. Strict adherence to high standard of ethical behaviour is necessary for the even and honest functioning of the new social, political and economic processes. The inability of all sections of society to appreciate in full this need results in the emergence and growth of white collar and economic crimes, renders enforcement of the laws, themselves not sufficiently deterrent more difficult.

Tax evasion and avoidance, share pushing, malpractice in the share market and administration of companies, monopolistic controls, usury, under-invoicing or over-invoicing, hoarding, profiteering, sub-standard performance of contracts of constructions and supply, evasion of economic laws, bribery and corruption, election offence and malpractices are some examples of white collar crime.

It would have been appropriate for the author to deal with some important area of white collar crime and discuss in depth the statutory provisions supplemented by leading cases to highlight the lacunae in the subject instead of dealing with the subject in abstract relying on newspaper reports. The very title of the book is misleading and does not conform with the text under discussion.

The book is divided into two parts: Part I deals with the problem of white collar crime and Part II with matters relating to issue such Bofors, Fairfax, submarine deals etc. under investigation by committees appointed by the Parliament. An academic is not expected to jump to conclusions without the aid of concrete facts in such a sensitive and important area. To rely on press reports which are often contradictory and conflicting is not within the domain of a scholar's work. Such a conclusion is one-sided and biased, which can be taken by a politician but not by an academic scholar. In fact, there is no worthwhile academic exercise in the book which can be commented upon.

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1. Janak Raj Jai, *Naked Exposures* (1987).

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