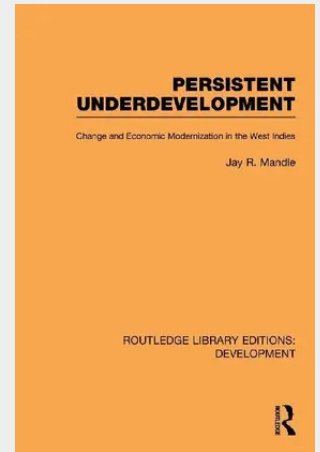


Persistent Underdevelopment

Change and Economic Modernization in the West Indies

First published in 1996, this insightful and informative text examines the post-
emancipation and recent economic history of the Commonwealth Caribbean. Jay R.
Mandle offers an explanation of the region's continuing underdevelopment. Through the
use of an analytical framework derived from the works of Marx and Kuznets, the book
focuses attention on technological change as the driving force behind economic
modernization. Persistent Underdevelopment begins by exploring how plantation
agriculture had a limiting effect on industrial growth. Ultimately, plantation dominance
receded; technological stagnation continued, however, and, under British colonial policy
the Caribbean failed to modernise. The post-World War II era brought new efforts at
modernisation through the economic policies of the left regimes of Manley, Burnham and
Bishop. The concluding chapters point the way to policies that would enable the
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