SUMMARIES

Helmer Bachmann: Zur Transformation des indonesischen Agrarsektors ASIEN, (Januar 1996) 58, S. 5-25

The present article deals with the changing position of the agricultural sector in a "Newly Industrializing Country". Indonesia was chosen as an example of significant and successful agricultural policy over the last three decades. Under the "New Order" government the agricultural policy has had absolute priority to reach self-sufficiency and poverty alleviation. It has recognized the importance of agricultural development in order to support economic development in other economic sectors. The consequent support of the agricultural sector and therefore the promotion of socio-economic life conditions, especially in rural areas, has only been possible by using protecting measures. In the middle 60s Indonesia was a net-importer of rice but reached the status of self-sufficiency in 1984. The highly subsidized agricultural sector, especially the staple food rice needed a lot of financial support. This money was earned by the oil sector. When the oil price fell in the beginning of 1980s, the government had to reduce the subsidies for agriculture. The Indonesian government also had to promote the secondary and tertiary sector. Nowadays, however, the growing rates in the two sectors are much higher than in the primary sector and their constribution to the gross domestic product and their capacity to absorb ever-growing quantities of labour are increasing. In its macro-economic position the agricultural sector can be considered to be in a transformation process. It can also be seen that foodstuff supply in Indonesia could be unstable in the future. The main factors responsible for this situation are continuous population growth and consequent ecological problems.

Günter Spreitzhofer: Auswirkungen des Tourismus in Südostasien ASIEN, (Januar 1996) 58, S. 26-39

South-East Asia, the world's fastest growing economic and touristic area, faces severe changes in traditional cultural and social patterns, both in urban and rural areas. The role of tourism, which has been attributed the scapegoat part as spoiler of socio-cultural tradition in Third World countries, is critically analyzed within the context of westernization. Special emphasis is put on aspects of clichè-loaden sex tourism and its political acceptance as well as on changes of family hierarchy and cultural tradition, all creating new elites of tourism-business-people in the informal sector. After a discussion of possible tourism perceptions of local people, the visionary concept of mutual understanding turns out to be illusionary, since the cultural and social gap between host and guest only results in one-way westernization, which is only partly due to Third World tourism and mainly transmitted by western-style media and technology.

Markus Taube: Währungssubstitution in Südchina: Monetäre Aspekte der Hongkong-chinesischen Wirtschaftsintegration ASIEN, (Januar 1996) 58, S. 40-49

While the economies of Hong Kong and Southern China are slowly growing into one economic entity, the borderline between the currency areas of the HKS and the RMB becomes blurred. Since the early 80s the HKS is circulating in increasing amounts in the southernmost provinces of China. And promoted by the transformation of the Chinese economic system the RMB has begun to substitute the HKS in Hong Kong since 1993. This article gives a detailled description of this phenomenoh and explains the economic forces driving it. Starting from this analysis the discussion proceeds to deliberate the desirability and possibility of a currency union between Hong Kong and the Chinese Special Economic Zones. A currency union would promote the division of labour between Hong Kong and Southern China. But inefficiencies in the institutional setting of China will make it impossible to implement such a step in the near future.