

onen hervor. Eine Überraschung ist jedoch die Stadt Nagpur und die an sie angrenzenden Distrikte, die auf der Karte als eine Insel des Wohlstands im sonst sehr armen Zentralindien erscheinen. Nagpur ist eine große Industriestadt (ca. 2,5 Mio. Einwohner). Ihre Satellitenstadt Butibori wächst rasant. Der südlich von Nagpur gelegene Bezirk Chandrapur hat Kohlebergwerke und das größte Thermalkraftwerk Indiens. Die Western Coalfields Ltd. ist der größte Arbeitgeber in der ganzen Region. Ferner gibt es dort Zementwerke. Die westlich von Nagpur gelegenen Bezirke Wardha und Amaravati sind Zentren des Baumwollanbaus. Im Osten Nagpurs liegt der Bezirk Bhandara mit Bodenschätzen und fruchtbarer Landwirtschaft (Reis und Zuckerrohr). Kein Wunder also, dass es hier eine kaufkräftige Bevölkerung gibt. Der Autor hat diese interessante Region nicht näher untersucht, weil er dort keine deutschen Unternehmer fand, die auf seinen Fragebogen hätten antworten können. Man kann Unternehmern, die in Indien tätig sind oder es noch werden wollen, nur raten, die Kaufkraftkarte stets im Auge zu behalten.

Johannes Wamser hat mit seiner Arbeit auf eindrucksvolle Weise bewiesen, was die moderne Wirtschaftsgeographie für die Unternehmer leisten kann. Auch dürfte diese Arbeit zu weiteren Untersuchungen dieser Art anregen, die sich auf andere asiatische Länder beziehen.

Dietmar Rothermund

India-ASEAN Partnership in an Era of Globalization: Reflections by Eminent Persons; edited by Research and Information System for the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (RIS)

Singapore: ISEAS (Institute of Southeast Asian Studies), 2004, 267 p., S\$ 45.90/US\$ 30.70

Indian-ASEAN interregional relations have improved tremendously as a result of India's major shift in its foreign policy by formulating "Look East"-strategy since the end of the Cold War. Simultaneously, India has strengthened its ties with East and Southeast Asian neighbours and also begun to implement economic liberalization at home to be adaptable with the momentum of globalization. New Delhi's previous participation in regional or international forums was mostly overshadowed by its dominant agenda of seeking ways to isolate its archrival Pakistan rather than taking a role of major player. However, India's new partnership with ASEAN is a good start and seems to be promising because both are willing to set a clear vision for the future of their bilateral ties.

This book brings together the texts of the Indian-ASEAN Eminent Persons Lecture Series launched by the Indian Government in December 1996 for enhancing people-to-people interactions between India and the ASEAN countries. This volume includes altogether nineteen lectures which were delivered by distinguished statesmen and experts from the ASEAN countries in India and by equally noted Indian experts in the ASEAN countries. These lectures were further categorized into four parts in arranging its thematic outlines for different topics and perceptions.

Part I provides a visionary perspective on the India-ASEAN relations as enunciated by then Prime Minister Mahathir Bin Mohamad of Malaysia in his inaugural lecture. He underscores the importance of India as ASEAN's full dialogue partner since 1996 for promoting mutually beneficial cooperation in many areas like petroleum and natural gas, agriculture, information technology, human resource development, tourism and etc. He also stresses to remove misconceptions about trade and investment opportunities between ASEAN and India by exchanging more information and views in respective sectors.

Part II gives an account of five lectures on the globalization and the Southeast Asian Economic Crisis as well as lessons and implications from them for future India-ASEAN Cooperation. Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra points out his country's inadequate domestic preparation for the new global economy as the root cause of the crisis. He clarifies that Thailand's socio-political forces and economic institutions did not well adapt to the rigorous demands of a highly competitive global marketplace. He continues that the key to success in turning the tide of globalization for one's own advantage lies in two areas: education and market reforms. Tommy Koh dubs the East Asian Economic Crisis as a crisis of global capitalism and makes a close survey of the region by exploring how and why the "om-yang" effect of Thai crisis extended to other countries of Southeast Asia and then to East Asia. He also derives some lessons from the crisis and assesses prospects for the recovery. Djwandono and Ariff reveal Indonesian and Malaysian experiences in coping with the crisis and suggest some recommendations for reshaping their economies respectively. Djwandono emphasizes strong banking system as a requisite for sustainable monetary policy and takes lessons for further implementation of liberalization in financial and capital flows. Ariff clarifies how Malaysia's unorthodox approach in tackling the crisis is different from other countries and cautiously supports the idea of setting up regional funds to ward off predatory attacks by currency speculators. Rangarajan's point of restoring market confidence in crisis-hit countries by strengthening domestic financial system with the help of international financial institutions is also noteworthy.

Part III consists of seven lectures on a wider spectrum of opportunities and challenges facing for a viable India-ASEAN Partnership. Many lectures cover a variety of issues like political and security cooperation, international terrorism, reform of the United Nations, international financial architecture and etc. Veteran Indonesian diplomat Ali

Alatas and Malaysian Foreign Affairs Minister Syed Hamid Albar point out in their lectures that ASEAN and India have convergence of interests to leverage better cooperation in many areas. Kavi Chongkittavorn recounts the historic ties between the ASEAN countries and India. He also depicts how well the ASEAN can serve as a cross-road for China and India by bridging different interests of two rising Asian powers.

Finally, Part IV comprises altogether six lectures on sectoral cooperation covering many important issues like food security, health, sustainable development, space technology, innovation, corporate governance and cultural sovereignty in the context of globalization. Murthy outlines some tenets of conduct to practise good corporate governance in business environment. Sudarsono attempts to explain negative impact of globalization on cultural sovereignty throughout the developing world.

This book is essential reading for anyone who likes to know changing episodes of India-ASEAN relations after the end of the Cold War and some detailed analyses of Asian Financial Crisis in its root causes and lessons.

Soe Moe Oo

**Toon van Meijl; Jelle Miedema (eds.):
Shifting images of identity in the
Pacific**

Leiden: KITLV Press, 2004, 269 S., 30 €

Dieses Buch ist eine Sammlung von Vorträgen, die im Rahmen der vierten Konferenz der "European Society for Oceanists (Esfo)" im Juni 1999 in Leiden gehalten wurden. Alle Aufsätze untersuchen die dynamischen Entwicklungsprozesse von kultureller Identität in der Pazifik-Region.

Auch wenn in den letzten Jahrzehnten Fragen der Identität zunehmend an Bedeutung gewonnen haben, ist doch der Frage wenig systematische Aufmerksamkeit geschenkt