

this is especially problematic if the reader wants to get more detailed information on certain topics.

Nevertheless this book gives an excellent general account of the subject matter. Since so many topics are dealt with, some of them have been treated only briefly. Thus, the reader must already know a lot about development economics in order to comprehend properly and to appreciate all the content. This book will certainly serve as a good guide for the preparation of comprehensive exams on development economics. One can only hope that a second improved edition will soon be published.

Werner Lachmann

VINCENZ TIMMERMANN: *Entwicklungstheorie und Entwicklungspolitik*. (Grundriß der Sozialwissenschaft 30). Göttingen: Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht, 1982. 232 pages, DM 36. -

Timmermann, professor of economics at the University of Hamburg, has been working for several years on the typical changes in economic structure in the process of development. His book on economic growth and development thus focuses on the structural changes in the process of industrialization. Timmermann regards historical research and econometric structural analysis as the main pillars of any development theory or strategy. These topics are given much more space than is usual in textbooks on economic development.

Chapter I starts with some empirical aspects of development, especially the typical change in the structure of production. Timmermann shows that the degree of linearity of a triangulated input-output matrix typically decreases with increasing per capita income. Another concept used to describe the degree of development is that of fundamental flows of an economy, i.e. those flows of commodities between sectors which are much above some average value for the whole economy. It can be shown that typically the number of such fundamental flows is much higher in developed than in less developed countries. These findings are based on the author's own research and give an interesting and new insight into the change of the sectoral structure in the process of economic development, Timmermann then presents historical experiences of a group of countries in the context of stage theories. He gives a brief description of the process of industrialization in a number of countries. This chapter brings little that is new for those who are familiar with the writings of W.W.Rostov, but may well serve as an introduction to the history of economic development.

Chapter II deals with theories of economic development. It starts with Quesnay's *Tableau Economique*, Marxian, classical and neo-classical growth models. It also deals with the theoretical and empirical efforts to cope with

the determinants of "technical progress" as embodied in capital or in labour or by relating it to research and development expenditures. In this context table 17, in which Timmermann relates research and development expenditures to the growth rate, is somewhat misleading as the problem is not the relation between these two figures but between the R and D expenditures and the unexplained rest of the growth rate (technical progress).

Timmermann then gives a description and critique of the models of dualism of the Lewis, Fei-Ranis and Jorgenson type. Unfortunately he does not present more recent versions of this group of theories which describe either the problem of the agricultural surplus transfer (Zarembka, Dixit, Hornby) or that of growing dualism (Bacha and Taylor).

The third chapter presents theories of international trade, such as the vent for surplus theory, the pure theory of trade and neomarxist versions of unequal exchange. The latter is rejected, as it postulates international exploitation whenever the real wage rate between trading countries is different, even if the difference is reduced by trade replacing a situation of autarky. Timmermann then investigates the colonial heritage of developing countries and its impact on the prospects of development and the Singer Prebisch model.

The last chapter deals with strategies of economic development, in particular with balanced versus unbalanced growth and import substitution versus export promotion. The linkage of this chapter to the theoretical ones is not as strong as could be, and some strategic concepts are not treated at all - such as the strategy of intersectoral resource transfer or the strategy of rural development. Almost no reference is made to the basic needs strategy.

The book is highly selective. Problems of poverty, income distribution, unemployment, land reform, intersectoral migration and flow of resources between sectors, the role of money and finance and foreign aid are hardly treated at all. However, it gives a good insight into the process of industrialization and combines historical description with economic theory and empirical research on "typical" structural changes.

Hans-Bernd Schäfer

KLAUS SEELAND: Ein nicht zu entwickelndes Tal. Traditionelle Bambustechnologie und Subsistenzwirtschaft in Ost-Nepal. (Konkrete Fremde, Vol. 1). Diessenhofen (Switzerland): Verlag Rügger, 1980. 168 pages, SFr. 28.-

To scholars as well as to amateurs, the title of this study: "A valley that cannot be developed. Traditional bamboo technology and subsistence economy in East-Nepal" promises interesting reading about the case you too may have been looking for: are there places in this world that cannot be developed any