Productivity, technology, and industrial development: a case study in textiles

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Office of the Publisher (EXTOP) [Corporate Author]

A realistic assessment of productivity in a particular country is essential in determining the least-cost technology for an industrial project. Yet the large differences in productivity between industrial and developing countries are rarely taken into account. This book investigates productivity differences in technically similar cotton textile mills in Kenya, the Philippines, and the United Kingdom and places these comparisons within a larger international context. It examines the concept of best practice, derives measures of the total factor productivity of plants in the developing countries relative to best practice, and uses economic and engineering information to identify the reasons for the measured differences in productivity. Those reasons include differences not only in the skill of the work force but also in the technical competence of managers and in the range of products manufactured. The book suggests economic policies for achieving greater productivity from existing plants and draws implications for the transfer of technology and the design and implementation of industrial projects in developing countries.
Introduction

In designing strategic industrial policy in Northern Ireland, the clothing and textiles sector poses a major challenge. Although in continual decline, its rate of decline has undoubtedly been slowed by the use of large-scale grant aid to prop up ailing firms whose collapse would have destabilized an economy that was already under siege as a result of civil unrest. In other words, it proved very difficult to attract more modern industries to replace any employment loss from the decline of the traditional specialization in clothing and textiles. The proposed study considers manufacturing planning in textile industry as a means to reduce the impact of declining employment in the sector.

References


Footwear Industry in India in Global Context

The leather industry is one of the oldest traditional industries. The footwear constitutes a substantial proportion of the leather industry and its share in the leather industry is continuously going up. India currently produces 2065 million pairs of different categories of footwear consisting of 909 million pairs of leather footwear, 100 million pairs of leather shoe uppers and 1056 pairs of non-leather footwear.