

Naris Wittayalai 2009: The Roles of Human Capital and Technology on Economic Growth of Thailand. Master of Economics, Major Field: Economics, Department of Economics.
Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Sumalee Santipollavut, Ph.D. 160 pages.

The objectives of this research are 1) to study the general status of human capital and technology in Thailand, and 2) to study roles of human capital and technology on economic growth in Thailand for the whole economy and in each production sectors. The research employed annual secondary data over 1977-2005 and analyzed by descriptive and quantitative methods. Multiple regression analysis was used to develop the model to measure the effect of.

The result of this research revealed that general, during the first to fifth National and Social Development Plan status of development, there were emphasized to the expansion of the educational quantity. For the following plans attention was switched to the educational quality and focused on human development to create ability and skills of analytic thought in order to harmonize with the socio-economic changes. In current technology aspect, they focus on application of the exist technology to support production sector's requirement and to increase the competitive ability of country and to encourage technological self-support both of endured quantitative and qualitative technology. The analyzed result found that roles of low level human capital on economic growth in Thailand and Agriculture sector, Manufacturing sector, Construction sector, Electricity sector, and Services sector more than high level human capital. Contrary, roles of high level human capital on economic growth Mining and Quarrying sector, Transportation and Communication sector, and Commercial sector more than low level human capital. Technological progress have positive effects on economic growth of most sectors, exempt Construction sector.

From the result of this research, it is recommended that government should increase more attention to human capital development in accordance with each sector needs. Technology development have to mutually emphasize on quality and application. Government also should develop the country labor quality in order to be the efficient capital factor and to support technological changes. These will result to increase further economic development in Thailand.

Student's signature

Thesis Advisor's signature