

23. Transport

= arteries of the Earth => transportation of people, goods, energy, raw materials and services
= *the more developed the country, the more developed the transportation system*
- e.g. highways, HSR, international airports, etc.

Transport

...is important because:

- it allows *urban areas to expand*
- it improves (supports) *regional development*
- it affects the *volume and distance of migration* (it overcomes the effect of distance)
- it has serious *environmental impacts*

Transport costs

= influenced by:

- *distance*
- *terrain* (topography, relief)
- *type (form) of transport*
- *type of product* (raw materials vs. manufactured goods vs. ...)
- *degree of competition* (EMDCs vs. ELDCs)
- *government policies*
- *operating costs* (fuel, wages, equipment, repairs and insurance, etc.)

Government (transport) policy

= significant role in transport

Economic reasons:

- ❖ *high investments vs. long-term returns* (few private companies wish to invest in transport infrastructure)
- ❖ improvements in accessibility => *areas become more attractive for new development*

Social reasons:

- ❖ subsidised buses and trains play important role in *remote rural areas* (without subsidy there is not sufficient demand to keep the service in operation) but also in *urban transport*

Political factors:

- ❖ solutions of environmental problems caused by transportation, especially in urban areas

Forms of transport

- *road*
- *rail*
- *water (ocean)*
- *inland canals*
- *air*
- *pipelines*

Keywords

transport costs/policies/forms, subsidies, investments,