

Boonma Seangkla, 2002. *People Participation in Local Administration of Present*

Constitution : Case Study of Namphong Municipality, Namphong

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Abstract

The aims of the study of People Participation in Local Administration of the Present Constitution : A Case Study of Namphong Municipality, Namphong District, Khon Kaen Province were as follows : 1) to study the knowledge and understanding of people participation in local administration of the present constitution ; 2) to study the opinion of the people to participate in local administration ; 3) to study the people's needs to participate in local administration of the present constitution ;and 4) to study relationships between personal background , knowledge and understanding and opinion in people's needs to participate according to present constitution in Namphong Municipality. Four hundred voters were selected as the samples of the study and a questionnaire was used to obtain the required information. The statistics for analyzing the data were percentage, mean, standard deviation and Chi-square test to decide relationships between these studied variables.

The findings :

1. Most of the voters are men, aged between 41-50 years. Educational qualifications of the majority of voters is primary education . Most of the voters are married and living together. The main occupation of these voters is hired labour . The average expenditure and income of these voters are lower than 5000 baht per month.
2. Most of the voters have exercised voting in the past elections for more than three times. They know about election from the community leaders. These voters reveal that they have exercised voting in the election due to the compulsory constitution (they will be denied some of their rights because of abstaining votes). The incentive of voters for exercising their votes is the credibility of the candidates.
3. Most voters are found to have a good knowledge of participation in local government. The score of knowledge of voters in this study ranged between 7 - 10.
4. The opinion of voters in this study is found to be at the middle level. This opinion is the most related to the means or procedures to recruit the administrative team.

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5. The pattern of participation needs that gains the highest attention of the voters is the control and monitoring of administrators.

6. The statistical test of this study indicates that personal background, which includes age, educational qualifications, marital status, income and expenditure, knowledge and understanding and opinion are related to the pattern of people participation in local government. The statistical test also shows that there is no relation between sex and pattern of people participation in local government.