

ABSTRACT

Thesis Title : The Social Impacts of Illegal Foreign Labour Control
Policy : A Case Study of Satun Province

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This research is aimed at studying causes and situation of illegal foreign labour employment in Satun Province, illegal foreign labour control policy and its social impacts in terms of crimes and health during 1996-1999.

The research methodology used in this thesis consists documentary research and field research. The former includes official documents such as relevant laws , regulations, reports and articles. The latter is the observation and the in-depth interview of highly ranking officials in Satun Province from the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare as well as the interview of local employers.

It is found that the majority of illegal foreign labors are Burmese migrant labors since Satun Province has a along coastal line connecting Myanmar by the Andaman Sea. These illegal labors are mostly employed in fishery and the industry involving fishery. Some are engaged in agriculture such as oil palm and rubber plantation. As a result of

the implementation of the illegal foreign labor control policy, it is found that employers registered their illegal foreign labors much fewer than expected. Furthermore, the employers take opportunity from such policy by bringing newly illegal migrated foreign labors whose their date of immigration are unknown to register, claiming that those labors entered into Thailand before the period that was allowed by the policy. Some employers registered only some parts of their illegal foreign labors. Considering the social impacts of such policy in term of the number of crimes in Satun Province, it is found that there were not many cases among which are, however, quite horrified. On the part of social impacts concerning health in term of the number of patients having diseases forbidden by law, the Work of Foreign Labor Act, it is found that there were not many cases of those labors carrying such diseases, among which the Tuberculosis is mostly found following by the disease resulting from sexual indulgence the Syphilis and the Lymphatic Filariasis or the elephant leg disease, accordingly. It should also be noted that fewer than half of illegal foreign labors were brought to the health inspection. Since some illegal foreign labors having contagious diseases in the early stage have not yet been reported themselves to the health inspection, it is, therefore, quite risky that those dangerous diseases might be harmful to the Thai people associated with those labors. Although the social impacts of such policy are seen not serious in Satun Province, the Government, however, should actively enforce necessary measures to control illegal foreign labors and should not extend permission for those labors to work in Thailand anymore.