

ABSTRACT

Thesis Title : Factors affecting the Employment of Burmese Migrant
Workers. : A Case Study of Ratchaburi province.
Student's Name : Mr.Phiraphong Khusin
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Advisory Committee :

1. Assistant Professor Saowalux Sukkawirach Chair person
2. Dr. Arasdharm Promma
3. Assistant Professor Satian Hormkajorn

The aim of this research is to study factors affecting the employment of Burmese migrant workers in Ratchaburi Province during 1998-1999 in private sector that has been granted admission to employ Burmese migrant workers according to the Cabinet resolution in August 3, 1999.

The research methodology employed in this thesis includes the documentary research and the survey research. The former uses the government official documents, books, articles from academic journals, and research reports concerning causal factors of employing migrant labours. The latter is substantially used in the form of in-depth interview of 11 entrepreneurs in 8 business enterprises : orchard and vegetable plantation, sugarcane plantation, pig farming, mining, rice mill, brick factory, pottery, and construction. Such in-depth interview is also conducted to ten relevant government officials in The Ministry of Labour and social welfares.

Ten factors affecting the employment of Burmese migrant workers are proposed to be tested as follow : (i) the lower cost of wages. (ii) the more convenient procurement of Burmese workers, (iii) the industrious nature of Burmese workers, (iv) the scarcity of Thai workers, (v) the sympathetic attitude toward Burmese workers, (vi) the supervision, (vii) the lower cost of welfares, (viii) the honesty of Burmese workers, (ix) the traits of Burmese workers, (x) the enforcement of law.

As a result, five factors are found crucial to the employment of Burmese workers in Ratchaburi Province , those of which are ranked in priority as follow :

1. the lower cost of wages
2. the more convenient procurement of Burmese workers and the sympathetic attitude toward Burmese workers
3. the scarcity of Thai workers and the industrious nature of Burmese