

: FAILURE / INTERPELLATION / CONTROLLING / ADMINISTRATION
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Interpellation is the measure which the Member of Parliament can exercise control over the Minister on any matter within the scope of his authority. The Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand B.E. 2534 provides new procedures concerning interpellation contradictory to the past. That is, the reply to interpellation will be made in the Government Gazette except the interpellations submitted by the leader of the Opposition or deemed by the president of the Senate or the House of Representatives as cases of urgency or benefits to the general public or to the administration of State affairs which the president of either the Senate or the House may require the minister to reply in a sitting of such House. The reason for changes in the procedure of answering the interpellation is that the interpellations could not effectively control the administration of State affairs. This study, however, finds that the interpellations are still useful and can be used as a measure of controlling the administration of State affairs to a certain extent. That is, the interpellations placed in the agenda are matters of significance to national interests and should be answered in a sitting of the House by the Minister. Such procedure will provide a forum for exchanges of opinions beneficial to solution of national problem and development whereas the other procedure of answering the interpellations in the Government Gazette cannot provide the Members of Parliament with an opportunity to ask for more clarifications on the complex issues from the responsible ministers. The old procedure will make the question - answer time in parliament more useful to the general public. The usefulness of this procedure is well recognized by the countries using the parliamentary system of democracy, namely, the United Kingdom, the Federal Republic of Germany and Japan. Therefore the old procedure of answering the interpellation in the sitting of the House should be readopted in the future constitutional amendment.