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AKANEEVUT SISAWASDI: POLITICAL PARTICIPATION IN THE SANITARY DISTRICT

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This research focuses on the study of major factors which pose problems in people's political participation in the administration of sanitary districts. A comparative study of people's political participation is made on the models of elected sanitary committee chairmen and the appointed ones. The questionnaire response rate from both sample groups is 91.27%.

The study has found that the lack of political participation in this kind of administration stemmed from ignorance, poor understanding and lack of interest by the people as the main contributing factors, while the from of administration has nothing to do the lack of political participation. It may be concluded that (1) people have low understanding and knowledge about politics and administration, especially in the exercise of their import rights in the administration of sanitary districts. The difference in Chi-square values derived from both sample groups is not over 0.05 (2) People give higher priority of exerxising their rights of voting in the election of members of parliament than in the election of the sanitary district councilors, as they are conscious of their important duty of voting in parliamentary election. The difference in opinion of both sample groups expressed a significant Chi-square value of about 0.05 (3) Most people agree that the success of the sanitation area administration depends on the proper development of from and organization. The Chi-square value derived from both groups are significantly different at 0.00 (4) Most people, agree that low cooperation either to appointed or elected sanitary district councilors obstructed against efficient sanitary district work. To overcome this problems, the people should be imparted with the knowledge of democracy and measures have to be found to draw their attention to the sanitary district activities and keep hope in them. Them it may be adjusted and modified into appropriate from to better serve the needs of the people.