

##C330035 : MAJOR GOVERNMENT

KEY WORD: THE POLITICAL ROLES/PARTY BRANCHES

CHAIWAT VEERANAN : POLITICAL ROLES OF THE PARTY BRANCHES : A
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This study aims to look over the nature of behavioral roles and the participation in politics among party branches of the Democrat Party. It also aims to investigate whether the roles assumed by the party branches have contributed to the strengthening of the political power base of the Party. It also targets at whether the roles demonstrated are in line with the objectives of the party branches establishment, which aims to develop the quality of being a mass political party. Moreover, another aim is also set for the study of all possible problems and obstacles in the activities of the party branches.

The study procedures are composed of the application of documents and the interviews of the chairmen of the party branches within Bangkok Metropolitan. The interviews were carried out in a detailed manner, enabling the interviewer to really interrogate in line with what has been set as the study objectives and problems.

The research has found that the roles of the party branches do strengthen the political power based of the Party; however, the party branches emphasize their roles of campaigning for the candidates of the party and the possibility of the increase in number of the party members. As for the roles of educating people of politics, the Party Policies and the Party activities, or the roles of being the coordinators of the party members and the Party Headquarter, of the activities of the party branches, they have not seriously been taken into consideration or put into practice. The role of recruiting the candidates on national scale has not been distributed into the party branches. This results from the lack of budget, personnels, official party branch offices and the under emphasis of the roles of the party branches. Consequently, the party branches are merely the attempts to establish the social recognition of the Party, and not the form of development towards the idealistic party which is supposed to represent the people in any aspect.