

The three objectives of the study were (1) to examine the readiness of the subdistrict administrative organizations in transferred education management, (2) to find out the attitude of those concerned toward transferred education management, and (3) to identify the problems of the education management transfer and to seek some suggestions on how to prepare the subdistrict administrative organizations for this function. There were two sample groups in the study. The first group consisted of 100 members of the subdistrict administrative organizations in Singhanakhon District, Songkhla Province. The second group were 99 people concerned with education management. They were school administrators and teaching staff in Singhanakhon District, Songkhla Province. A questionnaire was employed to collect the data. SPSS for Windows were used for data analysis. Frequency percentage, mean and standard deviation were used to describe the data, while t-test and F-test were used to test the hypotheses.

The findings were summed up as follows:

More than half of the members of the subdistrict administrative organizations were males, aged 30-40. Most of them were married and earned at least a Bachelor's degree. They earned a monthly income of 5,000-10,000 baht. They had held a position in the subdistrict administrative organization for 1-2 years. More than one third were not members of any social groups. The majority had never attended any training courses or seminars on education management transfer and received a little information about it. The important information source was television. They had a moderate knowledge about education management transfer.

As a whole, the first sample group thought that the subdistrict administrative organizations were moderately ready. All the aspects found to be moderately ready were coordination direction, planning, evaluation, and structural management, respectively.

The management factors were also found to be moderately ready. These factors were personnel, office, building, material, technology, and finance.

The second sample group consisted the mostly females, aged 51-60. Most of them were married. Nearly all had a Bachelor's degree, earned a monthly income of 20,001-30,000 baht, and were teachers. They had worked for 21 years or more.

The teachers also had a little knowledge about transferring education management to the subdistrict administrative organization. Regarding their attitude, they were not willing to be under the subdistrict administrative organization, mostly because they think the organization was not ready to carry out this function.

When the hypotheses were tested, sex, marital status, and holding a position in the subdistrict administrative organization were significantly related to their attitude toward the transfer of education management at the 0.05 level. Besides, sex, marital status and knowledge and understanding about the transfer of education management were significantly related to their opinion on the readiness of the organization at the 0.05 level, too.

Some problem were that the subdistrict administrative organizations were not ready for education management in terms of educational personnel and budget to support it.

It was therefore recommended that the subdistrict administrative organizations should prepare themselves in all dimensions, i.e., education personnel, budget, managerial skills, and leadership. The leader must have vision and show his/her capability in managing education. A good relationship between the organization and the school should be created.