

This thesis aims at an analysis of the Volunteer Defence Act B.E. 2497 as amended in B.E. 2504. Emphasis is placed on the problems and obstacles restricting the development and progress of the volunteer defence activity in Thailand.

According to this research, it has been found that the volunteer defence is not much developed or successful because:

1. The existing law is not appropriate to the situation and the changing environment.
2. The policy of the agencies concerned is not clear enough for the officer to follow or implement.

However in this thesis, only the legal factor will be deeply discussed. As far as the legal issues are concerned, there are 6 issues to be examined:

1. Suitability in creating the judicial person status upon the Volunteer Defence Corp . (VDC) without allocating the budget to such an organ.
2. Unclearness of the functions and powers of the VDC central committee.
3. Incompatibility of the VDC with the structure and organization of the administrative systems of the state. Now, there is no VDC at the local level while the administrative systems of the state course the central regional and local levels.
4. Qualifications of the VDC members which are too specific and rigid.
5. Disunity of the corps.
6. Unclearness of the level of the corps.

Therefore, the VDC Act needs the amendments, especially sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 30. Other problems such as the unclearness of the state policy, lack of public relations, lack of the corp's own communication network and discipline of the VDC members must be corrected for the sake of the VDC's efficiency and dignity to perform its functions as assigned by the law.