ABSTRACT

Title of Research Paper : Opinions of the Officers of the Rubber Estate Fund on

the Rubber Plantation Project in the Northeastern Region

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The main objectives of the study were to find out the opinions of the officers of the Rubber Estate Fund on the rubber plantation project in the Northeastern Region and to identify their work obstacles in order to use the research results to improve the project implementation in the future.

The findings were listed as follows:

- 1. Opinions about the inputs. It was found that they got access to the information from the headquarters at a high level. However, different types of support from the headquarters—cooperation, follow—ups and evaluation, and knowledge and experience of the officers—were all found to be at a moderate level.
- 2. The officers of the Rubber Estate Fund agreed with the method to attract project participants and the qualifications of the project participant at a moderate level. Also, the survey of the land for growing rubber trees, had to depend on officers from other agencies, so the schedule cannot be exactly set. Academic assistance was not given to a full extent. There was not enough space to store material. Therefore the project operation was found to be moderate.
- 3. All the dimensions of the output were found to be at a high level.

 These five dimensions were increase in farmers' income, increase in production, employment generation, increase in forest land, and job satisfaction.

The following recommendations were made.

The headquarters of the Rubber Estate Fund should allocate a larger amount of budget to the project to meet the agriculturists' demand. It should also provide office facilities and equipment to increase work efficiency. Guest lecturers from other

agencies should be invited to give an additional knowledge about rubber plantation and marketing to the officers of the Rubber Estate Fund.