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MAIYANAT PONJAN: PARTICIPATION AND FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH PARTICIPATION OF FEMALE LABOUR IN TRADE UNION OF THE TEXTILE GARMENT INDUSTRY IN SAMUTPRAKAN PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISORS: PRAPHAPHAN UN-OB, Ed.D., SUPAVAN PHLAINOI, Ed.D., KOWIT KRACHANG, D.Tech.Sc., 167 p. ISBN 974-662-876-3

The purposes of this research were to study trade unions' activities, participation of female labourers and factors associated with participation of female labourers in trade unions of the textile garment industry in Samutprakan province. The data of presidents of trade unions were collected by using questionnaires. The data of 400 female labourers who were trade unionists in the textile garment industry in Samutprakan province, chosen by multi-stage random sampling, were collected by interview. The collected data were analyzed by percentage, arithmetic mean, standard deviation, Pearson product moment correlation, and multiple regression analysis.

The research results revealed that most the common activity of trade unions was to hold big general meetings. Most of the female labourers participated in activities at moderate level and they participated mostly to receive benefits from activities.

The factors positively associated with participation of female labourers were attitude towards trade union, expectation about privilege from participation in trade union, and working ages. All factors can predict participation of female labours at the confidence level of 8.3%.

These research results suggest that female labourers should be interested and participate in all activities of trade union of the textile garment industry. Important activities are planning, implementation, receiving benefits and following up and evaluating. Participation may solve the female labourers' problem. On the other hand, government servants and private development organizations associated with labour and work at the region level should promote trade unions and give labourers knowledge and understanding about privileges from participation in trade unions. After giving assistance, such organizations should follow-up the trade unions' activities and give advice.