Monchai Pattarathummawong 2006: A Comparative Study of an Optimal Wage Rate and

Empirical Wage Rate Classified by Education in Construction Sector; A Case Study of Italianthai

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The labor in construction sector had low level of education and got labor wage rate lower than

minimum legal wage rate. The main objectives of this research were to study a comparative of an optimal

wage rate and empirical wage rate classified by education in construction sector and to study determinate

variables related to empirical wage rate in construction sector.

In this study of an optimal wage rate used secondary data during the period of 1988-2005 and Cobb-

Douglas production function showed the effect of determinate variables coefficient first. Then, the coefficient

of variable related to marginal productivity of labor that equalize optimal wage rate classified by education.

An empirical wage rate in construction sector classified by education used primary data that are obtained from

questionnaires answering by 400 workers showed the effect to labor wage rate in labor market

The results of a comparative of an empirical wage rate and optimal wage rate in construction sector

found the labor in construction sector got empirical wage rate lower than optimal wage rate for every level of

education. The level of education was not determinate variables in construction sector that labor who lower

primary level got empirical wage rate less than optimal wage rate 52.6%, graduated primary level got

empirical wage rate less than optimal wage rate 46.6%, graduated secondary level got empirical wage rate less

than optimal wage rate 45.8%, graduated others education got empirical wage rate less than optimal wage rate

37.2%. The level of education in construction sector had effected to the change rate of an empirical wage rate

and the change rate of an optimal wage rate in construction sector. The low level of education of labor got

wage rate less than the high level of education of labor. This is probably because the labor market in not

perfect competition.

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Student's signature