

ABSTRACT

Shortage of the Bus Drivers in Bangkok - Thonburi: A Study Concerning Living and Working Conditions and Attitudes of the Bus Drivers

This thesis concerns living and working conditions and attitudes of the bus drivers in Bangkok - Thonburi area and from its adjacent provinces as well. The reason the author has selected this topic is the importance of the problem of high driver turn-over and the subsequent shortage of bus drivers that occur. This shortage of bus drivers is an important problem because it creates inconvenience among passengers.

The author has studied and researched the living and working condition of the bus drivers in Bangkok - Thonburi and from its adjacent provinces. Findings indicate the reasons for the scarcity of bus drivers and recommends that all concerns find ways and means of solution.

This field survey research was conducted by means of stratified random sampling. Enumerators were sent out with questionnaires to interview 227 drivers from a total population of 1854.

The result of this study indicates that the general standard of living and working conditions of bus drivers are rather low due to an uncertain income.

The working conditions can be characterized as follows: too long working hours, hazy work, strict regulations and unfavourable welfare services. In addition, most of the bus drivers in the sample resided quite far from their working place. This created such inconvenience in travel that they tended to resign in order to take up jobs as taxi drivers and drivers of up-country trucks.

If the findings of this study cannot receive their due attention and be improved, the shortage of the bus drivers in Bangkok - Thonburi area will not be solved.

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