

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
OF THAILAND: A CASE STUDY OF THE INSPECTION PERFORMANCE  
IN AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIVES IN 1961**

*by Pol. Capt. M.L. Prasiddhisilp Singhara*

National economic development, in simple terms, relates to an increase in national production, the betterment of the educational system, ample health centres, housing and nourishment of the population. These development needs are the foundation of good government and will lead to progress in political, economic and social welfare, and bring increased happiness to the populace.

With these ends in view, the present Government has undertaken the task of developing the economy of the nation by setting up various development projects, the first of which was initiated in B.E. 2504.

The success of each depends on the control and coordination between planners and the executors. Because the value and the success of each project has to be judged by an expert, H.E. the Prime Minister has appointed project assessors (inspectors) in the fields of agriculture, cooperatives, industries and energy, communications, commerce and public health. These inspectors have the task of assessing the value of each project and reporting on the success and/or failure of each.

A study of the results of these assessments in agriculture and cooperatives yielded the following results:

**I. Problems concerning the working of the assessment board**

Assessment of the value of projects under the national economic development program was initially not considered to be necessary and was not at the beginning included in the programme. It was inevitable that works on assessment would meet with multiple problems because there was no previous planning for work of this kind. Problems which have subsequently been encountered concern the execution of the work, budgets of the assessment board, and problems of personnel.

**II. Problems concerning the execution of work**

The appointment of assessors has been done in a haphazard manner. Most of the

---

assessors are officials of the ministry directly interested in the project. Some are officials in the Office of Prime Minister who are fully occupied in their jobs and cannot spare the time for work on assessment.

### III. Problems concerning budgets

There is no fixed budget for inspection work. Funds come from reserved accounts and the amount is about half of what is necessary for work on assessment. It is, thus, inevitable that work on assessment is intermittent and detailed assessment impossible.

### IV. Problems of personnel

It is of course important that those who assess the value of a project be conversant in the subject-matter and understand the problems of the work they undertake to assess. A lack of qualified personnel has been an obstacle in the working of the assessment board.

### V. Problems concerning reports of assessors

It is important that reports prepared by assessors be studied and analysed before being submitted to policy makers for consideration. Reports are invariably long and when they are submitted without study and analysis by experts beforehand, they are of no use whatsoever to the policy makers or planners.

จากวิทยานิพนธ์เรื่อง : การปฏิบัติตามแผนพัฒนาการเศรษฐกิจแห่งชาติ :  
 บทศึกษาเฉพาะกรณีการตรวจสอบผลปฏิบัติตาม  
 แผนและโครงการด้านเกษตรและสหกรณ์ พ.ศ.  
 2504

โดย ร.ต.อ. ม.ด. ประดิษฐ์ศิลป์ สิงหรา  
 อศ.บ., รป.ม. (เกียรตินิยม "ดี")  
 มหาวิทยาลัยธรรมศาสตร์ 2506  
 (ภาษาไทย 9 + 146 + 3 หน้า)

---