



ANNUAL REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

ISSN 0857-6831





The Department of Public Welfare (DPW)

Krung Kasem Road, Bangkok 10100, Thailand

Tel. 2813199 Fax. 2800284

E-mail: prachuab@loxinfo.co.th

E-mail: adoption@loxinfo.co.th

[http: //www.infonews.co.th/DPW](http://www.infonews.co.th/DPW)

Counselling Service Center: Call 1507 or 2801591, 2813190

Helpline on Child Labour and Child Prostitution: Call 1507 or 2828883



**The Royal Ceremonial Emblem commemorating
The Fiftieth Anniversary (Golden Jubilee)
Celebrations of His Majesty's Accession to the Throne**

PREFACE

One of the vital social policies of the Thai government is to promote social services provided by governmental and non-governmental organizations. It is expected that such promotion would be a way to help improve people's living condition, and at the same time, foster their moral values. The Department of Public Welfare has accordingly long been designated as the focal point in delivering social services to people in need up to the present.

In an attempt to enhance the security of families, communities, society, and the nation, the Department of Public Welfare has tried to expand its service network to reach all the disadvantaged all over the country since 1940. This is according to the belief that the independent well-being life of the disadvantaged would bring about the security of all the institutions in the country.

This 1996 Annual Report is presented with the hope that it will be a useful literature for governmental and non-governmental organizations and people interested in social services provision.

Ampol Singhakowin.

(Ampol Singhakowin)

Director-General

Department of Public Welfare

CONTENTS

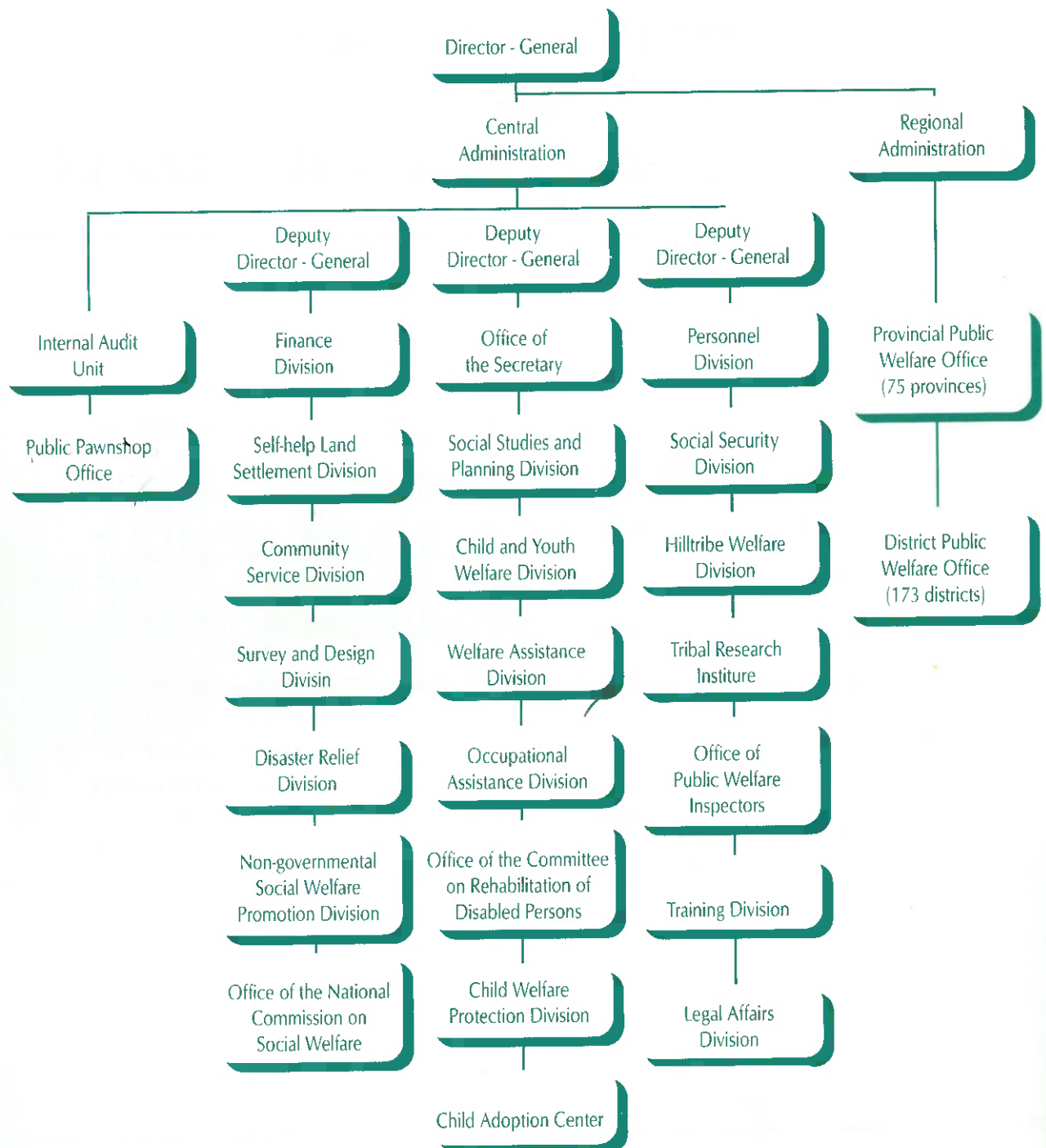
	Page
PREFACE	3
RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE	5
ORGANIZATION CHART	6
PRESENT EXECUTIVE	7
BUDGET	8
PERSONNEL	9
WORK ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 1996	10
★ Child Welfare and Protection Programs	11
★ Women Welfare and Protection Programs	20
★ Welfare Programs for the Elderly	26
★ Welfare Programs for the Destitute	32
★ Welfare and Rehabilitation Programs for the Disabled	35
★ Disaster Relief	40
★ Welfare Programs for the Family and Community	43
★ Promotion of Non-governmental Social Welfare	51
★ Self-help Land Settlement Development	57
★ Hilltribe Welfare and Development	62
★ Social Welfare and Social Work Research and Development	66

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

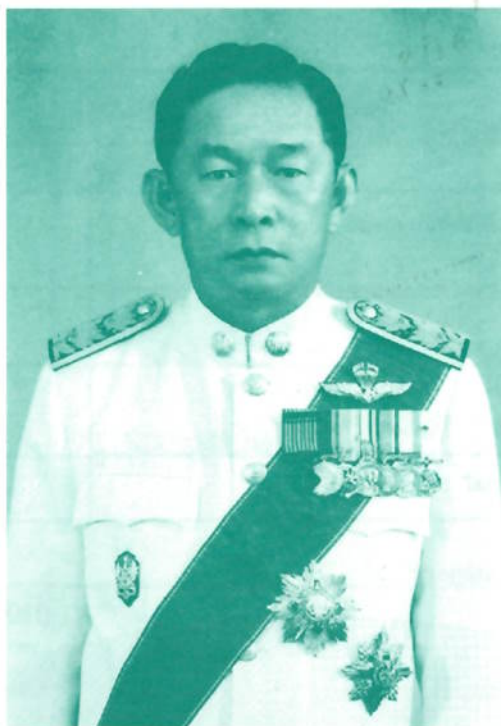
1. Providing social services and protection to people in need, e.g. children and youth, women, the elderly, the destitute, persons with disabilities, disaster victims, hilltribe and landless people including socially distressed people in order to enable them to gain self-reliance and lead well-being lives;
2. Promoting and supporting social services provision operated by the private sectors;
3. Making recommendations on social welfare policies;
4. Conducting social work studies in order to help develop social welfare system;
5. Being a focal point and a coordination center on social welfare information.

ORGANIZATION CHART

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE



PRESENT EXECUTIVE



Mr Ampol Singhakowin
Director-General



Mr Songthan Sawaneeya
Deputy Director-General



Miss Saovapak Supanit
Deputy Director-General

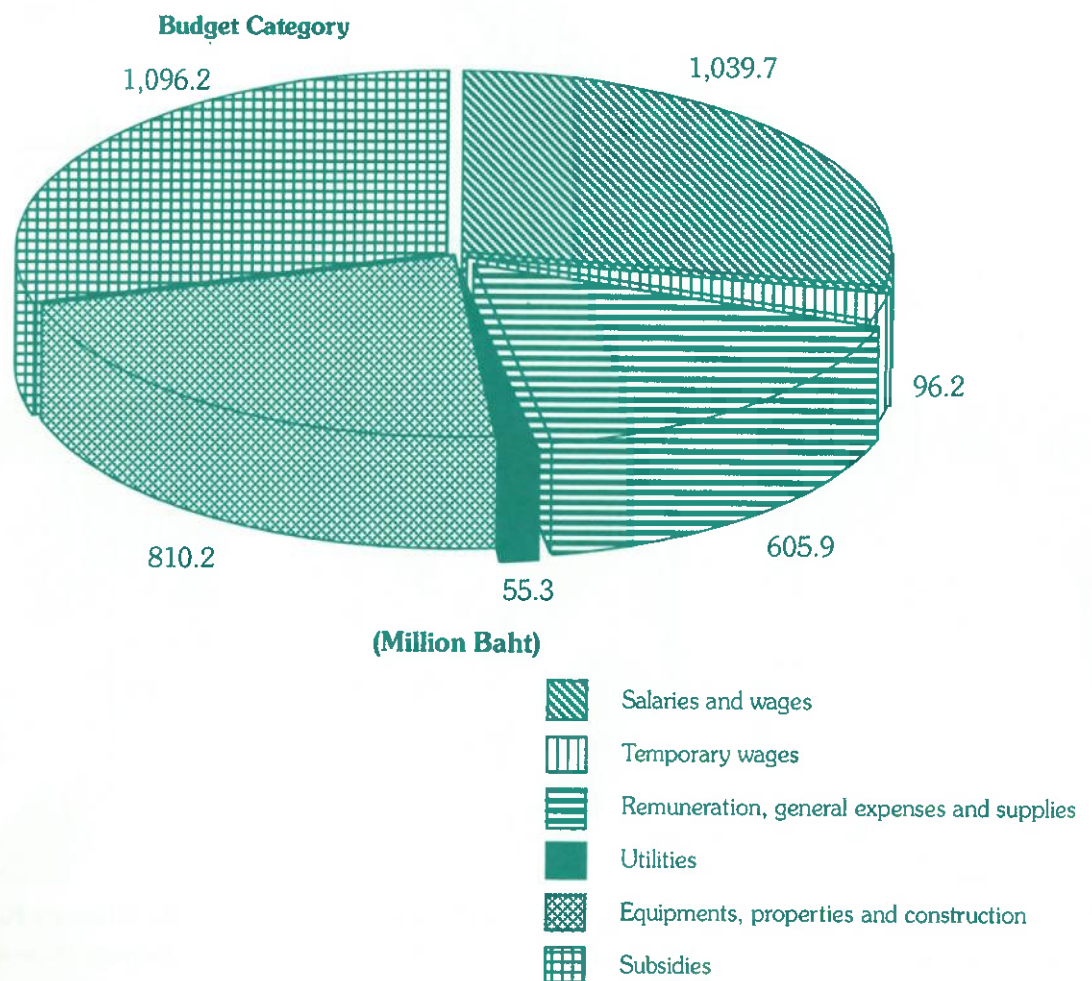


Mr Charan Kewalinsalit
Deputy Director-General

BUDGET IN 1996

(Million Baht)

Budget Plan	Budget	
	Amount	Percentage
1. Social Welfare and Social Work Administration	176.4	4.8
2. Social Welfare and Social Work	2,148.7	58.0
3. Land Settlement Development and Occupational Promotion	908.5	24.5
4. Hilltribe Development	319.4	8.6
5. Prevention and Control of Drugs	3.7	0.1
6. Prevention and Control of AIDS	57.5	1.6
7. Rural Development	89.3	2.4
Total	3,703.5	100.0

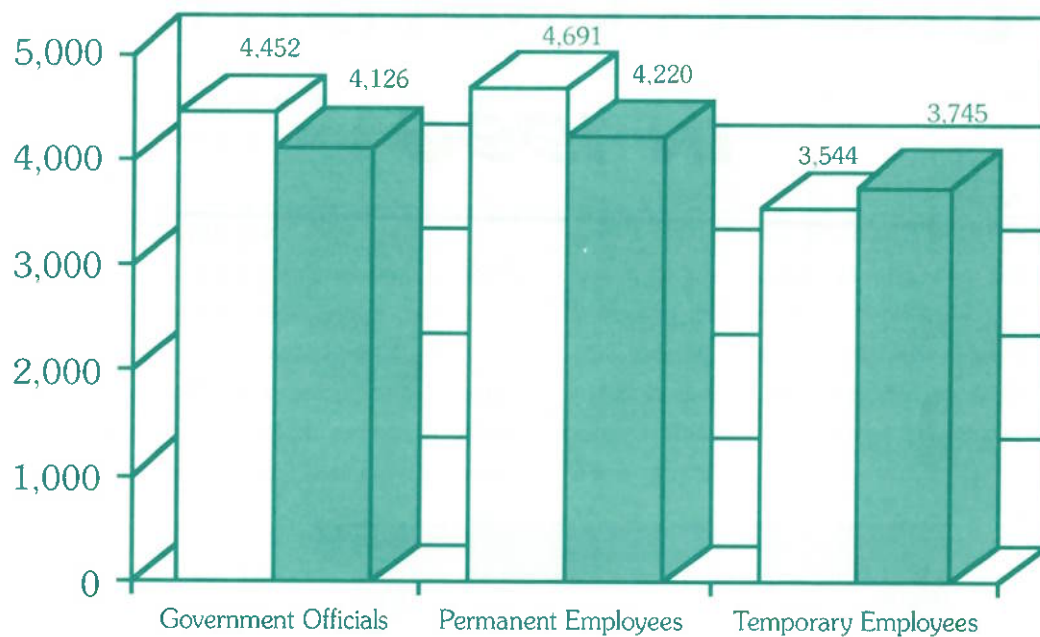


PERSONNEL IN 1996

(Person)

Type	Earmarked	Recruited
Government Officials	4,452	4,126
Permanent Employees	4,691	4,220
Temporary Employees	3,544	3,745
Total	12,687	12,091

(Person)



□ Earmarked

■ Recruited

WORK ACCOMPLISHMENTS
IN 1996

CHILD WELFARE AND PROTECTION PROGRAMS

The Department of Public Welfare has been rendering welfare services to children and youth ranging in age from birth up to 18 years who are orphans, abandoned, abused, labour exploited or with behavioral problems. The programs are aimed at developing their physical, psychological, mental and social conditions which can be categorized as below.

1. Residential Care

Residential home for children, reception home, and welfare protection home as "substitute home" is considered the last resort when other welfare services cannot serve best interest of the orphaned, abandoned, street children or children lacking temporary parental care. These welfare institutions are made available to correspond with the child's needs, age, sex and social milieu. Followings are types of welfare institutions and services provided therein.

1.1 Home for Children

Currently, 20 homes for babies and for both boys and girls have been set up to render care to the orphaned, abandoned, and vagrant children. Services in such homes include accommodation, basic necessities, basic and vocational education, recreation, moral training, vocational training and employment placement.

All of which are directed toward physical, spiritual, intellectual, social and vocational skill development to enable these children to become self-reliant and productive citizen in the future.

Collateral to services in the Home, these children residents are also encouraged to study in the higher educational institutions outside the Home to integrate them into the society. Support is also given to the children participating in the inheritance of the **Thai Classical Music Project initiated by H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn** to study the Thai classical music with the well-experienced teacher in Bangbal District of Phra Nakhon Sri Ayutthaya province.

1.2 Reception Home and Welfare Protection Home

There are 3 reception homes for boys and girls and 2 child welfare protection homes to cater for the needs of the vagrant, abused, and exploited children including children with behavioral problems. Board and lodging, basic and vocational education are provided to the children residents in addition to psychological rehabilitation in order to upgrade their quality of life in the future.



1.3 Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Children

The center offers vocational training for, firstly, the children previously under care in the various Homes for Children who complete basic education and are unable to continue higher education, and secondly the disadvantaged children living with their own families. This is to equip them with appropriate skills for earning their future living. Such training is arranged in accordance with their educational background, personality, aptitude, and interest of all the children trainees in

various fields i.e. mechanics, typesetting, electricians, dressmaking, barber services. As part of the efforts to enhance the skills of these trainees, some are sent to such external organizations as the Institutes for Skill Development, the Polytechnic Schools. Furthermore, employment services are also offered to the successful trainees. In 1996, a total number of 1,175 children from 18 Homes for Children were trained by the center.

During 1996, the children under care in the aforementioned welfare institutions are detailed in the next table.

Residential Care for Children in 1996

(Person)

Residential Home	Province	No. of Homes	Served during 1996
Home for Babies		3	1,106
● Phyathai Home for Babies	Bangkok		425
● Pak Kred Home for Babies	Nonthaburi		373
● Rangsit Home for Babies	Pathum Thani		308
Home for Children		17	4,835
● Wiang Ping Home for Children	Chiang Mai		513
● Songkhla Home for Children	Songkhla		247
● Kaen Thong Home for Children	Khon Kaen		171
● Rajvithi Home for Girls	Bangkok		564
● Saraburi Home for Girls	Saraburi		112
● Udon Thani Home for Girls	Udon Thani		378
● Mahamek Home for Boys	Bangkok		207
● Pak Kred Home for Boys	Nonthaburi		410
● Bang Lamung Home for Boys	Chonburi		193
● Chiang Mai Home for Boys	Chiang Mai		287
● Ratchasima Home for Boys	Nakhon Ratchasima		181
● Nong Khai Home for Boys	Nong Khai		269
● Narathiwat Home for Boys	Narathiwat		66
● Si Thammarat Home for Boys	Nakhon Si Thammarat		314
● Yala Home for Boys	Yala		123
● Pattani Home for Boys	Pattani		278
● Maharaj Home for Boys	Pathum Thani		522
Reception Home		3	1,163
● Phyathai Reception Home for Girls	Bangkok		393
● Pak Kred Reception Home for Boys	Nonthaburi		688
● Northeastern Reception Home for Children	Khon Kaen		82

Residential Home	Province	No. of Homes	Served during 1996
Child Welfare Protection Home		2	735
● Northeastern Child Welfare Protection Home	Khon Kaen		192
● Eastern Child Welfare Protection Home	Rayong		543
Si Sa Ket Welfare and Vocational Training Center	Si Sa Ket	1	34
Total		26	7,873

Apart from the welfare services as previously stated, the Department of Public Welfare also provides social services to HIV infected children in their own homes. Since it is not the policy to isolate the children in institutions, but rather to help them with the extended family. Therefore, assistance will be provided to needy families to take care of their own children in the forms of cash, vocational capital, household commodities, supplies and expenses for child care or other necessary expenses.

Babies and children born to mothers living with HIV/AIDS will be admitted to be taken care in 4 Children's Home of the Department in Bangkok Metropolis, Chiang Mai, Udon Thani and Songkhla provinces. In addition, orphaned, abandoned children without anybody to take care will be also admitted in our residential homes. As for children without HIV check up, they will be provided with adoptive parents or foster home care.

Residential Care for Babies and Children Born to Mothers Living with HIV/AIDS in 1996

Residential Home	Province	No. of Residents
1. Phyathai Home for Babies	Bangkok	30
2. Wiang Ping Home for Children	Chiang Mai	93
3. Udon Thani Home for Girls	Udon Thani	3
4. Songkhla Home for Children	Songkhla	3
Total		129



2. Welfare Protection and Development of Children in Family and Community

2.1 Assistance to Children in Their Own Homes

The program aims at strengthening the family life and enabling the dysfunctional family or the family

under distresses to be able to maintain children in their own homes as well as to help prevent the family disintegration. Assistance is in the forms of cash, household commodities, supplies and expenses for child care, vocational capital, medical expenses, school scholarship and supplies, and counselling services. The details of which are outlined in the next table.

Assistance to Children in Their Own Homes in 1996

Category of Assistance Area	Assistance to Children in Their Families						Assistance to Needy School Children		Counselling and Other Assistance
	Financial Assistance			Household Commodities					
	No. of Family	No. of Children	Amount (Baht)	No. of Family	No. of Children	Amount (Baht)	No. of Children	Amount (Baht)	No. of Family
● Bangkok Metropolis	537	1,188	872,600	421	649	134,038	307	98,563	787
● Provincial Areas	31,755	95,265	31,740,000	59	177	17,800	36,588	5,733,538	13,138
Total	32,292	96,453	32,612,600	480	826	151,838	36,895	5,832,101	13,925

2.2 Foster Care

The qualified foster parents are selected by the Department of Public Welfare to care for the child preferably at younger ages, who, under adverse circumstances, has to be separated from or been abandoned by his/her natural parents. Periodical home visit is accordingly carried out by the social worker to ensure that the child is placed in the proper family environment. These foster families are entitled to receive a monthly allowance valuing 500 Baht per child plus the household commodities. In the year 1996, an overall number of 470 children were temporarily cared for by the foster parents, 232 of whom were boys and 238 were girls.

2.3 Child Welfare Protection

The Department of Public Welfare provides protective services to the vagrant, exploited, and abused children, and children having behavioral problems and those under improper care through the survey of troublesome and stranded children; child guidance, follow-up and modifying behavior of the children returning to care by their parents or guardians; and scrutinizing the documents for issuing passport to a child ranging in age from birth up to 14 years in consonance with the Cabinet's resolution on May 18, 1977 regarding the prevention of child traffic. Child welfare protection activities undertaken in 1996 are listed as follows.

Child Welfare Protection in 1996

(Person)

Activity	No. of Children served
Welfare Protection	
● Keeping tract of vagrant children's behavior after a term of care	769
- terminated	36
- being under assistance	733
● Survey of vagrant, street children, and children with behavioral problems	1,314
● Assisting abused children	52
● Being notified of stranded children	29
● Scrutinizing documents for issuing passport to children	397
Survey and Keeping Tract of Children's Behavior	
● Keeping tract of children's behavior after a term of care	247
- terminated	11
- being under assistance	236
Family and Child Guidance	
● Follow-up and modifying behavior of children brought up by the guardians	365
- terminated	83
- being under assistance	290
● Telephone counselling on children's family problems	296

Furthermore, the Department of Public Welfare also operated the child welfare protection services in 1996 in the following natures.

1. Family and Child Shelter Project

The shelter extends 24 hours services to the children, youth, and their respective families under distress to have temporary refuge before sending to their previous domiciles or to receive the appropriate assistance. Altogether 9 shelters in Bangkok Metropolis, Chonburi, Chiang Mai, Phuket, Narathivat, Nakhon Sawan, Prachin Buri, Songkhla and Udon Thani began its operation in 1996 and served a total number of 2,330 persons classifying into:

- 175 women with unwanted pregnancy and infants
- 1,195 vagrant children and children with behavioral problems
- 960 needy adults

2. Child Welfare Protection Project

In order to extend child welfare protection to such areas as provinces of tourism and entertainment businesses, the Department of Public Welfare recruited the

child welfare protection officers to serve in Bangkok Metropolis and another 24 provinces. During 1996, a number of 3,200 children were under protection in the regions and provinces named below.

Central : Kanchanaburi, Chantaburi, Chachoengsao, Chonburi, Trad, Nakhon Pathom, Nonthaburi, Pathum Thani, Prachuap Kiri Khan, Phra Nakhon Sri Ayutthaya, Petchaburi, Rayong, Samut Prakarn, and Saraburi

Northeast : Khon Kaen, Nakhon Ratchasima, Sri Sa Ket, Udon Thani, Ubon Ratchathani

North : Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai, Nakhon Sawan

South : Phuket, Songkhla

3. Camping for Disadvantaged Youth Project

This is to provide opportunities for the vagrant and the disadvantaged children under care of the Department of Public Welfare, children with behavioral problems including children of the poor families to participate in the camping activities. The youth camps



as such have served the multifaceted objectives to physically, psychologically, intellectually, emotionally, and socially develop the members to enhance their skills and experience in social life; to provide them the opportunities to practice self-discipline; to raise their environmental preservation consciousness; and to direct them to the alternative lifestyle.

In 1996, the Foundation of Siam Cement Co.,Ltd. contributed 982,152.94 Baht for organizing the camps for 226 disadvantaged children and youth.

2.4 Supervision and Promotion of Non-governmental Children's Homes

Non-governmental children's homes in Thailand have emerged as a response to the problems of child neglect and abandonment associating with the socio-economic and cultural changes. In a similar manner, the day care centers are increasingly essential to working

parents particularly mothers in the urban areas with the necessity to earn supplementary family income. Accordingly, the non-governmental sector has nowadays taken an active role in implementing the welfare programs for children.

To protect welfare of children in needs, the Department of Public Welfare deems it necessary to standardize the non-governmental child care programs in harmony with the social work principles through the promotion and supervision of the children's homes and day care centers operated by the private sectors in accordance with the concerned legislation. Duties in this category encompass probing applications for establishment of children's homes and day care centers; licensing;renewing licenses; training of the child attendants for benefits of children; supporting food supplements and educational toys for child development; and organizing meetings and seminars for the children's homes operators.

Supervision and Promotion of Non-governmental Children's Homes in 1996

Activity	Children's Homes and Day Care Centers	
	Bangkok Metropolis	Provincial Areas
● Provision of food supplements and educational toys to children's homes and day care centers	120 institutions 3,000 persons	831 institutions 24,213 persons
● Training of child attendants	3 courses 204 trainees	3 courses 396 trainees
● Organizing seminar for the owners of children's homes	-	1 course 90 trainees

In addition, through the "Promotion of Pre-school Child Development Project", the Department of Public Welfare promotes the voluntary efforts to set up day care centers in such disadvantaged communities as the overcrowded areas, the construction sites, in order to protect welfare of and care for children in such communities to ensure their safety in absence of their working parents as well as their proper development. The project served 1,830 pre-school children in 61 day care centers during 1996.

In relation to the aforementioned, the Department of Public Welfare also sets up and operates 6 pre-school child care and development centers with two fold objectives. Firstly, to release the burden of the low-income families and, secondly, to be a demonstration center and a part of welfare programs for the staff of the Department. Three centers of this kind were located in Khon Kaen, Nonthaburi, and Saraburi provinces and another three were located in Bangkok Metropolis.

3. Child Adoption

By virtue of the Child Adoption Act of B.E. 2522 (1979), the Child Adoption Board is entrusted with the duty for adoption consideration and approval. The Child Adoption Center functions as a secretariat to the Child Adoption Board and a focal point for receiving adoption applications, probing and scrutinizing the concerned documents and evidence submitted by both the local and foreign people. In provincial areas, the Provincial Sub-committee on Child Adoption has been appointed to be responsible for the adoption consideration while the Chief of Provincial Public Welfare Office in each respective province functions as a secretariat to this Sub-committee.

Parallel to the Child Adoption Center, another four child welfare non-governmental agencies have been granted the status of the licensed child adoption agencies namely, Holt Sahathai Foundation, the Thai Red Cross Children's Home Foundation, Friends for all Children, and the Children's Home Foundation, Pattaya.

Adoption is a program to find the permanent home for the abandoned children or the children deprived of parent or guardian, and to avail them the rights to have the family of their own. Basically, the period of 6 months pre-adoption placement is required for all adoption cases except in the case of the applicants who is a relative in direct ascending of that particular child (in accordance with the second clause of Section 19 of the Child Adoption Act) namely an elder brother or sister of half blood, the great grandfather or

grandmother, the uncle or aunt or the legal guardian of the child to be adopted. Subsequently, pursuant to the Ministerial Regulations No. 8 (1992) issued in compliance with the Child Adoption Act, such exemption from pre-adoption placement has been extended to include the following persons.

1. The relative in direct ascending or descending line of the father of the child to be adopted namely, the great grandfather, the grandfather, the uncle or aunt in cases where the parents of the said child have no marriage registration or registration of legitimation.

2. The applicant who wishes to adopt the child or the step-child of his or her own spouse. Such spouses have to register their marriage for no less than 6 months, or if less than 6 months, the child to be adopted has to live with such spouses no less than 1 year.

3. The person who has been granted by the Department of Public Welfare to be a foster parent and has taken care of such child for no less than a year with positive results.

Pre-adoption placement for a period of at least 6 months and a regular supervision will be arranged for a Thai or an alien applicant who is qualified as prospective adoptive family. Provided that such placement has been assessed positively, the approval of finalization of such adoption under the Thai law by registration shall be granted by the Child Adoption Board or the Provincial Sub-committee on Child Adoption, as the case may be.



In case of adoption of the abandoned or orphaned children by the applicants residing in either Bangkok Metropolis or provincial areas, such adoption has to be processed through the Child Adoption Board for approval of adoption for registration. As regards intercountry adoption, applications have to be approved by the Child Adoption Board and the Director-General of the Department of Public Welfare before the prospective adoptive parents come for an interview by the Board and receive the child for pre-adoption placement in their respective countries. The competent authority in the said country has to undertake the supervision and submit three bimonthly reports during 6 months of such placement to the Child Adoption Center. Provided that the placement yields positive results, the final approval

by the Child Adoption Board will be granted to each case before the child is legally adopted by registration at either the Royal Thai Embassy or the Consulate in the country of residence of the prospective adoptive parents. In the case where the adoptive parents reside in Thailand, such registration can be done at the District or Sub-district Office in the same manner as local adoption.

Whereas the child adoption process shall be effected upon the registration, the legally adopted child should enjoy equal status and privilege with the legitimate child. Adopted child is also entitled to use family name and to inherit similarly to that of the legitimate child.

Local and Intercountry Adoption in 1996

(Person)

Activity	Local Adoption	Intercountry Adoption	Total
● Number of persons requesting information	4,348	224	4,572
● Receiving applications for admission	3,739	468	4,207
● Adoption arrangement for abandoned children	181	302	483
● Adoption arrangement for children relinquished by their natural parents	2,928	27	2,955

Meetings of the Child Adoption Committee and Sub-committee in 1996

Meetings	No. of Meetings	No. of Applications for Registration of Adoption
● Child Adoption Board	26	791
● Sub-committee on Child Adoption in Bangkok Metropolis	10	213
● Sub-committee on Child Adoption in Provincial Areas	121	2,889
● Committee on Child Placement	24	220

WOMEN WELFARE AND PROTECTION PROGRAMS

In compliance with the government policy to promote the status of women and develop the female youth to lead the decent and proper lives, the Department of Public Welfare is therefore providing welfare services and protection to women for prevention of exploitation and engagement in sexual commercialization. As such, to enable them to find gainful employment and earn stable income, welfare assistance, counselling services, and vocational training to increase skills are extended to the underprivileged women and women convicted of prostitution according to the Prostitution Suppression Act of B.E.2503 (1960) after the court sentence. Welfare programs for women include the following natures.

1. Services for Women in Care

1.1 Institutional Care

The program is designed to provide assistance and vocational training to the ex-commercial sex workers

(CSWs) after the court sentence in compliance with the Prostitution Suppression Act of B.E.2503 (1960) as well as women voluntarily commit themselves to care. This is to enable these women to engage in the socially acceptable means of livelihood and to have alternative to sexual services. Consequently, three Homes for Women are providing basic necessities, adult education, medical and social work services, psychological rehabilitation, and vocational training in such fields as handicraft, nutrition, dress-making, hand-loom and machine cloth-weaving in order to better their skills. All such services are directed toward upgrading their quality of life.

Furthermore, child care is also provided to the residents having accompanied children either upon entering or thereafter. After yearly care, the Department will provide transportation fees for these women residents to return to their domiciles. During 1996, a total number of 905 women and 42 children were under care in the Homes for Women.

Institutional Care for Women in 1996

(Person)

Home for Women	No.of Residents
1. Kred Trakarn Home, Nonthaburi province	517
2. Narisawad Home, Nakhon Ratchasima province	347
3. Song Kwai Home, Pitsanulok province	41
Total	905

1.2 Welfare Protection Center for Women

A Welfare Protection Center for Women within the compound of Kred Trakarn Home was open to provide assistance and welfare protection to all categories of socially distressed women who are in dire need of assistance. Services rendered therein comprise board and lodging, crisis intervention, social work and psychological services as deemed necessary for each individual case in order to enable these women to solve their life problems and resume normal state in the society as early as possible.

In 1996, the Center provided assistance and vocational training to 153 women coerced in to sexual commercialization and rescued by the Crime Suppression Division of the Royal Thai Police Department prior to relatives contact and returning them to the previous domiciles.

1.3 Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Women

The Center renders assistance and arranges three to six months vocational training to the underprivileged women with low educational attainment at no charge in dress-making, beautification, etc. Besides, basic necessities, special education on family planning, prevention of AIDS and drugs are also offered to trainees including the share of net profits derived from selling the products from training.

Up to the present, 7 Welfare and Vocational Training Centers for Women have been set up distributing in the following regions of the country.

- Central** : ● Central Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Women, Nonthaburi province
- Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Women in Celebration of H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn's Thirty-Sixth Birthday Anniversary, Chonburi province
- Northeast** : ● Ratanapa Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Women, Khon Kaen province
- Northeast Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Women, Sri Sa Ket province
- North** : ● Northern Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Women, Lampang province
- Chiang Rai Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Women, Chiang Rai province
- South** : ● Southern Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Women, Songkhla province





In 1996, all these centers trained 4,087 women, 3,373 out of whom completed the vocational training courses.

Additionally, after-care services such as employment placement were also arranged for the ex-residents

or the trainees to enter the occupation of their preferences and earn decent living. In cooperation with the governmental organizations and private enterprises, employment placement was given to 2,149 women during 1996.

Vocational Training in Welfare and Vocational Training Centers for Women in 1996

(Person)

Center	No. of Trainees	No. of Successful Trainees
1. Chiang Rai Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Women, Chiang Rai province	330	261
2. Northeast Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Women, Sri Sa Ket province	488	428
3. Central Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Women, Nonthaburi province	1,050	1,029
4. Southern Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Women, Songkhla province	253	201
5. Northern Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Women, Lampang province	1,252	835
6. Ratanapa Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Women, Khon Kaen province	296	290
7. Welfare and Vocational Training Center for Women in Celebration of H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn's Thirty-Sixth Birthday Anniversary, Chonburi province	418	329
Total	4,087	3,373

2. Services for Women in the Community

2.1 Assistance and Welfare Protection for Women in the Community includes the followings:

2.1.1 Counselling Services through telephone number **2810969** was offered to socially distressed women i.e. women with unwanted pregnancy, battered women.

2.1.2 Women Welfare Protection in consonance with the Cabinet's resolution concerning measures against exploitation of women in foreign countries, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs refers the suspected cases of female aged under 36 years applying for passport issuance to the Department of Public Welfare for additional investigation and recom-

mendations on the suitability of such issuance. Similarly, in provincial areas, each Provincial Public Welfare Office is in charge of primary screening prior to the investigation by the Department of Public Welfare before proceeding the case for final consideration to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 1996, the Department processed an overall number of 1,210 cases.

2.1.3 Coordinating Center for Assisting Persons Coerced into Sexual Commercialization.

The center was established in accordance with the resolution of the National Commission on Women's Affairs to function as the focal point for public notification of coerced sexual commercialization and



for coordinating the network of governmental and non-governmental agencies engaged in the rescue of these women victims from detained places and assistance to them. In Bangkok Metropolis, Assistance and Welfare Protection for Women Sub-division, Occupational Assistance Division of the Department of Public Welfare is designated to be such center while in provincial areas, each Provincial Public Welfare Office assumes the similar duty.

To ensure prompt assistance for such rescued women victims, 41 welfare institutions under the administration of the Department of Public Welfare dispersely located in 31 provinces of the country also serve another purpose of being temporary shelters for these victims and provide such services as basic necessities, counselling, rehabilitation, and other assistance as deemed suitable for each case.

2.1.4 Information Dissemination on Seduction of Women.

In collaboration with such organizations as the Crime Suppression Division of the Royal Thai Police Department and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, movements of the suspected agents abducting women have been recorded. Accompanying these, various means of mass media have been launched to disseminate information on luring process and disadvantages of sexual commercialization e.g. radio and television spot, brochures and documents in both Thai and local dialects distributed to the general public, female youth in the rural areas as well as in the educational institutions, including the parents and local leaders.

2.2 Vocational Training in the Community

One consequence of the urgent government policy to consolidate and accelerate the concerted efforts to combat sexual commercialization in particular **"the elimination of child sexual commercialization"** was the returning home of the ex-commercial sex workers. Moreover there existed the educationally disadvantaged young women described as **"the high risk groups"** in certain northern and northeastern provinces. The Department of Public Welfare has accordingly commenced this project by operating a package program consisting of 88 days vocational

training courses for the above-mentioned women, 50 Baht daily allowance, marketing of their products from training, vocational capital assistance to the successful trainees forming into the various occupation groups, and family assistance to their respective families. All these were geared toward the final aim of enabling them to resettle and reunion with their families without resorting to sexual commercialization. Up to 1996, the successful trainees constituted 7,680 women which were formed into 126 village producer's groups with 2,096 members. Such women's groups have received producing orders valuing 103.48 Million Baht.

3. Barber Training Course at the Barber Training Center, Din Daeng Road, Phya Thai District of Bangkok Metropolis.

In the attempt to promote barber occupation as legally reserved occupation for the Thai nationals, the Department of Public Welfare offers barber training to people of both men and women aged above 18 years and employment services to those successful trainees. Concomitantly, the mobile barber unit is also dispatched by the center to offer free-of-charge hair-cutting to the public. In 1996, three four-month-courses were arranged for 296 trainees, 228 out of whom completed the training.



4. Vocational Capital Assistance

The Department of Public Welfare avails the opportunities for the distressed and low income people in both Bangkok Metropolis and provincial areas to apply for economic loans. The maximum amount of loan to be granted upon guarantee by a reliable person is 10,000 Baht for each individual case. Such loan has to be repaid within 5 years with no interest. During 1996, the economic loans were extended to 259 people totally amounted to 1,326,000 Baht.

5. Campaign Against Prostitution Project

In compliance with the definite and urgent government social policy in eliminating child prostitution, the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare through the Department of Public Welfare derived the policy guidelines that "there shall be no increase in prostitution."

To attain the above policy guidelines, the Department of Public Welfare recognized that such campaign against prostitution required concerted efforts of all public and private sectors and all parties concerned to be well aware of the prostitution problem which led to offer social problems. Consequently, the Project was launched on the basis of collaboration from all sectors concerned. A committee and five sub-committees were accordingly set up to undertake all project activities.

Major activities of various agencies can be cited as follows.

● The Ministry of Education

More than 90% of students finishing primary education have continued higher education by providing educational fund for them.

● The Royal Thai Police Department

The police are ordered to actively suppress sexual commercialization particular child prostitution. The special task force units have been set up in both Bangkok Metropolis and provincial areas.

● The Public Relations Department

Information dissemination has been undertaken through various means of mass media.

As for the major campaigning activities implemented by the Department of Public Welfare are as follows.

1. Training of 55,000 young women on seduction of women in 75 provinces throughout the country.

2. Training on "Development of Quality of Life for Workers in the Entertainment Venues" in tourism provinces with the purpose of raising their living conditions and advising them to maintain image of the country including giving them vocational guidance. In 1996, seven sessions were offered to 439 workers.

3. Publications of brochures, posters, booklets in order to disseminate information.

4. Conducting workshops in order to build the network of community's participation in campaigning against sexual commercialization in 4 regions of the country.

5. Coordination with the Communicable Disease Department regarding data on the number of sexual venues and commercial sex workers (7,318 venues, 66,190 persons).

6. Follow-up of the campaign projects of non-governmental organizations subsidized by the Department of Public Welfare in the amount of 3.5 million Baht.

6. Vocational Capital for HIV Infected Women or those Affected by HIV/AIDS

Vocational capital in the amount of 5,000 Baht per person will be provided for HIV infected commercial sex workers discharged from institutional care or women affected by HIV/AIDS in order to earn living for themselves and their families. In 1996, 200 women have been provided with vocational capital in the amount of 1.0 million Baht.

WELFARE PROGRAMS FOR THE ELDERLY

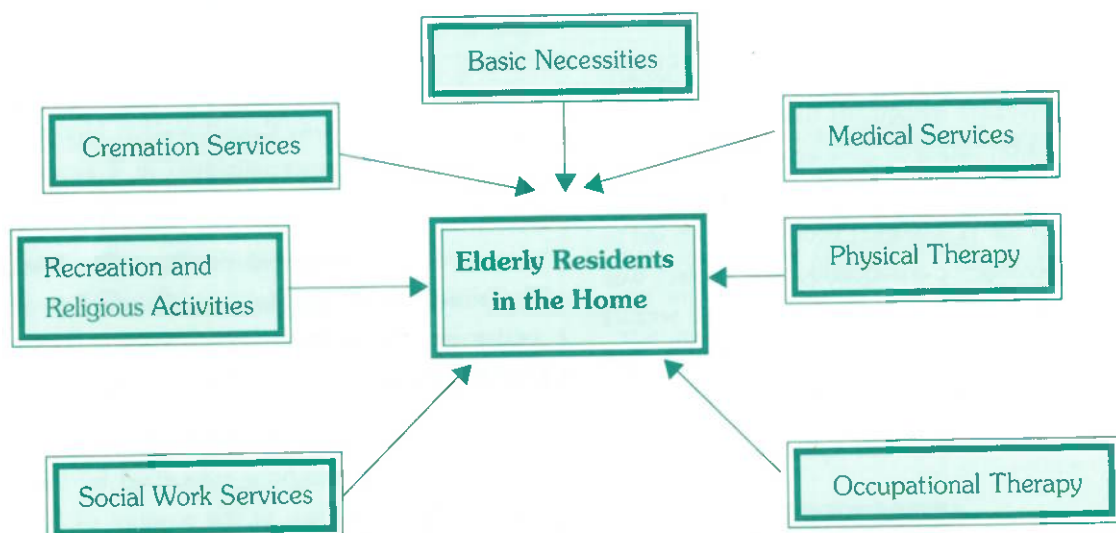
In cognizance of the valuable role of the elderly, the Department of Public Welfare administers welfare programs for the elderly in order to protect, care, and promote their quality of life. Concurrently, gratitude and reciprocal obligations among the younger generation to look after their aging parents and relatives are also pro-

moted. Programs for the elderly in 1996 are presented below.

1. Residential Care

To date, 16 Homes for the Elderly have been set up in all regions of the country.

Services in the Home for the Elderly in 1996



Residential Care for the Elderly in 1996

(Person)

Home for the Elderly	No.of Residents
1. Bangkae Home, Bangkok Metropolis	404
2. Bangkae Home II, Bangkok Metropolis	53
3. Bang Lamung Home, Chonburi province	364
4. Thammapakorn Home at Poh Klang, Nakhon Ratchasima province	198
5. Thammapakorn Home at Wat Muang, Nakhon Ratchasima province	167
6. Thammapakorn Home at Chiang Mai, Chiang Mai province	208
7. Taksin Home, Yala province	134
8. Kao Bor Kaew Home, Nakhon Sawan province	119
9. Chantaburi Home, Chantaburi province	115
10. Uthong-Panang Tak Home, Chumpon province	94
11. Mahasarakham Home, Mahasarakham province	102
12. Vasanawes Home Under Sangkha Patronage, Phra Nakhon Sri Ayutthaya province	229
13. Nakhon Pathom Home, Nakhon Pathom province	123
14. Wai Thong Nives Home, Chiang Mai province	77
15. Phuket Home, Phuket province	92
16. Sri Trang Home, Trang province	25
Total	2,504



2. Non-residential Care

Over the years, the Department of Public Welfare has extended its residential care to cater for the needs of the elderly living with families in their respective communities in the form of **"Social Service Center for the Elderly."** This is due mainly to the fact that residential care has the capacity to serve limited number of the elderly at high cost and is undesirable for many. Up to the present, 13 Social Service Centers for the Elderly distributing all over the country have been in operation. Three category of services are offered by the Social Service Center for the Elderly as follows.

(1) Internal Services consist of medical services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, physical exercise, social work services, non-formal education, recreation, religious activities etc.

(2) Mobile Unit outreaches the elderly right at their own communities, renders counselling and disseminates information necessary to such elderly groups.

(3) Emergency Home is made available as a shelter to the elderly who are in temporary conflict with their family members or those travelling to engage in any kind of activities in the surrounded communities and are in need of lodging. Basic necessities and social work services are also provided. Throughout 1996, all Social Service Centers for the Elderly served an overall number of 295,104 older persons.

Non-residential Care for the Elderly in 1996

(Person)

Social Service Center for the Elderly	No. of Service-users		
	in the Center	outreached by Mobile Unit	In the Emergency Home
1. Din Daeng, Bangkok Metropolis	78,649	136	102
2. Bangkoe, Bangkok Metropolis	9,015	1,123	6
3. Thipsukhon, Bangkok Metropolis	4,028	-	2
4. Poh Klang, Nakhon Ratchasima province	1,413	428	10
5. Wat Muang, Nakhon Ratchasima province	17,808	-	-
6. Khon Kaen, Khon Kaen province	7,617	190	-
7. Yala, Yala province	1,718	-	13
8. Chiang Mai, Chiang Mai province	67,275	8,693	34
9. Piyamarn, Chiang Mai province	70,195	-	-
10. Wai Thong, Chiang Mai province	8,021	398	8
11. Sri Sukot, Pitsanuloke province	7,695	731	36
12. Lopburi, Lopburi province	9,234	50	93
13. Bang Lamung, Chonburi province	383	-	-
Total	283,051	11,749	304

Supplementary to the program previously mentioned, the Department of Public Welfare has launched special projects as detailed in the followings.

1. A Project on a Fund for Promotion of Welfare for the Elderly and Family in the Community (Provision of A Monthly Subsistent Allowance)

Pursuant to the Cabinet's resolution on March 3, 1992, a monthly subsistent allowance is granted to older persons aged over 60 years who live in the village where the Village Welfare Assistance Center is set up. They must be poor, neglected, without means of support or incapable of earning their living. An amount of

200 Baht monthly subsistent allowance is granted to each qualified elderly during their lifetime. By this, the Committee in charge of the Village Welfare Assistance Center in each respective village is entitled to submit the lists of the qualified elderly recipients to the Provincial Selection Committee for consideration before forwarding further to the Department of Public Welfare for budget allocation.

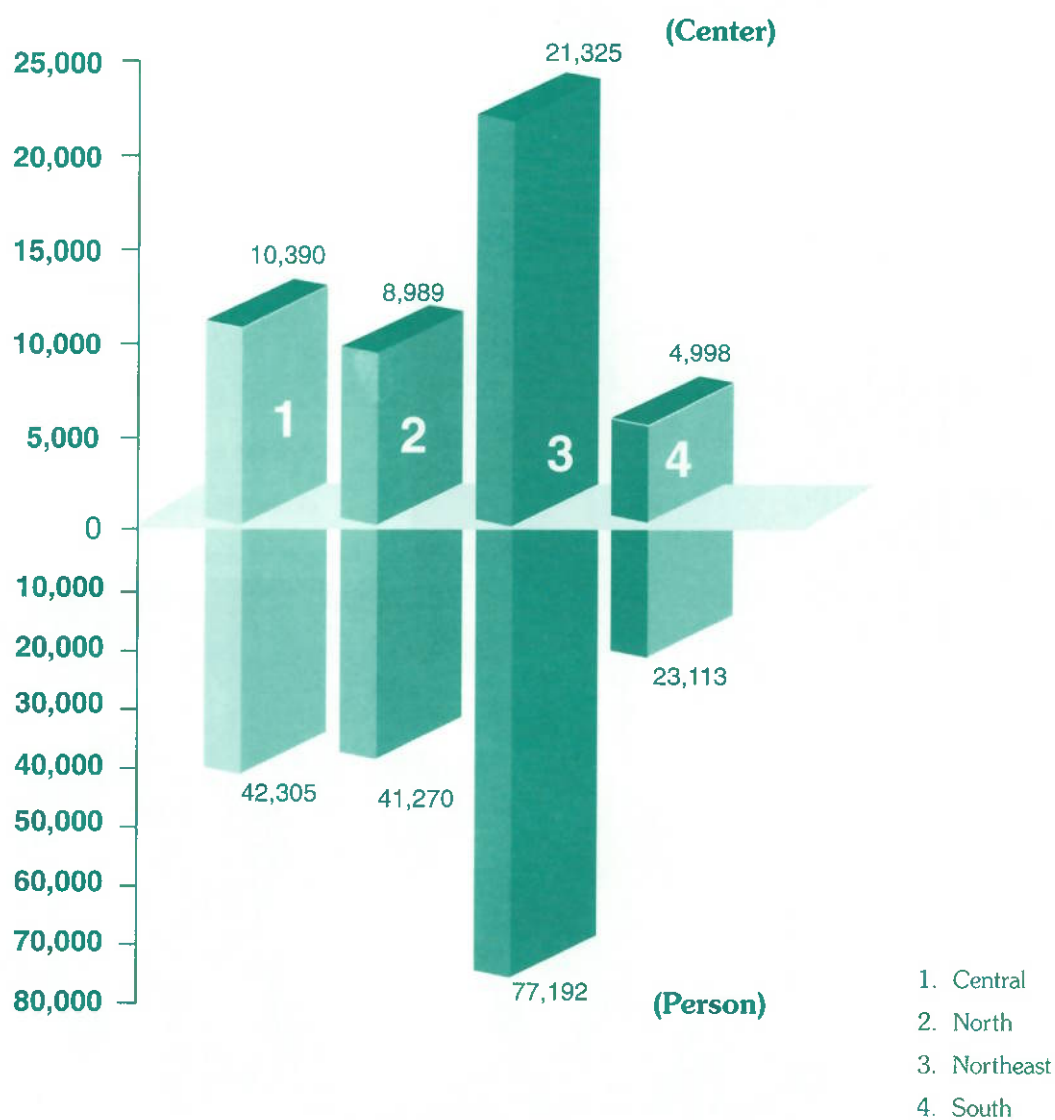
The granting of such monthly subsistent allowance was commenced since July 1993. Up to 1996, an overall number of 183,880 elderly people living in 75 provinces throughout the country benefitted from this program during their lifetime.



Provision of A Monthly Subsistent Allowance for the Elderly in 1996

Region	No. of Village Welfare Assistance Centers	No. of Elderly Recipients	Value of Allowance for the Elderly (Baht)		Percentage*
			Total Budget (Baht)	Actual Payment (Baht)	
Central	10,390	42,305	101,532,000	101,512,200	23.0
North	8,989	41,270	99,048,000	99,045,400	22.4
Northeast	21,325	77,192	185,260,800	185,153,400	42.0
South	4,998	23,113	55,471,200	54,236,800	12.3
Total	45,702	183,880	441,312,000	439,947,800	99.7

Note: * Percentage of actual allowance paid to the elderly compared to the total budget



2. A Project on Donated Eyeglasses and Fund for Assisting Children and the Elderly with Cataract in Welfare Institutions and Remote Rural Areas

The project is aimed at launching a campaign for public donation in the forms of eyeglasses or cash contribution to assist the impoverished children and the elderly who are suffered from Cataract or are visually impaired through the provision of eyeglasses and expenses for making optical lens.

In 1996, 401,624.75 Baht of cash contribution and 7,428 pairs of eyeglasses were donated to the project, 5,521 pairs of which were provided to those who are visually impaired.

3. A Project on Provision of A Monthly Subsistent Allowance by the Private and Public Contributions

This project has aimed at launching a campaign for the interested donors to contribute a monthly subsistent allowance at an amount of 200 Baht per person for the whole year to the impoverished elderly in Bangkok Metropolis and the areas where there exists no Village Welfare Assistance Center.

During 1996, a donation valued 1,042,196 Baht was received from both the private and public contributions. Such monthly subsistent allowance in the total amount of 496,200 Baht was granted to 236 elderly recipients.

4. A Pilot Project on Establishment of the Community-based Social Service Center for the Elderly

In order to promote community participation in providing care, services, and activities for the elderly in various provinces, the Department of Public Welfare with financial support from the UNFPA and in collaboration with the Council on Aging of Thailand, the Institute of Population Studies of Chulalongkorn University, the National Economic and Social Development Board, launched a pilot project to set up the Community-based Social Service Center for the Elderly in certain communities of selected provinces.

During 1996, four provinces namely Bangkok Metropolis, Suphan Buri, Khon Kaen, and Chiang Mai were encouraged to set up the community-based social service center for the elderly in the three selected communities namely, the rural, the semi-urban, and the urban. Provided that the project proves to be beneficial, the Department of Public Welfare plans to replicate this model to the other provinces.

5. Survey on a number of the elderly aged 100 years and over

In order to be provided with a number of the elderly aged 100 years and over for planning of social welfare services, the Department of Public Welfare has coordinated with the Registration Processing Center, Bureau of Registration Administration under the Department of Local Administration to survey nationwide a number of the elderly aged 100 years and over on December 1995. It was found that there are 57,850 persons, 24,853 of whom are male and 32,997 are female. Nakorn Rachasima province in the Northeast of Thailand is the province with the highest number of the elderly aged 100 years and over.

WELFARE PROGRAMS FOR THE DESTITUTE

The Department of Public Welfare renders welfare services to the beggars and the destitute convicted of beggary and referred to the Home for the Destitute by the police in accordance with the Beggarly Control Act of B.E. 2484 (1941). Concomitantly, the homeless may voluntarily commit themselves to care in such home or referred therein by the social agencies. Services for the destitute in 1996 are outlined as below.

1. Care in Reception Home

The destitute and beggars convicted of beggary according to the Beggarly Control Act of B.E. 2484 (1941) shall be placed in the Reception Home for intake process before referring to the Home for the Destitute or other agencies as considered appropriate. Two Reception Homes have been in operation as follows.

Care for the Destitute in the Reception Home in 1996

(Person)

Reception Home	No. of Residents
1. Chiang Mai Reception Home, Chiang Mai province	347
2. Nonthaburi Reception Home, Nonthaburi province	2,380
Total	2,727

2. Institutional Care

Home for the Destitute provides residential care for both the convicted beggars and the homeless voluntarily seek care. The Home provides basic necessities; moral training particularly inculcating self-

reliant value for the residents to become economically independent; and rehabilitating their physical and psychological conditions.

In 1996, six Homes for the Destitute named below accommodated the following number of residents.



Institutional Care for the Destitute in 1996

(Person)

Home for the Destitute	No. of Residents
1. Thanyaburi Men's Home, Pathum Thani province	1,261
2. Thanyaburi Women's Home, Pathum Thani province	1,195
3. Wang Thong Home, Pitsanulok province	677
4. Ban Metta Home, Nakhon Ratchasima province	743
5. Koomsakae Home, Petchaburi province	456
6. Tap Kwang Home, Saraburi province	124
Total	4,456

3. Vocational Training

The Department of Public Welfare offers vocational training to the destitute and the homeless to equip them with the skills required for earning decent living of themselves and their families. The fields of

training include agriculture, basketry, cement-block making, etc. Other supplementary services similar to that of the Home for the Destitute were also rendered. In 1996, two Vocational Training Centers for the Destitute were in operation as follows.

Vocational Training for the Destitute in 1996

(Person)

Vocational Training Center	No. of Trainees
1. Prachuab Kiri Khan Vocational Training Center, Prachuab Kiri Khan province	122
2. Ku Khan Vocational Training Center, Sri Sa Ket province	95
Total	217

Apart from the previously mentioned services, the Department of Public Welfare also operated the following two projects for the destitute.

(1) A Project on Mobile Unit for Survey and Assistance of the Destitute in Bangkok Metropolis

Mobile units staffed by the Department's personnel, the police from both the Child and Youth Welfare Unit and the various Metropolis Police Stations publi-

cized and assisted such needy people as the homeless, destitute, sick people in public places, those unable to help themselves or convicted of beggary. In 1996 a total number of 2,266 destitute persons and beggars were served classified into the following categories:

- 702 men
- 756 women
- 445 boys
- 363 girls

(2) A Project on Despatch of Assistance Unit for the Distressed People (Installment of Assistance Counter in Public Places)

In order to assist the distressed and under privileged people promptly, the Department of Public Welfare in collaboration with the Emergency Home

attached to the Women Lawyers Association of Thailand installed assistance counters at both Talart Mor Chit Bus Terminal and Hua Lam Pong Railway Station. In 1996, a number of 2,085 distressed persons were assisted as shown in the following table.

Services of Assistance Unit for Distressed People in 1996

(Person)

Services	No.of Service-users
1. Providing general information	1,329
2. Sending to return to the domiciles	369
3. Referring to other agencies	7
4. Referring to the Department of Employment for employment placement	18
5. Referring to appropriate welfare institutions	22
6. Referring to the Department's Hostel for the Travellers	8
7. Contacting the relatives	164
8. Referring to the hospitals	13
9. Distributing pamphlets publicizing the Department's activities	155
Total	2,085



WELFARE AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMS FOR THE DISABLED

In recognition of the significance of the disabled persons, the Thai government promulgated in 1991, the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons Act of B.E. 2534 (1991). The Act stipulates that the Department of Public Welfare functions as the prime government agency implementing welfare, development and rehabilitation programs for the disabled persons including coordinating with such government organizations as the Ministries of Public Health, Education, Labour and Social Welfare, and the University Affairs, as well as other public and private agencies concerned with the disability issue in the efforts to provide the concerted rehabilitative programs as medical, educational, social and vocational aspects including eligible rights and benefits according to the Act.

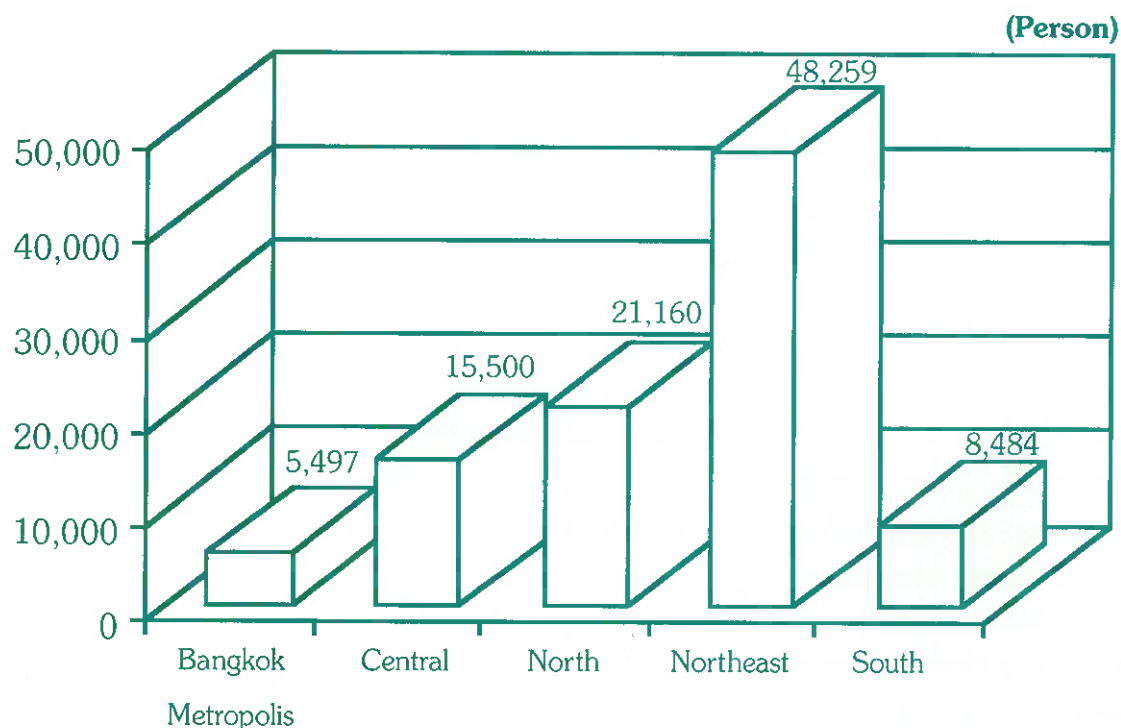
In consonance with this Act, the Department of Public Welfare administered the following programs for the disabled persons in 1996.

1. Registration of Disabled Persons

To date, 98,900 disabled persons from all over the country submitted applications for registration, grouping into the below regions.

● Bangkok Metropolis	5,497 persons
● Central	15,500 persons
● North	21,160 persons
● Northeast	48,259 persons
● South	8,484 persons

A number of 27,939 disabled persons have submitted applications for registration in 1996.



2. Welfare Services and Rehabilitation

2.1 Family Assistance : Families of the needy disabled persons were granted cash assistance to cover the commodities, medical expenses, house repair, vocational capital in order to decently develop and maintain their disabled members and to enable them to reach a certain degree of self-independence. During 1996, assistance was granted to 7,751 families of the disabled.

2.2 Provision of Technical and Mobility Aids : As a part of medical rehabilitation, the Department of Public Welfare extends financial assistance to the needy physically disabled people undergoing medical examination and diagnosis to obtain such technical and mobility aids as artificial arms and legs, metal splint, hand-operated tricycle, wheelchair, crutches. This is to facilitate their mobility in daily living, vocational training, employment and to enable them to have more access to social activities equally with the non-disabled. In 1996, 1,672 needy disabled persons were provided assistance under this category.

2.3 Community-based Rehabilitation: In order to promote community participation in rehabilitation and providing care, services for the disabled in their own communities, the Department of Public Welfare in coordination with the Village Welfare Assistance Centers and concerned public and private sectors

has provided training on community-based rehabilitation to 1,110 disabled people in 13 provinces in 1996.

3. Vocational Rehabilitation in Vocational Rehabilitation Center

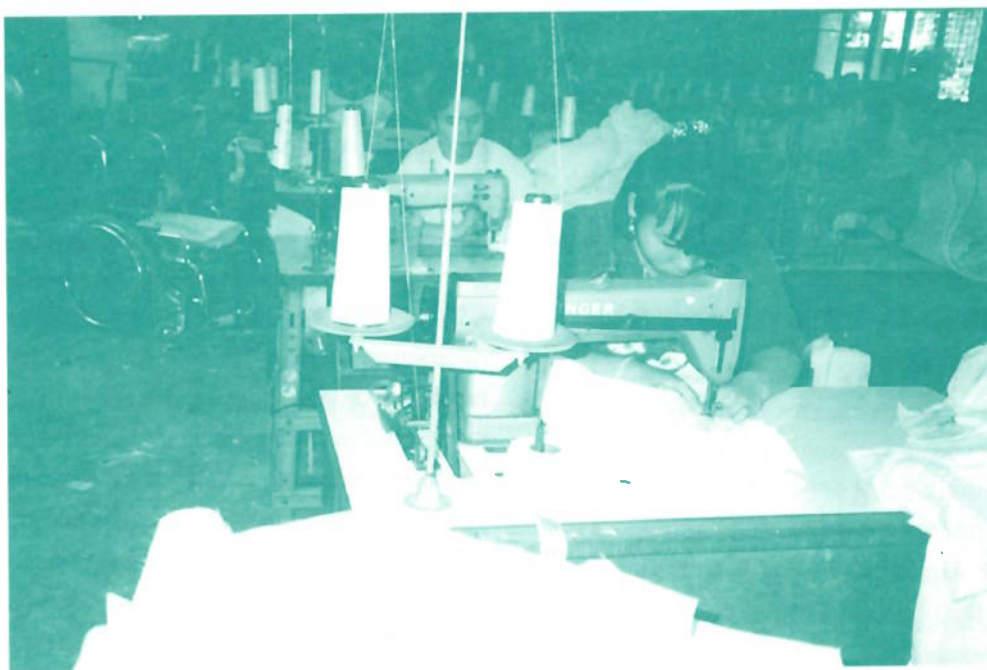
This program seeks to provide free-of-charge vocational training for the rehabilitated disabled people of working age between 17-40 years. Other necessary services common to the Home for the Disabled are also provided in the Vocational Rehabilitation Center. Additionally, for certain groups, the opportunities to be vocationally trained in the vocational training institutes belong to either the public and private sectors with the non-disabled trainees are also given as a pre-employment services. All these services are geared toward their self-reliance and full participation in social and economic lives of the society.

Eleven vocational training courses have so far been offered to the disabled trainees namely dress-making, radio and television repairing, leather-making, electrical and cool-producing apparatus repairing, electrician, typing and computer using, handicrafts, barber services, motorcycle and small engine repairing, beautification, and neilloward. Seven establishments were in operation during 1996 to provide vocational training to cover a number of 783 disabled persons.

Vocational Training for the Disabled in 1996

(Person)

Institution	No. of Trainees
1. Northeast Vocational Rehabilitation Center, Ubon Ratchathani province	94
2. Phrapradaeng Vocational Rehabilitation Center, Samut Prakarn province	136
3. Khon Kaen Vocational Rehabilitation Center, Khon Kaen province	142
4. Social Welfare Services Center, Lopburi province	154
5. Ban Thong Poon-Phaopanat Vocational Rehabilitation Center, Ubon Ratchathani province	138
6. Yard Fon Vocational Rehabilitation Center, Chiang Mai province	69
7. Southern Vocational Rehabilitation Center, Nakhon Sri Thammarat province	50
Total	783



Welfare in the Vocational Development Center

Vocational Development Center in Nonthaburi province operated by the Department of Public Welfare is a sheltered workshop for ready-made clothes and machine-cloth weaving. The center provides employment to the successful disabled trainees from both the Department's Vocational Rehabilitation Centers and the private vocational training institutions to enhance their skills and experiences and familiarize them with the actual working environment before entering the general labour market with the non-disabled people. In addition to accommodation at a minimal rate and low-priced food as fringe benefits, the center also provides physical, psychological, vocational, and social rehabilitation to each trainee along with social work services, recreation and religious ceremonies. The center employed 84 disabled workers during 1996.

In addition to the aforementioned services, the Department of Public Welfare has coordinated with the Non-formal Education Department in organizing adult education for the trainees. Presently, there are 348 disabled persons finishing vocational and general education according to their abilities. In addition, they are promoted to receive vocational training in such governmental vocational institutions with non-disabled persons as the Institute for skill Development, Institutes

of the Department of Vocational Education and other private agencies. Vocational counselling is also provided.

4. Employment Placement

As prescribed by the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons Act of B.E.2534 (1991), the employment quota for the disabled in the private enterprises is set at a ratio of 200:1. To enforce the Act, the Department of Public Welfare requested the cooperation of private enterprises nationwide which employ more than 200 workers to comply with the quota provisions stipulated by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare's Regulations on the Employment of the Disabled and the Department of Public Welfare's Announcement on Identification of Jobs Suitable for the Disabled Persons.

In collaboration with the Department of Employment, a number of disabled workers employed by the private enterprises up to the present are 4,278 persons. Most of them are physically disabled or people with mobility disability. The industrial machine sewer is the job classification required mostly by the private enterprises. In 1996, 1,017 disabled workers employed by the private enterprises were 769 and 248 in Bangkok Metropolis and provincial areas respectively.

A number of 622 private enterprises in both Bangkok Metropolis and provincial areas which were not prepared to employ the disabled persons had made the

contribution to the Rehabilitation Fund for Disabled Persons in the amount of 43.01 million Baht. In 1996, 407 private enterprises had made the contribution to the subject Fund in the amount of 28.8 million Baht.

5. Establishment of A Rehabilitation Fund for Disabled Persons

During 1993-1995, a budget valuing 50 million Baht was allocated to establish a Rehabilitation Fund for the Disabled. One objective of the Fund was to extend loans for vocational capital to the needy disabled persons. For those deciding to take up self-employment, a maximum amount of 20,000 Baht per person is set while those expanding the existing business, an amount of 20,000-35,000 Baht is to be extended. A monthly repayment has to be made within 5 years with no interest. During 1996, 1,923 disabled persons were approved for loans in the value of 37.3 million

Baht. Occupations of the debtors were largely sellers of government lotteries, agriculture and trading.

6. Residential Care

The physically, mentally and psychologically disabled persons from birth up to aging who are needy, destitute or homeless are entitled to care in the institutional setting. Services provided therein consist of basic necessities; medical, educational, vocational, and social rehabilitation as deemed suitable to each individual case; social work services; recreation; religious activities and other services. All of which are directed toward ensuring a certain degree of self-reliance among the residents particularly in daily living and upgrading their quality of life. At its best, some residents have been well reintegrated into the society as productive members.

During 1996, all disabled residents served by nine residential homes as follows.

Residential Care for the Disabled in 1996

(Person)

Home for the Disabled	served during 1996
1. Pak Kred Home for Mentally Disabled Babies, Nonthaburi province (birth up to 7 years)	601
2. Pak Kred Home for Mentally Disabled Children, (Boys) Nonthaburi province (aged between 7-18 years)	588
3. Pak Kred Home for Mentally Disabled Children (Girls), Nonthaburi province	448
4. Pak Kred Home for Children with Disability, Nonthaburi province (aged between 7-18 years)	460
5. Phrapradaeng Home for the Disabled, Samut Prakarn province (aged above 18 years)	686
6. Bangpakong Home for the Disabled, Chachoengsao province (aged above 18 years)	302
7. Karunyaves Home for the Disabled, Chonburi province (aged above 18 years)	148
8. Half-way Home for Men, Pathum Thani province (aged above 18 years)	356
9. Half-way Home for Women, Pathum Thani province (aged above 18 years)	200
Total	3,789

7. Promotion of Disabled Persons' Rights and Benefits

The following activities have been implemented in 1996.

7.1 Conducting the National Plan for Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons (1997-2001).

7.2 Drafting the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare's Regulations on Provision of Facilities for the Disabled.

7.3 Provision of a monthly subsistent allowance to the poor disabled persons and incapable of earning for living who have been already registered in both Bangkok Metropolis and provincial areas. This is in order to promote them to stay with their own families instead of being under residential care. An amount of 500 Baht monthly subsistent allowance will be granted to 6,800 disabled persons starting in 1997.

7.4 Coordination with the Sub-commissions on Justice and Human Rights, Youth, Women and the Elderly of the House of Representatives in promotion

of disabled persons' rights and benefits, for instances, the issuance of the identification card, public facilities services, rights for education, the revision of the Civil Service Commission's regulations and ordinances which confine the rights to work in the government agency, tax exemption for the mobility and technical aids for the disabled, driving licenses of the disabled, etc.

7.5 Organizing seminars in order to provide knowledge and develop the disabled persons, persons engaged in the disability issue of both public and private organizations.

7.6 Public relations provided to create positive attitudes of society, community and people toward the disabled persons.

7.7 Amendment of the regulations in order to promote and protect the rights and benefits of the disabled, e.g. Regulations of the Department of Public Welfare on provision of assistance for the disabled in the residential homes, and vocational training for the disabled persons, etc.



DISASTER RELIEF

Disaster relief extended by the Department of Public Welfare encompasses the victims of disaster of two natures: natural and man-made. Natural disaster is caused by e.g. fire, flood, storm, unusually cold weather, drought. Man-made disaster is related to terrorist movement, external forces, the Thai people being distressed in either the country or in foreign countries, and other disasters as designated by the government.

Relief of the victims of disaster carried out by the Department of Public Welfare follows the below practices.

(1) Allocation of budget to the respective provinces for reimbursement after advanced disbursement of the provincial budget for disaster relief.

(2) In case the disaster inflicts on a vastly damaging areas, either the staff will be assigned from the Department's office in Bangkok Metropolis to collaboratively work with the respective provinces or the commodities will be also supplied according to the arising needs and the pertinent operation plan.

(3) Despatch of disaster relief mobile unit from the respective Regional Disaster Relief Center to support the operation of each province under its jurisdiction.

As has been known, the occurrence of the natural and man-made disasters and their damaging results are all unpredictable. In order to assist the disaster victims as promptly and widely as possible and to respond to their emergent needs, the Department of Public Welfare has set up Regional Disaster Relief Center to be a central body for coordination and support of disaster relief in certain provinces under their coverage. Besides, disaster relief mobile units staffed by experienced personnel have also been set up to support the relief efforts in each particular province through sending off commodities, vehicles and equipment at times of disaster.

At present, disaster relief is extended through five Regional Disaster Relief Centers as follows.

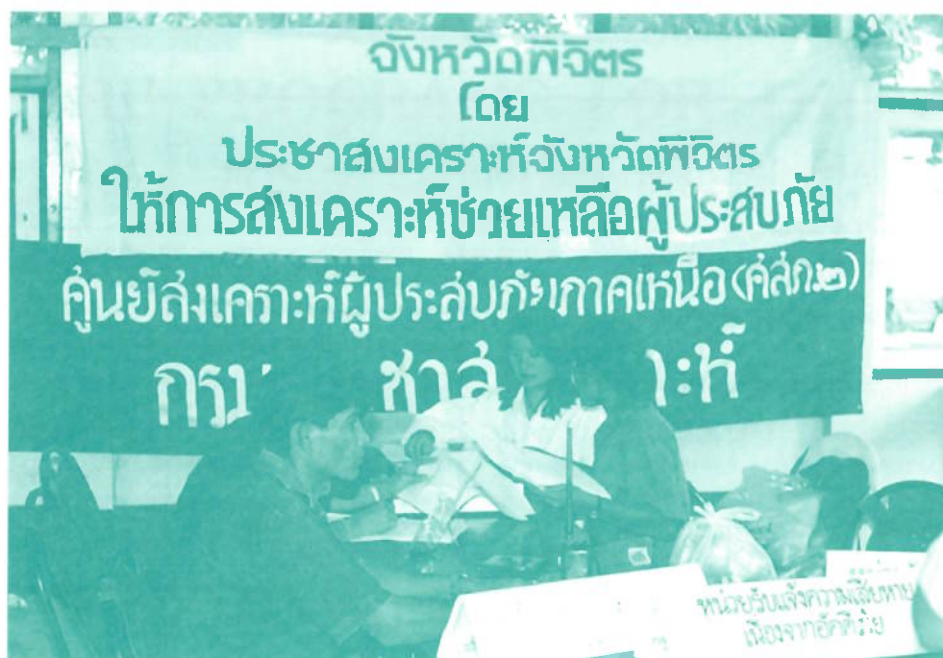
1. The Central Regional Disaster Relief Center, or Center I located at 310 Ratchavithi Road, Phayathai District, Bangkok Metropolis.

The center is responsible for disaster relief in 26 provinces namely Bangkok Metropolis, Nonthaburi, Pathum Thani, Nakhon Pathom, Ratchaburi, Kanchanaburi, Petchaburi, Prachuap Kiri Khan, Phra Nakhon Sri Ayutthaya, Angthong, Suphan Buri, Singburi, Chainat, Saraburi, Lopburi, Samut Sakorn, Samut Songkram, Samut Prakarn, Chachoengsao, Nakhon Nayok, Prachin Buri, Chonburi, Rayong, Chantaburi, Trat, and Saraburi.

2. The Northeastern Regional Disaster Relief Center, or Center II located at 295 Soonrajakarn Road, Khon Kaen province.

The center is responsible for disaster relief in 19 provinces namely Khon Kaen, Chaiyaphum, Loei, Udon Thani, Nong Khai, Sakon Nakhon, Nakhon Phanom, Kalasin, Mahasarakham, Sri Sa Ket, Nakhon Ratchasima, Mukdahan, Roi Et, Yasothon, Ubon Ratchathani, Surin, Buriram, Nong Bua Lumpoo and Amnatcharoen.





3. The Northern Regional Disaster Relief Center, or Center III located at 37/1 Theparak Road, Pitsanulok province. The scope of operation covers 17 provinces namely Pitsanulok, Kamphaeng Phet, Nakhon Sawan, Uthai Thani, Sukhothai, Uttaradit, Petchabun, Phichit, Tak, Lampang, Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai, Lamphun, Prae, Nan, Mae Hong Son and Payao.

4. The Southern Regional Disaster Relief Center, or Center IV located on Songkhla-Kor Yor Road in Songkhla province. The eight provinces under its coverage are Songkhla, Nakhon Sri Thammarat, Phatthalung, Trang, Satun, Pattani, Yala and Narathiwat.

5. The Upper Southern Regional Disaster Relief Center, or Center V located in Khun Thalay Self-help Land Settlement, Surat Thani province. The center is responsible for disaster relief in 6 provinces namely Surat Thani, Chumpon, Ranong, Phang nga, Phuket and Krabi.

Stages of Disaster Relief

Disaster relief extended by the Department of Public Welfare undergoes the two following significant stages.

1. Preparedness Stage

At this initial stage, the Department of Public Welfare shall formulate a preparedness plan or review a disaster prevention plan and coordinative operation plan by the respective provinces, the related government and charity organizations in such provinces. Preparation of staff, commodities, vehicles, and other necessary equipments shall be made along with training of volunteers to support the disaster relief operated by the government.

2. Relief Operation

When disaster occurs, the Provincial Public Welfare Office will assign concerned officers to the disaster area in order to inspect the damages. After that they will urgently report the authorities concerned and provide assistance as promptly as possible in accordance with the Ministry of Finance's Regulations on the Reimbursement for Urgent Relief of the Disaster Victims not exceeding 3,000,000 Baht for each inflict.

In the areas of Bangkok Metropolis, the Ministry of Finance approves the Central Regional Disaster Relief Center to consider the damages together with district office and concerned police station to assist the disaster victims through the approval of the Director-General of the Department of Public Welfare not exceeding 10,000,000 Baht of the reimbursement amount.

Disaster Relief in 1996

Activity	No. of Disaster Victims (Person)	Value of Assistance (Baht)
1. Relief of disaster victims e.g. fire, storms, flood, drought, unusually cold weather, attack of external forces, etc.	8,048,475	1,183,357,144.47
2. Returning the distressed people to their domiciles	3,081	3,386,371.67
● local	2,341	457,845
● foreign countries	740	2,928,576.67
3. Continued assistance according to the Cabinet's Resolutions		
● Rescue of victims of Royal Plaza Hotel's collapse	141	2,258,000
● Assistance of victims of May 1992 political unrest	32	1,724,000
● Assistance of victims of the gas truck accident	92	1,064,800
● Relief of victims of explosive objects, Pang nga province	243	1,833,300
Total	8,052,064	1,193,623,616.14

Coordination with Other Voluntary Organizations

Since 1973, a "Joint Disaster Operation Plan in Bangkok Metropolis and Regional Areas" has been collaboratively prepared by both the concerned governmental and non-governmental organizations for maximization of people's interests, resource utilization and avoidance of overlapping and duplication of service. The participating organizations were 27 governmental agencies and 13 voluntary agencies. Such voluntary agencies are namely the Thai Red Cross Society, the National Council on Social Welfare of Thailand Under

the Royal Patronage of H.M. the King, the Rajaprajanugroh Foundation under the Royal Patronage of H.M. the King, the Hua Chiew Por Teck Tung Foundation, Ruamkatanyu Foundation, Foundation Under the Patronage of H.R.H. the Princess Mother, the Foundation for the Promotion of Cleanliness and Health of Schoolchildren Under the Royal Patronage of H.M. the Queen, the Evangelical Fellowship Foundation of Thailand, Buddhasampan Association Under the Patronage of Sriguru Singh Sabha, Hindu Samaj Association, the National Council on Women Under the Royal Patronage of H.M. the Queen, and the Society of Buddhist for Merit Making of Thailand.

WELFARE PROGRAMS FOR THE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

In delivering welfare services and developing the living conditions of people confronting various problems in the urban communities of Bangkok Metropolis and provincial areas, the Department of Public Welfare has been providing both direct services and mobilizing resources from the public and private sectors to such people in various natures as follows.

1. Family Assistance to Low-income Families and Socially Distressing People

The Department of Public Welfare is the principal governmental agency delivering services to the needy and socially distressing people. In so doing, the social workers are designated to conduct an interview or gather the pertinent information through intake as an initial consideration prior to forwarding the case to the appropriate channels within the purview of the Department or referring such case to the relevant social welfare organizations as deemed appropriate for further assistance. Crisis intervention such as the provision of commodities, transportation cost, food, and counselling is usually extended to these people.

The above services are available in Bangkok Metropolis at the Department of Public Welfare's Office located on Krung Kasem Road, Pom Prab District and in provincial areas at the Provincial Public Welfare Office.

During 1996, there were 8,701 persons seeking family assistance, 2,678 persons in Bangkok Metropolis and 6,023 persons in provincial areas.

For the family under distress whose breadwinner is dead, ill, disappeared, impoverished, aged, disabled, or neglects the family members or unable to take care the family due to any other reason, the Department of Public Welfare renders cash assistance in the amount of 2,000 Baht per family according to the Department of Public Welfare's Regulation on Assistance to Low-income and Destitute Persons of B.E.2529 (1986). Expenses to be covered by this assistance include e.g. vocational capital, living costs, medical expenses, house repair and maintenance. Added to this, the destitutes are also entitled to the same services in order to enable them to become self-reliant and lead normal lives in the society.



Family Assistance in 1996

Activity	Unit	Family Assistance	
		Bangkok Metropolis	Provincial Areas
1. Counselling services	family	620	15,338
2. Cash assistance and commodities	family	293	20,965
Value of assistance	Baht	424,735	11,534,688
3. Family assistance (mobile unit)	occasion	1	785
	family	54	59,633
4. Family assistance for HIV	family	228	-
infected persons and families	Baht	600,000	-
5. Family Day	occasion	1	-
	person	500	-

Supplementary to the above, in collaboration with the concerned governmental and non-governmental agencies, the Department despatches the mobile family assistance units to outreach the families in the densely populated communities in Bangkok Metropolis and remote rural areas, so as to make such services promptly accessible to the needy people.

2. Telephone Counselling

A group of social workers and psychologists have been on duties to deliver telephone counselling to serve the callers in crisis situations or with life problems through the telephone number **1507 or 2801591 or 2813199 ext.5620**. To date, the telephone counselling service has been extended to 38 provinces namely,

Central : Kanchanaburi, Chachoengsao, Trad, Nakhon Nayok, Nakhon Pathom,

Nonthaburi, Prachuap Kiri Khan, Pra Nakhon Sri Ayutthaya, Rayong, Ratchaburi, Samut Sakorn, Samut Songkram, and Suphan Buri

Northeast : Kalasin, Khon Kaen, Nakhon Ratchasima, Buriram, Roi Et, Sakon Nakhon, Surin and Udon Thani

North : Kamphaeng Phet, Chiang Mai, Payao, Pitsanulok, Petchabun, Prae, Mae Hong Son, Lampang, Lamphun, and Uttaradit

South : Krabi, Nakhon Sri Thammarat, Narathiwat, Pattani, Phang nga, Phuket and Surat Thani

During 1996, telephone counselling service benefitted 35,917 callers classifying into 4,018 persons in Bangkok Metropolis and 31,899 persons in the provincial areas respectively.

3. Development and Assistance to Distressing People in the Community

In realizing the problems and needs of people in the overcrowded communities in Bangkok Metropolis and their access to welfare services, the Department of Public Welfare has accordingly set up **"District Public Welfare Office"** in 6 districts of Bangkok Metropolis namely,

1. Public Welfare Office District I, Huay Kwang
2. Public Welfare Office District II, Klong Chan
3. Public Welfare Office District III, Klong Toey
4. Public Welfare Office District IV, Din Daeng
5. Public Welfare Office District V, Bang Khun Thian
6. Public Welfare Office District VI, Dusit

The above offices are entrusted to be the district social welfare data center, to deliver assistance, to

rehabilitate people in need, and to protect welfare of the needy in the respective district, including to promote the establishment of people's organization in the form of **"community center."** The center coordinates the efforts of public and private sectors in planning and implementing such welfare services to people in the respective district as day care, youth and elderly activities, people's library services, and vocational training for women. Six community centers have so far been set up as follows.

1. Huay Kwang Community Center
2. Klong Chan Community Center
3. Klong Toey Community Center
4. Din Daeng Community Center
5. Bueng Praram IV Community Center
6. Prasong-Sud Sakorn Toojinda Community Center

During 1996, the above District Public Welfare Offices provided welfare services and implemented developmental activities to upgrade living conditions of the people in the respective communities as detailed in the next table.



Assistance and Development to Needy Persons in the Community in 1996

Activity	Unit	Accomplishments
1. Survey and visit to the needy persons in the overcrowded communities	community person	63 3,228
2. Provision of commodities	person	478
3. Case referral	Baht person	62,520 224
4. Following up assistance to needy persons	family	1,100
5. Despatch of mobile unit (60 times)	person	10,477
6. Assistance to children and youth under the CCF Foundation	person Baht	528 1,934,411
7. Provision of welfare services to the elderly	person	1,818
8. Organizing three types of camp		
● the elderly	person	50
● family	person	360
● youth	person	320
9. Organizing activities on "the National Youth Day"	person	500
10. Organizing activities on community development	occasion	6
11. Promotion of activities of the Foundation for Promotion of Youth Activities in the Overcrowded Community	project Baht	6 128,000
12. Promotion and support of community center		
● pre-school child care	person/day	780
● youth library services	person	17,085
● people's library services	user	19,609
● training courses for women	trainee	552
13. Promotion of the provision of monthly subsistent allowance for the elderly by the private sector's contribution	person	200
14. Promotion of Support Group		
● Provision of scholarship for children	person Baht	48 139,500
15. Coordination with Gos and NGOs in solving and prevention of social problems		
● GOs (18 agencies)	Baht	118,384
● NGOs (74 agencies)	Baht	221,912
● Organizing activities for families, children, and the elderly	occasion person	415 10,471



4. Temporary Shelter

In compliance with the Cabinet's resolution on September 18, 1990, the Department of Public Welfare was entrusted with the responsibility for implementing an **"Emergency Project on Housing for the Urban Poor"**. By this, the poor deprived of housing due to fire, public disaster, court's eviction, or destitution were sheltered in the following four emergency homes.

1. A temporary shelter at Thanyaburi, Pathum Thani province, 50 units.

2. A temporary shelter at Soi On Nooch, Bangkok Metropolis, 100 units.

3. A temporary shelter near Suan Kaew Temple, Nonthaburi province, 50 units.

4. A temporary shelter at Pak Kred, Nonthaburi province, 100 units.

During 1996, the Department arranged temporary shelters to serve 2,037 families with housing problems totalling 5,608 persons.

Apart from the above services, the Department of Public Welfare also operates **"Hostel for Travellers"** to provide free-of-charge temporary accommodation to low-income people, the patients awaiting hospitalization, the needy people travelling from the provincial areas or people referred therein for temporary stay by the social agencies. Moreover, a minimal rent of 30 Baht per person per night is charged for the groups of people such as youth, students, and adults elsewhere coming to Bangkok Metropolis to participate in any activity or for study visit. In 1996, the rental fees collected from the following first two groups of visitors amounted to 987,810 Baht.

1. Low-income people and the general public numbering 2,281 persons.
2. Groups of students numbering 30,646 persons.
3. Needy people with free-of-charge services numbering 7,906 persons.

The total number of people served by the hostel during 1996 was 40,833 persons.

5. Development of Rural Families' Quality of Life

Through the implementation of the Development of Rural Families' Quality of Life Project, the rural poor are given employment opportunities to generate steady income in their respective communities without

resorting to migration or mobility. The family institution is therefore strengthened while living conditions of the family members are upgraded along with the environmental and public rural facilities development. In 1996, the project was carried out on a nationwide scale in 75 provinces as shown in the next table.

Development of Rural Families's Quality of Life in 1996

Project	Total Budget (Baht)	Accomplishments		
		No. of Sub- projects	No. of Participants (Person)	No. of Beneficiaries (Person)
1. Development of Rural Families' Quality of Life Project	50,000,000.00	1,628	18,515	92,575
2. Development of Rural Families' Quality of Life According to the Assistance and Rehabilitation of the Disaster Victims (October 15, 1995 - March 5, 1996)	196,206,209.42	2,598	104,675	523,375
Total	246,206,209.42	4,226	123,190	615,950





6. Supervision of Private Hostels

Under the Hostel Act of B.E.2507 (1964), the Department of Public Welfare is responsible for supervision of private hostels more than 5 persons. In so doing, the Department protects welfare, promotes living conditions of the students residing in the private hostels by ensuring safety and standardized services, prevents

exploitation of the hostel operators particularly the unscrupulous rent, and provides information services regarding hostels for the youth in the educational institutions seeking accommodation. During 1996, the activities relating to supervision of the private hostels are indicated in the following table.

Supervision of Private Hostels in 1996

Activity	Unit	Accomplishments
1. Visit, inspection, and promotion of the registered hostels in consonance with the Hostel Act	hostel	2,360
2. Inspection and control of the unregistered hostels and the hostels where the complaints were made thereof	hostel	154
3. Violation charges against hostels	hostel	1
4. Arrangement for transfer of ownership of hostels and changing of hostel regulations	hostel	136
5. Arrangement for closing down of hostels	hostel	123
6. Registering new hostels	hostel	33
7. Renewing annual license of hostels	hostel	2,327
8. Information service to the students and parents	hostel	1,275
9. Visit, inspection, and selection of the Annual Distinguished Hostels	hostel	120
10. Visit, inspection of hostels in provincial areas	province	9
11. Annual meeting with owners and managers of hostels	occasion	1

7. Public Donation for Distressing People

To promote people participation in delivering prompt welfare services to the distressing people at a wide coverage of areas, the Department of Public Welfare serves as a center for donation campaign of both cash and commodities from the public. The center is located at the Department's Office and named **"Donation Center for Assistance to Distressing People, Department of Public Welfare"**. The interested donors are welcomed to contribute directly at the center or to send their contribution to the Provincial Public Welfare Office in each particular province all over the country. Donation is also collected at the home or office upon request through the telephone number 2815030 or 2825543

Furthermore, the Department also initiated the **"Generosity Project"** whereby the interested people may donate their items through the donation boxes installed at the various communities in Bangkok Metropolis e.g. the government offices, the department stores.

The collected commodities will be further sorted out, grouped, repaired, cleaned, and packed for allocating to both the public and private organizations prior to assisting the needy people as intended by the donors.

In 1996, all donated items were received from 1,949 donors in the amount of 14,488,515.80 Baht consisting of

- 730 donors in cash valuing 4,541,858.75 Baht.
- 1,219 donors in kind valuing 8,938,307.05 Baht.

Donated items were received through the "Generosity Project" in the amount of 1,008,350 Baht which were allocated to 487 agencies of the Department and 190 other agencies.

All the donated cash and commodities were extended to 194,188 needy people valuing 26,631,381 Baht.



PROMOTION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL SOCIAL WELFARE

In consonance with the Regulation of the Office of the Prime Minister on Promotion of National Social Welfare of B.E.2537 (1994), the Department of Public Welfare has set up **"the Office of the National Commission on Social Welfare Promotion"** to be entrusted to promote and support the non-governmental social welfare in such forms as social work technique and personnel support; granting of subsidies; moral support extended to the social work volunteers; facilitation, coordination between the public and private endeavours in remedying social problems and engaging in social development.

In the year 1996, the activities pertaining to the promotion of non-governmental social welfare are detailed as follows.

1. Secretariat to the Commission

1.1 The National Social Welfare Commission

- Organizing 1996 National Social Welfare's Day and the Fourth National Assembly on Social Welfare on the 21th of October which marked the Birthday Anniversary of H.R.H. the Princess Mother and also inviting governmental, non-governmental

organizations and all provinces to organize activities for this graciously occasion.

- Proposing documents on concepts and directions of social welfare development derived from the National Social Welfare Commission and the Provincial Social Welfare Promotion Committee to the National Economic and Social Development Board in order to be incorporated in the Eighth National Economic and Social Development Plan.

- Preparing the Third National Plan for Development of Social Welfare and Social Work (1997-2001) by appointing a special sub-committee to draft this plan.

- Publication of the National Report translated into Thai which has been presented in the World Summit for Social Development convened in Copenhagen, Denmark in 1995.

1.2 The Provincial Social Welfare Promotion Committee

Supporting and encouraging the implementation of the Provincial Social Welfare Promotion Committee in relation to budgeting, technical matters, etc.



2. Promotion and Development of Non-governmental Social Welfare Organizations

2.1 Participating as the executive committee members of 29 non-governmental social welfare organizations and attending the meetings for giving advice (200 occasions).

2.2 Scrutinizing the grant of annual government subsidies to 101 non-governmental social welfare organizations in the amount of 24.9 million Baht.

2.3 Nominating a number of 30 distinguished contributors to social welfare for Royal consideration in awarding the prestigious decorations.

2.4 Selecting 100 qualified social workers for consideration of Professor Pakorn Angusingha's Foundation in awarding the annual **"Distinguished Social Workers"**.

2.5 Visiting and assessing the proposed projects for annual government subsidies and following-up the performance of 101 non-governmental social welfare organizations subsidized by the government (127 occasions).

2.6 Coordinating with non-governmental social welfare organizations namely,

● Professor Pakorn Angsu-singha's Foundation in organizing 1996 Pakorn's Day to award and acknowledge **"1996 Distinguished Social Workers"** at Prince Palace Hotel, Bangkok on February 15, 1996.

● The Council on Ageing of Thailand in convening a seminar on **"Self-preparation Before Retirement"** during July 17-19, 1996 at Prince Palace Hotel, Bangkok.

● Faculty of Social Administrations, Thammasart University in convening a seminar on "Priest with Social Welfare" on August 30, 1996 at the National Council on Women, Bangkok.

3. Registration and Information

3.1 Conducting survey and revising the data on 5,000 non-governmental social welfare organizations nationwide.

3.2 Publishing the directory of non-governmental social welfare organizations nationwide for 1,000 copies.

3.3 Servicing information on non-governmental social welfare organizations to the interested organizations and people and advising on the establishment of non-governmental organizations (200 occasions).

3.4 Scrutinizing and issuing the letters of reference to the concerned governmental authorities for renewing non-immigrant visa to 116 foreign volunteers attached to 42 non-governmental social welfare organizations.

3.5 Conducting a seminar for foreign volunteers attached to the non-governmental social welfare organizations.

3.6 Paying visits to foreign volunteers working with 16 non-governmental social welfare organizations in both Bangkok Metropolis and provincial areas.



Apart from the undertakings of the National Commission on Social Welfare, the Department of Public Welfare promoted the following activities of the non-governmental social welfare organizations.

1. Supervision and Promotion of Funeral Assistance Associations

The Department of Public Welfare supervises and promotes the operation of funeral assistance asso-

ciations and the funeral assistance of the government and state enterprises in accordance with the Funeral Assistance Act of B.E. 2517 (1974). This kind of program is an indispensable contemporary social welfare to strengthen the security of family, community, and society.

The accomplished activities in observance of the Funeral Assistance Act during 1996 are indicated in the next table.

Supervision of Funeral Assistance Associations in 1996

Activity	Unit	Accomplishments
1. Supervising and promoting the funeral assistance associations		
● funeral assistance associations nationwide	association	3,109
● members	person	5,407,825
● value of assistance	million Baht	3,385
2. Supervising and promoting the funeral assistance associations attached to the agencies		
● funeral assistance associations nationwide	association	73
● members	person	1,685,981
● value of assistance	million Baht	156
3. Registering the funeral assistance associations		
● registering the associations	association	94
● registering to dissolve the associations	association	8
● registering to modify the regulations of the association	occasion	143
● registering and changing the committee members	association/person	276/2,177
4. Inspecting the operation of the funeral assistance associations		
● inspecting the minutes of the annual meeting of the associations	association	216
● announcing the registration for establishment and closing down of the associations in the Government Gazette	association	166
● paying visits to the office of the funeral assistance associations	association	850
● inspecting the account and balance of the associations	association	1,100
● advising on finance and accounting of the associations	occasion	930
5. Arranging training for the staff and committee members of the funeral assistance associations	occasion/person	34/2,838

2. Promotion and Development of Public Welfare Volunteers

In the endeavour to mobilize valuable human resources and to promote people from all occupations to form themselves into group of volunteers with unity and sacrifice and to participate in the welfare services delivery to people under distresses, the Department of Public Welfare has been a focal point in training these interested persons to be public welfare volunteers in order to equip them with basic knowledge in social welfare. Moreover, these volunteers are also promoted to partake in the Department's activities as well as to initiate their own welfare activities. To date, the organization of these public welfare volunteers has taken the forms of the public welfare volunteers' club, the association of the public welfare volunteers, and the foundation for promotion of public welfare volunteers.

In 1996, the Department of Public Welfare undertook the activities to promote the public welfare volunteers as below.

2.1 Training 30 groups of public welfare volunteers in 30 provinces numbering 2,000 persons.

2.2 Organizing meetings to clarify the policy guidelines of public welfare volunteers for 2 occasions with 200 participants.

2.3 Promoting activities of public welfare volunteers in assisting people under various distresses for 390 occasions with value of assistance for 5.7 million Baht.

2.4 Organizing "1996 Distinguished Public Welfare Volunteers Award" to acknowledge 52 distinguished public welfare volunteers out of 700 participating volunteers.



3. Promotion and Development of Village Welfare Assistance Center

To redistribute welfare services provided by both public and private sectors to the villagers in the rural areas, to make them more accessible to such services and to support them to set up self-help organizations at the village level, the Department of Public Welfare has been promoting the establishment of **Village Welfare Assistance Center**. The center aims to render the primary and prompt assistance to the villagers under distresses, to be a source of basic social welfare data, and to be a coordinating center of both public and private welfare delivery efforts in the respective localities.

The Department of Public Welfare promoted and developed the Village Welfare Assistance Center in 1996 as follows.

3.1 Promotion for establishment of village welfare assistance center in 75 provinces numbering 16,943 centers, adding up to an overall number of 62,399 centers.

3.2 Financial contribution to the Village Welfare Assistance Center's Fund in the amount of 12,500 Baht for each center, making the present number of the center with operating fund to reach 52,257 centers.

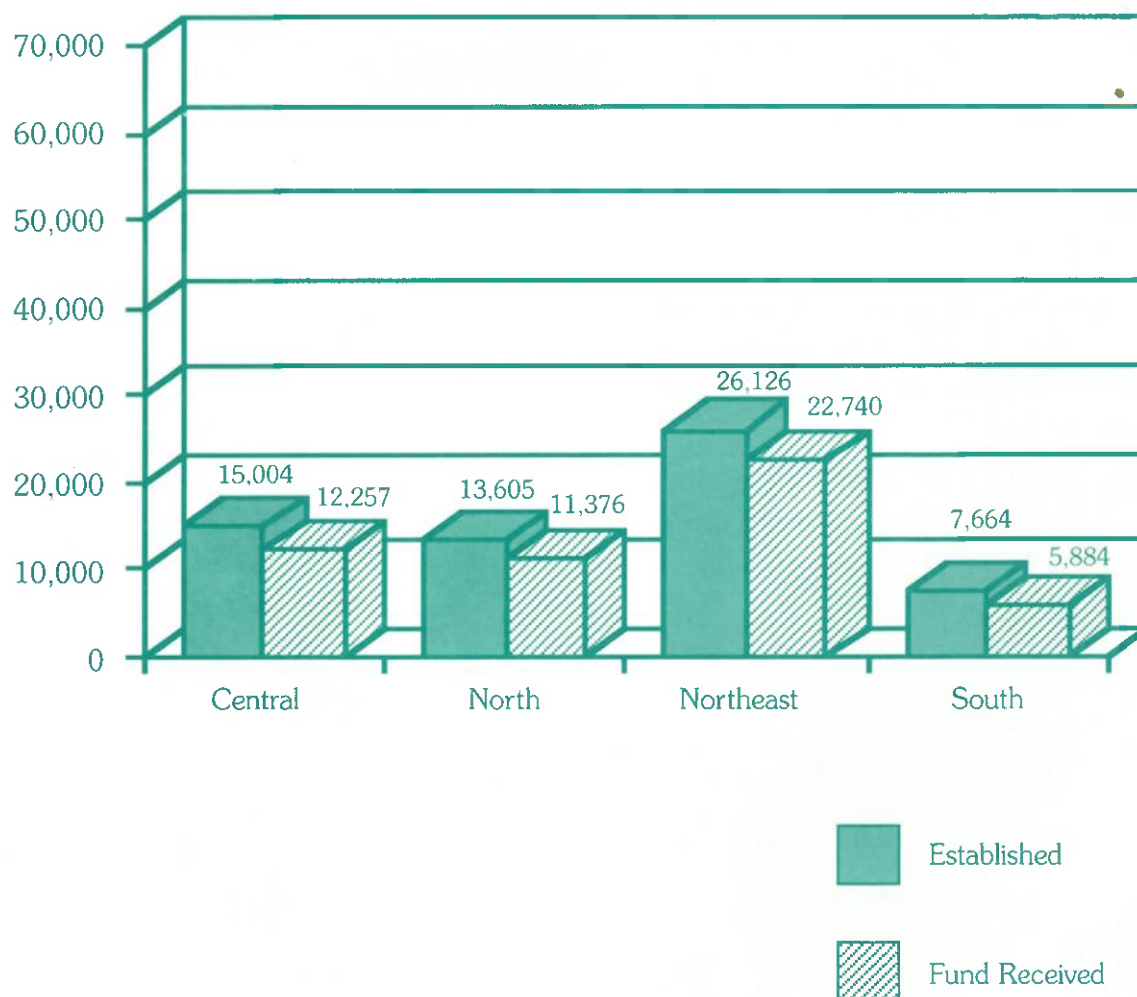
3.3 Training to review the performance of the committee members for 42,900 village welfare assistance centers in 810 districts of 75 provinces.

Establishment of Village Welfare Assistance Center (VWAC)

(Center)

Region	No. of Total Villages	No. of VWAC	
		Established	Fund Received
Central	15,784	15,004	12,257
North	14,243	13,605	11,376
Northeast	28,952	26,126	22,740
South	7,995	7,664	5,884
Total	66,974	62,399	52,257

(Center)





4. Promotion of Activities of the Council on Ageing of Thailand

During 1996, the Department of Public Welfare promoted the various projects undertaken by the Council on Ageing of Thailand, of which the significant ones are entitled below.

1. Self-preparation Before Retirement, through organizing seminars participated by both the public and private sectors.

2. The Elderly Camp.

3. Promotion and Development of the Elderly's Club in regional areas.

4. Publication of Documents for Dissemination.

5. Educating the Members of the Council on Ageing of Thailand.

6. Preparation of the Directory of the Experienced Elderly.

7. Study of Appropriate Elderly Club's Model.

8. Visual Rehabilitation for the Elderly.

9. Employment Services for the Elderly.

SELF-HELP LAND SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT

Self-help land settlement scheme is one of the social welfare programs implemented by the Department of Public Welfare in response to the government policy in allocating the uncultivated land for agricultural purpose to the poor, needy, and landless to settle and farm permanently in the newly planned communities. The agricultural, occupational, educational, health, and public utilities development have been implemented concurrently with the land allocation to the settlers.

Up to the present, 59 self-help land settlements dispersely located in 41 provinces have already been set up, 15 settlements out of which in 13 provinces have been phased out to be under the administration of the respective provincial authorities in accordance with the Land Allocation for Livelihood Act of B.E.2511 (1968). As such, 44 settlements have remained under the jurisdiction of the Department of Public Welfare covering a

land area of 6,239,167 rai in 35 provinces with a total population of 193,978 settlers' families.

Self-help land settlements can be classified into five following categories.

1. General Self-help Land Settlements

The settlements in this category were established to help alleviate poverty and related social problems such as relocation of people from the slum areas, the squatters on public land, the victims of disaster.

2. Settlements for Evacuees from Flooded Areas

In line with the Cabinet's resolution in 1963, the settlements in this category were set up with the aim of resettling and assisting people who were evacuated





from flooded areas due to the construction of irrigation dams and electricity-generating dams of the government.

3. Settlements in Border and Sensitive Areas

For the purpose of national security and morale support of the people residing in the remote border and communist infested areas especially during the 1960's and 1970's, self-help land settlements of this sort were established in accordance with the Cabinet's resolution in 1969 through the cooperation of the related governmental agencies. This is to assist the settlers in terms of occupation, health care and education, road construction and water resources development including the setting up of village peace-keeping force.

4. Settlements as an Economic and Political Measure

In compliance with the resolution of the Cabinet in 1961, the Department of Public Welfare established self-help land settlements in the three southern provinces near the border in the deserted and remote land area of Satun, Yala and Narathiwat provinces. People from other regions of the country were integrated in

these areas with the local people for national security and political stability purpose.

5. Special Settlements

Settlements were established in order to introduce new occupation with high economic benefits i.e. dairy farm to the settlers as well as to help solve certain administrative constraints.

During 1996, accomplishments of self-help land settlement program are as follows.

1. Self-help Land Settlement Administration

Activities in this respect comprised allocation of land to the recruited settlers; issuance of Certificate Indicating Utilization of Land (Nor Kor 3) to the qualified settlers in observance of the Land Allocation for Livelihood Act of B.E.2511 (1968), infrastructure and water resources development, credit extension for agriculture, and other supplementary occupations at low interest rate together with acceleration of credit repayment to be further utilized as revolving fund for other groups of settlers in need of vocational capital.

Self-help Land Settlement Administration

Activity	Unit	Accomplishments
1. Issuance of Certificate of Land Utilization (Nor Kor3)	plot	12,206
2. Recruitment of the new settlers	person	10,194
3. Cadastral survey of the settler's land	rai	170,790
4. Collection of credit repayment from the settlers	million Baht	22.85
5. Construction of road		
● asphalt rural highway	km.	145.75
● laterite road	km.	12.25
6. Maintenance of road	km.	1,422
7. Installation of reinforced concrete pipelines	unit	2,202
8. Construcation of reinforced concrete bridges	unit	28
9. Construction of box culvert	unit	14
10. Extension and improvement of electrical system	settlement	3
11. Building of public signboards	unit	1,680

2. Occupational Development

In order to secure the settlers the decent livelihood on the allocated land, agricultural promotion and development including other supportive services have been carried out on a full scale. Moreover, cottage industry utilizing local natural resources has also been promoted for the settlers to spend their leisure time

economically. Marketing at farm is arranged side by side with opening up the market in the settlements. The agro-industry in the settlements has been initiated to employ the settlers' family members. Parallel to these, the settlers are encouraged to form the farmers' groups to protect their own interest.



Occupational Development in 1996

Activity	Unit	Accomplishments
1. Occupational and social development	village/family	1,634/244,850
2. Occupational promotion		
● Crop	person	23,380
● Livestock	person	8,800
● Sericulture	person	1,453
● Alternative agriculture	person	4,440
● Off-farm agriculture	person	1,886
3. Community forest promotion	rai	50,706
4. Promotion of the Royal Initiation Project's activities		
● Crop	person	416
● Livestock	person	124
● Sericulture	person	169
● Promotion under the Foundation for the Promotion of Supplementary Occupations and Technique (SUPPORT)	person	303

3. Social Development

Social development in the self-help land settlement is undertaken in order to elevate the quality of life of the settlers up to the level of the Basic Minimum Needs (BMN) standard set forth by the government. The strategy of rural development accompanies the

distribution of welfare services and the participation of the public, private and business enterprise sectors along with the academics and the settlers themselves, all of which are cooperative efforts directed toward settlement development on the basis of mutual assistance.



Social Development in 1996

Activity	Unit	Accomplishments
1. Training of settlers	person	19,482
2. Establishment and development of people's organizations	group	520
3. Promotion of people's participation in development activities	sub-project/person	390/39,000
4. Provision of welfare services to the settlers	person	8,815
5. Child welfare and development (under the support of the C.C.F. Foundation in Thailand)	person	7,349

4. Water Resources Development

This is in order to provide small scale water resources for the settlers and people living nearby the settlement areas for the purpose of consumption and agricultural development adequately all year round.

Water Resources Development in 1996

Activity	Unit	Accomplishments
1. Construction of irrigation system		
● weir	location	17
● pond	location	13
● deep well	well	33
● shallow well	well	19
● rain water storage tank	location	84
● water storage tank	location	2
● water pumping system for agriculture	location	1
2. Maintenance of irrigation system		
● Maintenance of weir	location	20
● Excavation of pond, reservoir, swamp	location	21
● Excavation of brook	location	16
3. Construction of water works system	location	15
4. Maintenance of water works system	location	18

In addition to the aforementioned, rubber plantation in the northeast settlements has been promoted in 13 settlements in order to substitute plantation of field

crops. In 1996, 1,482 settlers have planted rubber in the areas of 16,289 rai.

HILLTRIBE WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT



The tribals are one of the target population of the Department of Public Welfare. Their living conditions is substandard, viewed both in social and economic terms. Major problems associating with these tribals can be stated as political and administrative constraints, opium cultivation, drug dependence, and conservation of natural resources and environment.

A survey of the hilltribe population to prepare the directory of highland communities in Thailand during 1995 disclosed that there were 745,910 tribals inhabiting scatteringly in 20 provinces of the North and Central West of the country, 53.37 percent out of whom are Thai nationals. These tribals are highly populous in the North and ethnically divided into nine distinct tribes namely Hmong, Yao, Lisu, Akha, Lawa,

Karen, Khamu, ^{ရှမ်း} H' tin and ^{မလေး} Mlabri, the last of whom was included according to the classification of the Tribal Research Institute of the Department of Public Welfare.

In implementing welfare and development programs for the hilltribes, the Department of Public Welfare has identified the development areas and adopted the integrated rural development as the principal development strategy. By this,, the occupational and social development are carried out along with the educational, health, and spiritual development through the machineries of 14 Hilltribe Welfare and Development Centers so as to attain the three aspects of policy guidelines, namely politics and administration; economic and social development; and conservation, utilization and development of natural resources.

H'mong
2100
Lahu
Akha

During 1996, welfare and development programs for the hilltribes are detailed as follows.

1. Migration of Hilltribe Labour

Due to the limited land for agriculture in high-land areas with an increasing number of working age hilltribe people, this has resulted in rural-urban migration of those people. It was estimated that in 1995, a number of 28,261 hilltribe people migrated to urban areas. Most of them are unskilled labourers without Thai nationality, who are deceived into illegal activities and some of them have been exploited by unscrupulous employers.

The Department of Public Welfare, therefore, has planned to establish the skilled labour development system in collaboration with the concerned governmental organizations under the Project entitled "Systematic Migration of Hilltribe Labour". This is in order to provide suitable employment for hilltribe people and to protect those who migrate to the cities not being exploited by others. The young hilltribes are encouraged to remain in the highland areas, working in agricultural

and non-agricultural sectors to earn sufficient income. As for those who migrate to the cities in search of work, they will be provided with protection against unfair employment and also vocational training and job placement.

2. Granting Thai Nationality to the Hilltribes

The Department of Public Welfare as the focal point in granting Thai nationality to the hilltribes has informed those qualified hilltribes to apply for Thai nationality in order to provide them basic rights in owning land, occupation, education including making legal act.

3. Campaign of AIDS Prevention among the Hilltribes

AIDS disease is currently a crucial public health problem. In Thailand, the most apparent transmission of AIDS is through heterosexual and intravenous injection. The common sexual practices and the changing form of drug-taking from opium smoking to intravenous injection have considerably increased the rate of AIDS



transmission among people on the highlands. Consequently, the Department of Public Welfare deems it expedite to curb the transmission of AIDS through dissemination of AIDS education and prevention of AIDS particularly among the target groups namely the hilltribe youth, women and leaders. The target areas covered 18 provinces of the North and the East.

Main activities implemented in 1996 are as

follows:

- Personnel development (9,416 persons)
- Welfare assistance for AIDS patients (15 persons)
- Family assistance for AIDS patients' families (371 families)
- Vocational capital for AIDS patients' families (532 families)

Besides, in 1996, the Hilltribe Development Programs have been implemented in the areas of 14 Hilltribe Welfare and Development Centers as follows.

Hilltribe Welfare and Development in 1996

Activity	Unit	Amount
1. Hilltribe Development Plan		
1.1 Hilltribe Welfare and Development		
Agriculture		
● promotion of crops cultivation	rai	21,250
● propagation of fruit trees	tree	79,150
● maintenance of crops	rai	360
● demonstration and cultivation of crops	rai	75
● promotion of conserved crop cultivation	rai	5,619
● promotion of community forestry afforestation	rai	210
● promotion of upstream forestry afforestation	rai	187
Education		
● support of temporary schools	school	50
● support of child development centers	center	108
Training		
● occupational development	person	6,607
● social development	person	4,015
● support of Buddhist monks' activities	monk	300
● campaign on cultivation of vetiver grass	center	14
1.2 Upland Agriculture Development		
● cultivation of temperate fruit trees	rai	250
● cultivation of passion fruits	rai	72
● cultivation of temperate flowers	rai	30

Activity	Unit	Amount
● cultivation of vetiver grass	rai	215
● cultivation of temperate vegetables	rai	210
● cultivation of tea	rai	5
● cultivation of bamboo	rai	55
● maintenance of perennial fruit trees	rai	630
● maintenance of coffee trees	rai	100
● cultivation of upland crop (rice)	rai	350
● cultivation of coffee trees	rai	90
● maintenance of flowers	rai	2.5
● maintenance of passion fruits	rai	313
● cultivation of dried flowers	rai	107.5
● cultivation of large red beans	rai	400
● demonstration of temperate fruit trees	rai	22
● promotion of forestry afforestation	rai	195
1.3 The Thai-German Highlands Development Project		
● agricultural promotion	rai	1,316
● welfare assistance for the hilltribes	family	60
● training	person	630
1.4 Project on Environmental and Community Development and Drug Suppression on Highlands		
● agricultural promotion	rai	1,950
● training	person	900
● welfare assistance for the hilltribes	family	100
2. Drug Suppression and Treatment Plan		
2.1 Solving of Drug Problems Project		
● conducting exhibition on drug prevention	center	14
● walking campaign against drug	center	14
● surveying and registering drug dependent hilltribes	village	22
● community-based rehabilitation for drug dependent hilltribes	person	300
● family assistance for the needy and drug dependent hilltribes	family	50
● training on prevention of drug diffusion	person	3,330
● voluntary treatment for the drug addicts	person	282
● treatment for drug dependent hilltribes by Buddhist monks	person	160
● mental and physical rehabilitation through occupational training for ex-drug dependent hilltribes	person	300

SOCIAL WELFARE AND SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

In order to deliver effective social services responsive to people's needs amidst the changing social and economic circumstances, the Department of Public Welfare thus sees it essential to conduct the continuing studies and researches. This is to obtain the results for planning and future development of the Department's programs for utmost benefits of the underprivileged people being served.

In 1996, the Department of Public Welfare has conducted researches under the following titles:

1. Vocational Rehabilitation for the Disabled:
A Comparative Study of the Services Provided by the Vocational Training Centers for the Disabled in Samut Prakan and Khon Kaen provinces.
2. Adoption : A Case Study of Inter-country Adoption.
3. Social and Economic Conditions of the Thai Adoptive Families.
4. A Study of People's Living Conditions in Repeated Drought Villages of the Northeast of

Thailand.

5. The Collaboration of the Provincial Public Welfare Offices with the Non-Governmental Social Welfare Organizations: A Case Study of Disaster Relief in Lower Part of the South of Thailand.

Apart from the researches as formerly described, a number of researches were also conducted by "The Tribal Research Institute" under the Department of Public Welfare. This center is the focal point responsible for conducting social, economic, educational, health care, and anthropological studies and researches related to the tribals in Thailand in order to provide them assistance and development.

In 1996, a number of researches have been conducted as follows:

1. Continuing researches of the fiscal year 1995 were under 3 titles as follows.

1.1 The Akha Culture in Solving Prostitution Problem: A Case Study of Divorce.





1.2 The Implementation of the Village Welfare Assistance Center: A Case Study of Karen and Lahu.

1.3 Education, Knowledge, Attitude and AIDS Prevention: A Case Study of the Hilltribe Languages.

2. Researches conducted in the fiscal year 1996 were under 10 titles as follows.

2.1 Land Management's Rights on Highlands: An Adjustment of Norm and Culture under the Government's Context

2.2 Participation of Yao in the Development Projects at the Local Level.

2.3 Social Welfare Implementation at the District Level: Problems and Solutions.

2.4 Knowledge and Understanding of People on Highlands Towards Access to Social Services.

2.5 Factors and Social Backgrounds of Female Hilltribe Prostitutes: A Comparative Study

Against AIDS and Prostitution of Lua, Akha, Lahu, Bisu and Taiyai.

2.6 Campaign on Knowledge for Self-Protection from AIDS among the Hilltribe Women: Process of Establishing Community-based Role.

2.7 Participation of Karen in the Development Projects at the Local Level.

2.8 Data Collection on Education of the Hilltribe Students in Thailand.

2.9 The Museum Project in Collecting Reports on Art Materials.

2.10 The Media Production Project of the Hilltribe's Way of Life.

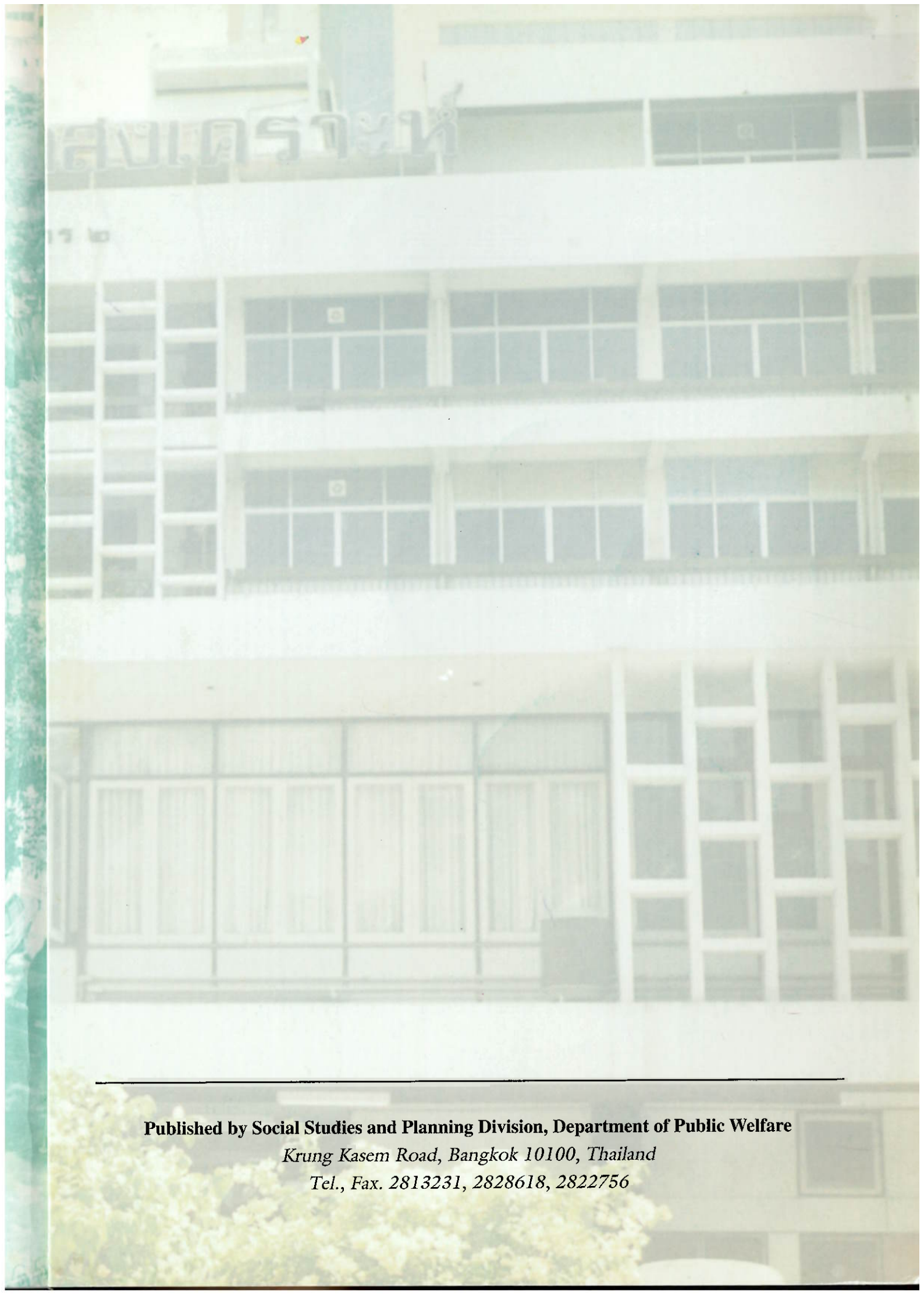
In addition, "A Research for Development on Campaigning Knowledge for Self-Protection from AIDS Among the Hilltribe Women" has been specifically conducted under the Program on Prevention and Control of AIDS. Also "A Study on an Appropriate Model of the Elderly Club" has been conducted with the Council on Ageing of Thailand.

The Department of Public Welfare (DPW)

E-mail: prachuab@loxinfo.co.th

E-mail: adoption@loxinfo.co.th

<http://www.infonews.co.th/DPW>



สงเคราะห์

Published by Social Studies and Planning Division, Department of Public Welfare
Krung Kasem Road, Bangkok 10100, Thailand
Tel., Fax. 2813231, 2828618, 2822756

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE KRUNG-KASEM ROAD BANGKOK 10100

