

Country Study

on

Informal Sector in Thailand

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1. Introduction

In the last ten years, there has been a growing interest in the informal sector and its role and potential in creating employment and generating income for the rural and urban poor of Thailand.

The Sixth National Economic and Social Development Plan (1987-1991) recognises this potential role in employment creation and income generation of the informal sector. For the first time in Thailand's development planning, it has included in its policy statement, its aim to develop the informal sector, particularly the self-employed, in order to create jobs both the urban and rural work force through a systematic and full package approach of training, finance, marketing, management, technology, improvement, attitude development and participation. The Seventh National Economic and Social Development Plan (1992-1996) also stated more clearly to encourage provision of basic necessities for small-scale urban informal operators and self-employed urban workers, as well as provide supplementary employment to rural agricultural workers in the dry season and during the pre-harvest period, via the following:

(1) Encourage relevant agencies to set up a modern business information system, including information on marketing, sources of funds, and production for use in coordinating production plan in line with demand of both domestic and external markets in quantity and quality terms, as well as encourage exchanges of the above information among interested parties.

(2) Encourage coordination among concerned public agencies and the private sector to reduce duplication of work, and support a more integrated production system among the self-employed and those in the informal sector by promoting the Small-Scale Handicrafts Business Centre to coordinate activities in occupational development, production technology, capital, and marketing, as well as encourage organization of savings groups for businesses.

(3) Encourage employees who have acquired sufficient skills and experiences to set up their own businesses by providing advice on project preparation to seek financial assistance from public or private financial institutions.

(4) Support systems of sub-contracting, contracting, and home-based work, such as jewellery cutting, artificial flower making, and other industrial activities which have growth potential by encouraging the private sector to be the leading

party in securing raw materials, markets, in giving advice, developing skills, as well as improving production techniques.

(5) Revise and relax rules, regulations and operational procedures which are obstacles for informal sector and self-employed businesses, such as encouragement of a greater private sector role in skill training, reduction of unnecessary steps for registration of businesses, and opportunities for joint loan guarantee schemes between public agencies, or financial institutions and the business operators.

(6) Ensure coordination among concerned agencies to provide support in terms of occupational development, finance, marketing and raw materials to agricultural workers to ensure that they have supplementary employment during the dry season, as well as encourage workers in poverty areas with regular drought problems to be able to carry out non-farm activities.

2. Status

2.1 Background

During the structural adjustment decade of the 1980s, the Thai Economy showed great flexibility and registered very impressive growth rates. At a time when all countries were hit by a global recession and external environment, Thailand followed a judicious adjustment path through fiscal discipline, trade and exchange rate reforms that sustained investment, output and employment. There have been respectable sectoral growth rate, and their export-led campaign returned impressive growth rate of exports to contain growing trade imbalances that most of the Asian countries faced. Substantial structural shifts have taken place, with manufacturing and service sectors increasing their share in GDP.

While the economy has grown fast, and has reduced poverty and unemployment, it appears that the largest contributor to enhancing job and income entitlements came from un-organized sector, the so-called informal sector in the manufacturing, trade and service sectors. There are several factors that tend to explain the growth of informal sector activities. First, during the 1980s, whether due to recession or subsequent structural adjustment policies, there has been a slow-down in labour absorption in both public and private sectors, as well as trimming and retrenchment. This, together with high labour force growth and limited incremental labour-absorption capacity of agricultural sector, forced the unemployed to resort to informal sector activities, whether through self-employed or workers. Second, while the organized manufacturing sector grew at impressive rates, employment elasticity for the sector seems to have been declining. Third, the recession which adversely hit agricultural prices, and incomes of the rural poor, encouraged migration to the cities and the informal sector activities for enhancing household income. Fourth, various large organized

firms, whether foreign or domestic, in order to maintain labour market flexibility and competitiveness resorted to subcontracting that led to the proliferation of informal sector units. Moreover, it is contended that when formal sector institutions and enterprises fall to cope with the needs of a fast growing economy, informal sector activities tend to multiply to fill in the vacuum during the transition phase.

All the said factors have contributed to rising magnitudes of the informal sector.

2.2 Concepts and definition

The concept of "informal sector" proposed by ILO since 1972 is probably the best known. It is generally understood to refer to small-scale units producing and distributing goods and services which is dominated by self-employment, family workers and a few employees. Entry is easy, requiring very little capital, use simple technology and skills, and level of production is quite low. Skilled used are acquired outside the formal school system, market are unregulated and competition.

In Thailand, there is no exact definition or official definition for the term "informal sector". In general, the term "informal sector" are widely used to refer to:-

(1) Self-employed or independent producers of goods and services, it also included self-employed workers in various field, such as petty retail trade, transport, manufacturing, construction, repair and maintenance service and others. Petty retail trade is one of the most visible activities, hawkers and venders selling cooked-food, fruits, sweets, vegetable, newspapers, clothing, garlands and other goods on the streets, sidewalks and small shops are a common sight in urban area. In a city of poor traffic system, motorcycle taxis become more and more popular transportation for the commuters.

(2) Sub-contractors and homeworkers, the activities under this group exist in various fields such as row-house garment factories, artificial-flower making, woodcarving leather goods such as shoes and handbags, X-mas lighting decoration, fishnet making, gems cutting, and others. At present, sub-contracting extend to farm, poultry and husbandry.

(3) Microenterprises with few workers, generally under ten (Some researchers prefer under 5 and some prefer under 20). In the microenterprises with few employees, sometimes the relationship between employer and employee often remain blurred because even so called employer earned little income, work under similar conditions and come from the rank of wage labour and certainly, there was no formal contract between the two. Though wage labour did not have any formal social protection, the

employers often came to rescue in case of emergency since the two had personalized relationship.

(4) Unpaid-family workers, the participants in this group usually join with (1) or (2) or (3)

(5) Own-account workers, this term is used in Labour Force Survey and Population Census which refer to self-employed who do their own business without any employees.

2.3 Size and significant

Informal sector activities had been more concerned with the ways of living in our Thai society. Before 1960, Thailand was agricultural country, more than 75% of labour force was in agricultural sector. Thai farmers could not work all year round, before planting and after harvesting, Thai farmers usually did some traditional works to kill the time and to earn some money. The traditional works usually followed their ancestors such as:- sericulture, handicraft, pottery, .etc. After 1970, non-farm activities became more and more important because it could contribute bigger source of income for farmers. The development of non-farm activities derived from government agencies and NGOs. Though, the assistance from GOs and NGOs could not push rural non-farm economy to big boom but it could relieve poverty at a certain level.

The growing awareness of interest in developing countries in the informal sector has led to an increase in the projects and programmes designed to assist this sector by GOs, NGOs and international organizations. The programmes and projects to assist, promote and develop the informal sector is wide and varied. There are projects aimed at assisting the unemployed to set up their own small or microenterprises which is defined as project on self-employment promotion. The next category consisting of income generating projects, mostly for women, are in part similar to the self-employment projects and in part designed to enhance the value added of home-based and other small-scale activities in which women are mostly engaged. Unlike the self-employment projects which focus on employment, the income generating activities stress the need for increasing the income of women who are already working either independently or jointly with others. The other category might focus on entrepreneurship development through training programmes. Groups forming for home-based workers or homeworkers were mostly assisted by NGOs. In recent years, a top down approach to assistance has been replaced by assistance directed more toward intermediate institution such as NGOs, which are in closer contact with the target group. Some programmes went even further, working directly with entrepreneurs and their own associations.

At present, informal sector was expanded very rapidly both in Bangkok and provinces. Its expansion was mostly interested because it related to a large number of people and various occupations.

It is rather difficult to mention the size of informal sector in Thailand. Since, there is no specific survey on informal sector. Statistics or estimated data from various studies shown some difference.

Statistics from Labour Force Survey (Round 1, 1994) which conducted by National Statistical Office are:

Population	59,034,900
Labour Force	31,049,900
- Employed Person	28,233,500
◇ In Agricultural Sector	12,400,600 (43.9%)
◇ In Non-agricultural Sector	15,832,900 (56.1%)
- Unemployed Person	1,244,400 (4%)
◇ Looking for work	200,100
◇ Available but not looking for work	1,044,200
◇◇ Waiting for farm	513,000
◇◇ Other reasons	729,000
Seasonally Inactive Labour Force	1,571,900
Not in Labour Force over 13 years of age	12,736,900
◇ Household work	3,862,900
◇ Studies	5,085,200
◇ Too young, too old or incapable of work	2,791,600
◇ Other	997,100
Persons under 13 years of age	15,248,000
Employed by Work Status	
Total	28,233,500
Employers	656,900 (2.3%)
Gov. employees	2,376,000 (8.4%)
Private employees	10,126,400 (35.9%)
Own-account workers	9,030,500 (32.0%)
Unpaid family workers	6,043,500 (21.4%)

From these statistics, if informal sector is based on work status which comprises unpaid family workers and own-account workers, the total number of employed person in informal sector will be about 15,074,000 or 53.4% of employed persons. If included 59% of private employees, the total number of employed persons in informal sector will be about 21,048,500 or 74.5% of the total employed persons. The reason of taking 59% is base on a finding of TDRI study on labour market segmentation in Thailand that suggests "private informal" would account for 59 percent of the total number in the "private employee". The rest 41 percent are "private formal" employees.

There are some studies shown statistics on informal sector, details are as follow:-

(1) Estimated data from "Labour Force, Employment and Unemployment" which compiled by NESDB (May 1995) shown that, the employment in informal sector are almost double of formal sector. The trend of employment in informal sector will decrease from 24.2 mil. in 1994 to 22.8 mil. and 20.4 mil. in 1997 and 2001 respectively. From this estimated data, the percentage of informal sector is 74.1% in 1994, 69.1% in 1997 and 60.1% in 2001.

(2) From the report of TDRI on "Managing the Urban Informal Sector in Thailand: A Search for Practical Policies Base on The Basic Minimum Needs Approach", statistics of informal sector in urban areas were calculated from Labour Force Survey data (1988 Round 1). It indicated that the combined rural and urban informal sector absorbed 86% of the total employed persons.

(3) From "A Policy Agenda for the Informal Sector in Thailand", ILO, 1991. The estimated data is that 62.6% of the non-agricultural employed labour in Thailand belong to the informal sector.

(4) The paper presented to ESCAP in May 1996 by Pawadee Tonguthai on "Role of the Informal Sector in Poverty Alleviation in Thailand", estimated the share of informal sector is 40.5% in total employment. The Estimation based on Labour Force Survey (1994 Round 1).

2.4 Rural and urban informal sectors

2.4.1 Rural informal sector

In rural area, most type of village industries are operated by households. The management and decision making in household enterprises depend on a household head or housewife. In many cases, the allocation of family labour is related to a farm enterprise or household. Actually, a group of 2-3 members from different families may join in some rural enterprises, expenditure and profit are commonly shared. A sub-contracting system can provide an outlet for household manufacturing products. The arrangement is undertaken by

producers in parent firms in towns providing raw materials and some necessary tools and equipments, buying the products or paying on a piece work basis for rural people to work in their own homes to complete a partial step or all steps in production. The characteristics and difference of household enterprises in each location are related to four major factors:-

- (1) local raw materials,
- (2) characteristics of agriculture,
- (3) local market,
- (4) level of skill of worker, which commonly derived from ancestors.

The samples of small scale household enterprises in rural area are shown below:-

- silk and cotton weaving
 - dressmaking
 - sericulture
 - repairing
 - pottery
 - brick making
 - knives and handtools
 - handicraft
 - wood and bamboo products
 - mat making
 - carpentry
 - basket making
 - shoe sewing
 - artificial flowers making
 - blacksmithing
- etc -

Household manufacturing enterprises are also related to small scale industries and other type of production in town. Household with experience in manufacturing production can supply the labour force for small scale industries in town. Most of the workers who work in small scale industries come from rural households in villages surrounding towns, and have skills developed from their family. In other words, small-scale industries in towns provide off-farm work for villagers. Besides working in towns, sub-contracting work can be arranged for rural household. The sub-contracting system or homeworkers system provides not only a job for a rural household but also outlets for household manufacturing products, and some technology transfer from town producers to household manufacturing producers. Several types of manufacturing production such as silk and cotton weaving, fishnet making, mat making, ready made garments, woodcarving and furniture making, have been practised in rural areas.

Household manufacturing products can be used as inputs in other industries. High quality mats are used for handbag making, silk and cotton fabric are used for shirts,

dresses, purses and other household uses. On the other hand, household manufacturing production is a source of demand for urban manufacturing products.

Though these relationships, growth of small-scale industries can provide not only off-farm work for rural people but also household manufacturing work through the sub-contracting system.

To improve product quality, upgrading of skills of workers and development of technology used must first be promoted. Skill training, entrepreneurship training and introduction of innovation could be undertaken through the activities of local agencies concerned.

Market development is a very important policy for village industries, since most household manufacturing enterprises are faced with limited markets and product outlets. Policy should emphasis on the relationship of producers in town and rural households through a sub-contracting system. At this point, attempt should be made to avoid exploitation from sub-contractors. The system should provide not only outlets for household manufactured products but also market information and technology transfers from the town producers.

Foreign markets for household manufactured products should also be promoted, and in the domestic markets, promotion of consumption of household manufactured products, particularly among the high income group should be promoted.

Operating fund for the household manufacturing enterprises should be provided by government through concerned agencies. The fund should not be restricted only the poor. A campaign for domestic consumption of household manufactured products should be a regular feature, and a local fairs for those products should be financially supported by local government at least once a year.

2.4.2 Urban informal sector

In urban area, most type of activities in informal sector are manufacturing, trade and service. Urban informal sector comprises "urban poor" and "urban not poor". The owner of small shops in commercial industries, small factories in manufacturing industries and self-employed or own-account workers in some service industries are not considered poor. Street vendors in big shopping areas in downtown of Bangkok and big cities, always park their vans or pickup cars and sell fruits, cloths or any items. They are regarded to urban informal sector but they are not poor. For the group of urban poor, some are original urban poor and the others are rural people who migrate from rural areas to find jobs in urban areas, particularly in Bangkok and its vicinities (Samut-Prakarn, Samut-Sakorn, Nonthaburi, Pathum-Thani, Nakorn-Pathom) and in provincial cities such as Chiangmai, Songkla, Chonburi, Nakorn-Ratchasima, Khonkaen, Nakorn-Si-Thammarat, etc.

Bangkok and its vicinities are the centre of investment, industry, commercial, business and service where workers are mostly needed. According to the paper of Mr. Somchai Chaugking of Training Centre for Urban Poor Development On "The Urban Poor : Urban labour in the informal sector and its economy" September 1995, stated that more than 450,000 urban poor families are living in Bangkok and its vicinities. The number of the population is estimated at 1.75 million people, and 1.3 million or 276,830 families are living under bridges and slum.

Before the transmigration to Bangkok, the urban poor in slum communities were mostly rice farmers, fruit-growers, labourers and small traders. When they migrate to cities, they start to automatically become workers in the informal sector. The paper also refer to a survey which conducted by the Academic Centre, National Housing Authority, which states that at least one member of each family is in informal sector occupations. Generally, 80% of this type of occupation is uncertain, unofficial and unskilled. Therefore, it is difficult to have stable job and to be part of the labour force in the formal sector. There are 22.5% in the above occupations working in the microenterprises with few workers : e.g. laundry, paintwork, sewing in bulk etc. 19.8% are small traders, street venders and 18.2% are housekeepers. Besides, there are few other careers they can choose, depending on opportunities that may arise.

It was said that, the informal workers are forced by their own responsibility to perform their duties in many different lines of work. They are forced to survive in many unusual circumstances .

Because there is fierce competition among workers in the informal sector, they work harder with longer hours than workers in the formal sector. For instance, there are workers who ride their trolley-tricycle carts 7-9 hours a day, buy used materials and spending another 2-3 hours a day preparing and separating these items to sell to middlemen buyers. Most of them working 7 days a week without taking any day off except when they are sick or when the middlemen shops are closed for holidays. Small traders who spend 10 hours a day for selling their items and 3 hours a day for preparing are other examples.

From the study of the Academic Centre, National Housing Authority, it can be summarized as followed;

(1) Approximately 45% of slum dwellers are self-employed workers, 14% are temporary daily workers at construction sites.

(2) The majority of workers are unskilled, and uneducated. There are no sex and age limits, no matter how young or old they are, as long as they can work. These are taxi drivers, used materials collectors, garbage separators, security guards, paper bag folders, artificial flower makers, meat ball stick makers and vendors.

(3) There are no existing unemployment records, these people are always move and looking for a jobs. Without jobs they will go hungry, even though it's hard work with little pay, they are not afraid or ashamed of any work.

(4) There is close relation between slums and workplaces. For the urban poor, if shelters and workplaces are far apart, they will lose good opportunities. The example for this case is one slum opposite Sirikit Convention Centre, the government try to demolish and offer better place out skirt of Bangkok but the slum dwellers against this idea. Because at this area, they could sell their cooked food or finished products by wheeling their carts to several commercial areas along the streets.

(5) Commercial trade investment for urban poor are not necessarily investment for making any profit but rather be the investment for surviving.

(6) There are certain legal limitations and state regulations for urban poor to work on their own businesses e.g. vendors and small traders are not allowed to sell their products alongside the public roads or in the restricted zones under the cleanliness policy.

(7) Besides there is another important factor for the urban poor economy. That is, the use of houses or shelters for in-house production, e.g. meatball stick producers, artificial flower makers, plastic separators, paper bag folders, garland and food sellers etc. But on the other hand, the slum areas themselves are always fired by using the eviction. For them eviction is not only the way to destroy their shelters but also demolishing their in-house factories.

3. Informal sector activities

A wide range of economic activities are performed by the informal sector. In fact, an informal component can be identified in all main sectors of an economy. For this reason, some prefer to call it informal economy. The major activities of the informal sector can broadly be classified into petty retail trade, transportation, manufacturing, construction, repairing and maintenance services, personal and domestic services, and financial services. Petty retail trade is one of the most visible activities; vendors sell vegetable, fruits, cooked food and other goods on the streets and from small shops are the common sight in urban areas. The informal sector plays an important role in provision of transportation facilities, both for passengers and freight. Within cities, passengers are transported by tricycle taxis (tuk-tuk), motorcycle taxis, vans, boats etc.

The informal sector also makes a significant contribution to the production sector. Clothes and garment making is a growing industry in Thailand, mainly employ women, often as home-based workers or raw-house garment factories workers. A number of other goods such as metal products, jewellery, shoes, artificial flowers and handicrafts are also produced by the informal sector. Sometimes, production of goods or their parts are subcontracted by formal firm to informal one.

Construction of houses and business premises is mainly an informal enterprise. Informal bricklayers, carpenters, mason, plumber and construction workers work individually or in groups. They construct all types of buildings except high rise and other large buildings, which are usually erected by large construction firm.

The repair and maintenance of household electrical goods and appliances is often provided by informal sector. Many other items such as shoes, watches and cars are repaired by the informal sector. Personal and domestic services, such as those provided by hairdressers, beauticians, house-maids, cooks, gardeners etc., form an important informal activity. Financial services are also provided by informal sector. Informal lenders finance a wide range of economic activities, from petty trading to the large investments of unincorporated firms. Sizable informal credit markets exist in urban areas in cities.

The classification of the informal sector activities could be divided into 5 major groups;

(1) Informal Trade

The informal trade refers to all activities of traders in the informal sector which conduct their business in any place such as; small shop, open space along sidewalk, stall, stand, car, boat and cart, etc. Petty traders, vendors and hawkers are also included in this group. The types of informal trade are :-

○ Small retail shops

○ Market traders

This group comprises petty traders in markets, fresh food market operator, sellers of vegetables, fruits, cooked food, meat, eggs, fresh water fish, sea food, and kitchen ware, etc.

○ Food stalls

This group comprises sellers of various kind of food such as cooked food for taking away, noodle, fried banana, grilled meat ball, bakery, sweets, snack and light meal, traditional fast food, etc.

- Stall traders
This group comprises sellers of flowers, newspapers, books, vegetables, fruits, sweet, clothing items, garment, soft drink, lottery tickets, cigarettes, cheap wrist watch, toys, mats, hats, cheap glasses, belts, handbags, shoes, handicrafts, and etc.
- Street vendors/hawkers.
This group comprises a variety of petty traders such as cooked food, traditional fast food, boiled corns, vegetables, fruits, sweets, flowers, toys, hangers, dried fish, small balloons, used materials, pickle fruits, and etc. Actually, this group of traders might be considered self-employed poor, they are much poorer than the other groups.
- Waterways vendors

(2) Informal Services

The informal services refer to repair workers and self-employed in services group, such as;-

- Barbers
- Hairdressers
- Dressmaking workers
- Laundry
- Maids
- Finger nails make up services
- Dress and pants fixing (usually with one sewing machine on the sidewalk)
- Knife sharpeners
- Shoes repairers
- Watch repairers
- Electrical household repairers
- Radio and Television repairers
- Lock and key repairers

- etc -

(3) Informal Manufacturing

The informal manufacturing refers to the activities of the participants in the informal sector which cover self-employed workers, own-account workers, unpaid family workers, microenterprise workers and homeworkers. The types of informal manufacturing are described in groups and sub-groups, as follows ;-

- Food and food product
 - Food preservation
 - Sea food preservation
 - Vegetable preservation
 - Fruit preservation
 - Bamboo shoot preservation

- Fruit pickling
- Sweet production
- Rice crackers production
- Fish crackers production
- Traditional anchovy paste production
- Ice-cream making
- bakery
- etc -
- Textile and garment
 - garment making
 - Silk weaving
 - Cotton weaving
 - Table cloth making
 - Raw house garment factories
(estimated at 500,000 homeworkers)
 - Ready made cloth
 - Silk spinning
 - Toys making
 - Silk dyeworks
 - Silk flowers making
 - Silk-nest flowers making
 - Silk/cotton handbag making
 - Hat making
 - Jute weaving
 - Mat making
 - etc -
- Wood and wood products
 - Wood products
 - Gate and door making
 - Furniture making
 - Wood carving
 - Table, bench, chair, cupboard, drawer and
and bed making
 - Handicraft
 - Mat making
 - Basket making
 - Birdcage making
 - Catcage making
 - etc -
- Paper products
 - Mulberry paper producing
 - Artificial flowers making
 - Umbrella making (Northern style)
 - Printing
 - Paper bag folding
 - Paper cup making
 - Doll making (used newspapers)
 - etc -
- Leather products
 - shoes making
 - Parts of shoes sewing
 - Handbag making
 - Belt making
 - etc -

- Non-metal products
 - Brick making
 - Flower pot making
 - Stone carving
 - Plaster sculpturing
 - Toys making
 - Pot making (traditional pot)
 - etc -
- Metal products
 - Metal works
 - Bronze works
 - Goldsmithing
 - Blacksmithing
 - Agricultural tool making
 - knife making
 - etc -
- Miscellaneous
 - Gems cutting
 - Sticker making
 - Ornament making
 - Hanger making
 - Umbrella making
 - Fishnet making
 - Toffee wrapping
 - Pawn broker
 - Beekeeping
 - Bell decoration
 - Poultry farming and egg producing
 - Market gardening
 - Fish farming
 - Crab farming
 - Shrimp farming
 - Sericulture
 - Mulberry plantation
 - X-mas light decoration
 - Toys making
 - Souvenir items making
 - Pillow, mattress and blanket making
 - etc -

(4) Informal construction

The informal construction refer to activities of sub-contractors, wage earners (mostly daily basis) and self-employed workers who perform their duties as :-

- Coolies/Labourers
- Cement workers
- Carpenters
- Steel workers
- Painters
- Electricians
- Stone grinders

- Pipe workers
- Brick layers
- Cement mixing workers
- etc -

(5) Informal transportation

The informal transportation refer to those who render their services as :-

- Taxi drivers
- Tricycle or Tuk-Tuk drivers
- Motorcycle drivers
- Boatman

- etc -

4. Problems

Since the informal sector refers to self-employed workers, unpaid family workers, own-account workers, microenterprise workers and homeworkers, there are several problems occurred in this sector. The following lists are problems which the informal sector workers always faced, there are :-

- (1) Low income, low earnings, delays in payment.
- (2) Out of social protection, could not obtain any welfare (except those who work in establishments with 10 and more employees, have to register under social securities scheme)
- (3) Out of legal protection (except those who work with establishments which have permanent location and employed 1 and more employees have to be protected under labour law)
- (4) Limited skilled, marketing knowledge, entrepreneurial skilled, and knowledge in production development.
- (5) Health and safety problems.
- (6) Shortage of capital/fund/credit.
- (7) Disciplinary problems, group forming problems.
- (8) Unstable business, uncertainly demand (especially the products which depend on exporting such as artificial flowers and garments)
- (9) Problems concerning factors of production, e.g. raw materials, labour, premises., etc.
- (10) Lack of information on important issues such as, marketing, credit, technology, government supporting programs, etc.
- (11) Hygienic and sanitary problems.
- (12) Others, such as less bargaining power, working longer hours, child labour, drugs, exploitation from middleman, and illegal tax claimed by gangsters, etc.

5. Needs

The needs of the informal sector are varied from groups to groups. The petty traders may need location to sell their products while the entrepreneurs need soft loan or revolving fund. The following lists are broadly needs of informal sector.

(1) Legal protection

Most of informal sector workers, especially homeworkers need to be protected by labour law and also wanted to enjoy the fringe benefit as same as those in formal sector.

(2) Social protection

This is a serious need, the government should provide contributory social security scheme to cover contingencies faced informal sector participants. Such social security should cover, or provide coverage options, sickness, medical treatment, disability, calamity, death and old age support. Loss of income due to sickness or calamity may also be address by these scheme, financed through a combination of contributions by participants and government grants.

(3) Strengthening association of informal workers.

The informal sector workers should be formed up to be group or association in order to strengthen their capability or articulate their interests and protect member for unfair terms. The selected representative from associations could work closely with concerned authorities to draw a suitable employment policy or other policies for informal sector.

(4) Education and training

Adult literacy programmes should be encouraged, particularly in the slum areas where many participants of the informal sector live. Skill training should be run at community or work place or even mobile-services. Content of skills training should be geared toward labour market requirements. It should be practical, on the job, if needed. It should be differentiated according to need, i.e., different kinds of training for self-employed as distinct from hired wage workers, for men and for women, for homeworkers, etc. For the self-employed, enterprise management training, including books keeping, entrepreneurial skills and marketing skills, etc. are required. For wage earners it is useful to develop standardization of skills and a system of certification of meeting minimal skill standards through the local government, or other accrediting agencies. There is also a need for better information on employment opportunities or LMI in formal sector.

(5) Access to credit

Credit has been identified as one of the need of the informal sector. In Thailand, credit is available through institutional sources such as; the Government Saving Bank, the Agricultural and Co-operative Bank, government funding agencies, etc., and through non-institutional sources including money lenders, friends and family, and semi-formal societies.

Access to credit from public and private banks is often difficult for informal sector participants due to condition on providing collateral or guarantees, cumbersome paper work and the need to prepare a project. Saving groups, credit societies and NGOs are the most common sources of loan for informal sector.

(6) Strengthening network

Networking among the informal sector participants, NGOs, GOs, informal sector associations and firms in the formal sector should be strengthened. Information concerning market opportunity, credit, technology, government supported programmes, training, etc. could be disseminated continuously through various networks.

6. Directory of research studies

The following lists, partly were taken from "A Policy Agenda for the Informal Sector in Thailand", ILO-ARTEP, June 1991.

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
(1) Urban Food Market in Bangkok. (1986)	Hongladarom, Chira et, al	A grand total of 1726 respondents (1150 consumers and 576 sellers) from 14 different markets in the BMA area are included in the study. Consumers have been randomly selected whereas sellers have been selected only after deciding the four commodity groups, vegetables, fruits, meat and seafood.

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
(2) Thailand's Street Vending: The Informal Sector and Traditional Fast Foods. (1986)	Sirisambhand, Napat.	Study focuses on street vending in Chonburi town. It involves 4 surveys of different target groups-census of all vendors (948); interview of random sample of vendors (219); interview of 442 consumers who have just bought something from the interviewed vendors; interview of 249 female household heads.
(3) Urban Self-Employment in Thailand: A Study of Two Districts in Metropolitan Bangkok. (1988)	ILO-ARTEP	Study involves 2535 self-employed individuals in urban Bangkok. It covers 24 activity types
(4) Increasing the Absorptive Capacity of the Urban Economy: The Case of Bangkok. (1988)	Hongladarom, chira and Isarankura, Watana	Three field surveys; 1) survey of 66 rich/middle/poor house-holds; 2) survey of 101 petty traders (52 from Nonthaburi and Pathumthani), 25 manufacturers and 25 involved in services 3) survey of BMA Administration and GOs and NGOs concerned
(5) Technology Adaptation in Bangkok's Informal sector WEB Research (1989)	Amin, A.T.M.N.	Concentrations of ISMEs in BMA have been identified through an initial

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
		survey. Study involves 100 cases under 5 activity groups (43 in metalwork, 17 in leather work, 12 in electrical work, 11 in woodwork and 17 in painting work)
(6) Growth and Employment in the Urban Informal Sector in-Thailand (1990)	Department of Labour, Ministry of Interior	Field survey of 300 small and informal activities spread out over different districts in BMA. Study covers 50 cases under each of 6 activity groups selected viz, garments, metalwork, electrical and electronic assembly and repair, artificial flower making, motor vehicle repair and jewellery.
(7) Homework in Developing Countries: A Case of Thailand (1987)	Karanasuta, Kattiya	It is a study of 403 sampled units consisting of 210 ready made apparel workers (7 dealers 50 Bangkok house workers, 88 provincial house worker, 65 factory workers) and 193 artificial flower makers (9 dealers, 143 Bangkok house workers, 24

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
		provincial house workers and 17 factory workers)
(8) Thailand Rural Women Homeworkers. (1989)	Chulalongkorn University Social Reserch Institute or CUSRI	286 sample units drawn from 10 different types of house work and include 5 different groups by work status i.e. part-time sub-contractors (115), full-time sub-contractors (120), owner-operators (16), middle-man operators (8) and family operators (27)
(9) Working Condition of Women Piece-Rate Workers in Thailand (1985)	Promptunthum, V. et. al.	1,670 women house workers in Bangkok and 16 other provinces have been studied. Additionally 10 employers and 39 women piece rate workers in 10 small establishments (with less than 20 workers) in textile, garment, ceramics and umbrella-making in five major industrial cities including Bangkok have been studied.
(10) Home-Based Workers in the Employment and Working condition Study. (1986)	Department of Labour, Ministry of Interior	2,215 home-based workers (545 men & 1,670 women) have been studied covering 17

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
		provinces including Bangkok.
(11) Labour and Employment in Small-Scale Manufacturing in Thailand (1985)	Chasombat, P. and Piputsitee, C.	67 food factories with employment of 50 men and 63 engineering industries have been studied. Not typical of informal sector manufacturing for inclusion of relatively larger units.
(12) Informal Sector Employment Characteristics in Ready-Made Textile Industry in Thailand (Journal of Economy and Society may-June 1988)	NESDB	52 respondent working in Pratunam and Boe-Bae markets, Bangkok.
(13) Survey Report on Problems, Needs and Organizational Feasibility of Construction Workers (1989)	Jayasut, Nanthanee et. al	A study of 100 construction workers sampled from large, medium and small construction sites of Bangkok (75) & Cholburi (25).
(14) The Role of Informal Transportation For Socio-Economic Development of Urban Areas in the Developing Countries (1990)	Amin, A.T.M.N.	The study includes 504 IT mode (soi motorbike, mini taxi tuk tuk and boat) operators and 745 IT users of Bangkok

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
(15) Roles of the Informal Transportation in Bangkok with Some Significant Examples (1988)	Suwanarat, Kasemsan et. al.	
(16) The Role of Informal Charter Bus (1988)	BMA	A case study of Ratanakosin area. 769 respondents who uses 7 selected routes of bus operations.
(17) The Role of Hired Motorcycles in Urban Areas and Control and Supervision of Royal Thai Police Department (1988)	Police Department	Study focuses only on the registered hiring motorcycles within BMA (16, 051 No.s) and the lanes served (479 No.s)
(18) Bangkok: Urban System and Everyday Life. (1986)	Korff, Rediger	Covers Bangkok in general and the Klong Toey slum in particular, involves 235 sampled households in general interviews and 16 households in budget oriented special
(19) The Off-Farm Labour Supply of Farmers: The Case of the Chiang Mai Valley of Thailand (1990)	Rief, Yaffa Machnes and Cochrane, Susan Hill	A journal article based on a study of the off-farm labour in the Chiang Mai Valley
(20) Formal and Informal Tourism Sectors: A Case Study in Pattaya, Thailand (1982)	Wahnchafft, Ralph	A published material on formal and informal tourism sector in Pattaya

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
(21) Labour Market Information in the Rural and Urban Informal Sector of Thailand (1990)	Pitayanond, Sumalee	Sampled survey and interviews of 12 firms in Bangkok (31 workers), Sri Saket (50 workers) and Chiang Rai (31 workers). Rural village study involves the headmen and chief monks of villages, district labour officers and members of village boards.
(22) Report of National Seminar on Urban Informal Sector in Thailand (1988)	NESDB-ILO	Seminar topics concern with various issues such as employment planning, labour market, marketing, financing, training, self employment and economic development related to informal sector and their policy issues.
(23) The Thai Labour Market: A Study of Seasonality and Segmentation (1987)	Susangkarn, Chalongphob	An econometric estimate of labour market segmentation is presented. Paper covers the issues of labour market situation, seasonal unemployment and seasonal migration in Thailand.

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
(24) Earnings of Self-Employed in an Informal Sector: A case Study of Bangkok (1983)	Teilhet-Waldorf, Saral et. al.	Study involves a purposive sample of 79 people out of 300 people interviewed in a two block neigh-bourhood in Bangkok. Data collected from a participatory observation. Report summarises findings on job histories of self-employed in 3 occupational groups: vendors, people working with bricks and shopkeeping.
(25) Thailand's Free Enterprises System (1987)	Royster, William	A general description on the free enterprise system from a journalist's point of view. Compares Thailand's economic status with the other countries of East and South-East Asia.
(26) Voice from the city -women of Bangkok (1987)	Thorbek, Susanne	This is a case study of women's daily lives in the Klong Toey slum settlement in Bangkok. Methodology involves a six month participatory survey of 24 houses inhabited by 132 persons (include 45 women).

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
(27) Labour Administration for Urban Informal Sector in Thailand (1989)	Amin, A.T.M.N.	A collection of papers on informal sector: its definitions, composition, size, characteristics, training needs and related policy issues.
(28) The Importance of Training in the Promotion of the Informal Sector (1990)	Axmann, Michael et. al.	The study primarily addresses on 1) evidence of growth of very small enterprises, 2) factors underlying growth and stagnation in IS activities, 3) effects of growth in IS activities on labour demand; and then leads to evaluate 3 sampled training programmes.
(29) Self-Employment in Bangkok (1988)	Charsombut, Pradit and Phongphijit, Phasuk	The study involves a survey of 235 IS activities in three identified groups: (commercial-77, industrial-83, services-75). Survey has been conducted in Bangkok and Huaykwang districts.

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
(30) Labour and Employment in Small-Scale Manufacturing in Thailand (1988)	Charsombut, Pradit and Phongphaijit, Phasuk	The study covers small manufacturing firms engaged in agro-industries and engineering industries in BMA and 5 regional towns in Pitsanulok, KhonKaen and Songkhla provinces. A random stratified sample of 130 firms (52 from Bangkok and 78 from other provinces) have been drawn on the basis of the size of firm. 668 workers have been randomly drawn from sampled firms.
(31) Small Enterprises in Thailand. (1987)	Suthawaree, Warnemol	The study provides a descriptive account on the importance of small enterprises in national economy and the related policies and governmental set up oriented to their development.
(32) Small Manufacturing Enterprises in Thailand (1985)	Tambunlertchai, Somsak et. al.	This study heavily relies on two previous studies done in Bangkok, Chiang Mai and some other provincial towns and rural areas.

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
(33) Linkage Patterns of Small-Scale Industries in Bangkok (1984)	Fung-Shuen, Victor Sit	This study focuses on 4 types of small scale industries in Bangkok viz, farm machinery, water pumps, electronics electrical products.
(34) Employment Generation through Cottage Industries in Rural Thailand (1987)	Romijn, Hendrika A.	This presents a detailed analysis of employment and income generation potential of the rural off-farm sector.
(35) Rural Industrialization in Thailand (1988)	Sibbing.	The study covers Khon Kaen and Ubon Ratchatani provinces and presents a number of key issues on the impact of rural industries on rural economics.
(36) A Policy Agenda For the Informal Sector in Thailand. (1991)	ILO-ARTEP	The study presented a policy agenda for the informal sector in Thailand.
(37) Managing the Urban Informal Sector in Thailand: A Search for Practical Policies Based on the basic Minimum Needs Approach (1992)	TDRI	The main objective of the study is to analyze the problems faced by the urban informal sector using BMNs approach

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
(38) Enabling Policy Framework for Urban Informal Sector, Thailand (1995)	Promptunthum, Vichitra	The collection of reports on the two days workshop on Employment Strategies for Urban Informal Sector. This paper contains a presentations and technical paper.
(39) Homeworkers, Employment Condition and Problems (1995)	Charsombat, Pradit	The study was - conducted by reviewing various studies concerning homeworkers.
(40) Report on Subcontracting and Homeworkers (1995)	Justice and Peace Commission of Thailand	The collection of reports on one day seminar. This paper contains a presentation of discussion.
(41) Informal Sector in Bangkok, journal of Justice and Peace Commission of Thailand (Nov. 1994)	Justice and Peace Commission of Thailand.	There is an article on raw-house garment factories in Bangkok.
(42) Practical Actions for the Social Protection of Homeworkers in Thailand (1996)	ILO-DANIDA	The book contains homeworkers projects under ILO-DANIDA sponsorship.
(43) Role of the Informal Service Sector in Poverty Alleviation in Thailand (1996)	Tonguthai, Pawadee	The paper described the situation of Informal Service Sector in Thailand. Survey was conducted in Bangkok with 240 samples.

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
(44) Homeworkers of Southeast Asia : The struggle for Social Protection in Thailand (1992)	ILO	This book contains 6 studies related to homeworkers, there are :- 1. Homeworking in Thailand: Bane or Boon of Industrialisation by Lucita Lazo 2. An Exploratory Survey on Rural Women Homeworkers in Thailand by Amara Pongsapich 3. The Impact of Law and Policy on Rural Women Homeworkers in Thailand by Wimolsiri Jamnarnwej and Vitit Muntarbhorn 4. Rural Women Homeworkers in Thailand: Prospects for Organisation and Action by Zilla Potivongsajarn 5. Occupational Health of Homeworkers, A Study of Two Villages of Khon Kaen Province in Northeast Thailand by Amanda Cooper, Steven Guthridge and Anthony Riare 6. Proceeding of the National Workshop on Rural Women Homeworkers in Thailand by Vichitra Prompunthum

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<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
(45) Rural Credit Situation: A Village Survey of Si Saket, Chiangrai and Pattani Province (1994)	Siddiqui, A.M.A.H. et. al.	The report is based on a survey of 301 borrowers living in 10 villages of Si Saket province (201) and in 2 villages of Chiangrai and Pattani province each (100). Vast majority of the respondents (229 out of 301) pursue more than one occupation. Many respondents pursued more than one Subsidiary occupation.
(46) Directory of Self-Employment Programmes in Thailand (1996)	Employment Promotion Division, Department of Employment, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare.	This directory comprises the programmes on self-employment promotion rendered by concerned agencies. The directory is divided in 3 parts, Part. 1 are the Royal Projects/ programmes, comprise 40 centres in 10 provinces which rendered training and careers promotion activities to off farm workers, the participants mostly are self-employed. Part. 2 are

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
		projects/ programmes under GOs, there are 11 ministries out of the total 15 ministries concerned with self-employment promotion. There are totally 489 units or centres throughout the kingdom rendered training and self-employment promotion activities. For examples, the Department of Industrial Promotion, Ministry of Industry, has been promoting household industries and handicrafts. It provides short term training in selected branches, runs pilot projects in various locations with emphasis on training, production and marketing. The Department of Community Development, Ministry of Interior, has been supporting income generating activities in the non-farm sector; these are aided by local resources and community

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development workers in rural areas.
Department of Employment, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, has its action programmes include:
vocational guidance service and self-employment guidance service through Provincial Employment Offices and District Employment Offices. The Provincial Employment Offices under the supervision of the Employment Promotion Division provide practical training in setting up and running small business, Employment Volunteer Programme could also facilitate self-employment promotion. Part. 3 are programmes under NGOs. There are only 91 centres are included in this Directory. This directory was first conducted in

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
		Thailand. It contains more than 1600 pages. The directory of training programmes are also included.
(47) Labour in the Shadows: Women in the Informal sector in Bangkok (1994)	Sirisamphand, Napat	The paper presented informal sector and migration, informal sector and women workers, and 10 case studies of women informal operators.
(48) Social Security for Women in the Informal Sector in Thailand (1996)	Sirisamphand, Napat	The paper presented social security and women in the informal sector. It also presented case studies of social security measures by NGO's and people's organizations.
(49) Evaluation Report on the Bangkok Congested Community Employment Promotion Project. (1996)	Tanchai, Woothisarn	The paper presented the program implementation and analysis of the ILO/PEP/JPN Project which executed by 3 agencies, namely; 1) Sikka Asia Foundation 2) Thammasat University and 3) Bangkok Metropolitan

<u>Titles</u>	<u>Researchers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
		Administration. The ILO/PEP/JPN project has an objective to conduct program to increase employment of the congested community resident in Bangkok.

Besides the researchers which mentioned before, the following lists are some specialists in the field of informal sector;-

1. RAKAWIN LEE is director of the Justice and Peace Commission, a non-governmental organisation engaged in the campaign for human rights and uplifting the conditions of the urban slums of Bangkok. She has been one of the strong advocates of social protection for the informal sector.

2. NARUMOL NIRATHORN is an assistant professor at the Department of Labour and Welfare Development, Faculty of Social Administration of Thammasat University. She has conducted studies on labour welfare and development and has been a strong advocate for the improvement of labour welfare and quality of working life.

3. NITTAYA NUALSIRI is deputy director for community development of the YMCA Sankampeng. She has been engaged in community development for thirteen years. She was charge of organizing the Chiangmai HOMENET and has been in constant touch with the women homeworkers.

4. PRANI OBHASANOND is director of the Office of Handicraft Promotion of the Department of Industrial Promotion, Ministry of Industry. She has been a proponent of small enterprise development and has been a consistent collaborator in promoting the welfare of women.

5. BHAWANA PHATHANASRI is assistant professor at the Labour Welfare and Development Department, Faculty of Social Administration of Thammasat University.

6. PATTAREEPAN PONGWAT is in charge of the Women in Development Programme of the Credit Union League of Thailand. Against odds, she championed the women's cause within the credit union sector. To date, the women's programme at the CULT has gained recognition and support from its male-dominated hierarchy.

7. SUVITYA RAVIWONGSE is the president of the Transport and Export Service Trade Union, an affiliate of the Labour Congress of Thailand. He has been president of TESTU for 24 years. Since attending the ILO-DANIDA subregional meeting in Malang, Indonesia, he has become an ardent supporter of the women homeworkers.

8. **SUNTAREE SAENG-GING** is coordinator of the Northeastern Traditional Weaving Project. She is in charge of community development, specially women in development for more than 10 years now. She is an advocate of preservation of culture and people's wisdom such as indigenous knowledge on natural dyeing and handicraft development. She is co-ordinator of the Northeastern Handicrafts and Women's Development Network.

9. **DAONOI SRIKAJON** is national coordinator for Thailand of the ILO-DANIDA subregional project on the Rural Women Workers in the Putting out System. A major in sociology, she has been working with grassroots women and NGOs during her stints with the SVITA Foundation and the PACT.

10. **SOMYOT SUPARNPORNHEMIN** is a coordinator of the Handicraft Centre for Northeastern Women's Development. He has been engaged in community development with the grassroots for more than 10 years. He has expertise in natural dyeing and promotes it as one method of environmental conservation and providing supplementary income for rural women. He also promotes gender in all aspects of development.

11. **POONSAP SUANMUANG** is manager of the Appropriate Technology Association (ATA). A physics major, she pioneered in the application of appropriate technology for grassroots development. Her expertise in natural dyeing gave impetus to the development of the silk weavers production activities and community enterprises.

12. **ASTRID FAUST-TIYAPONG** is a German national with expertise in small business promotion based at the UNISERV of Chiangmai University. She had worked as development consultant of the GTZ-sponsored programmes on Hilltribe Development at the upper north of Thailand. Before coming to Thailand, she was consultant to an Agribusiness and Marketing project in Latin America.

13. **PRAPAI TONGCHERN** is in charge of Women Development Programmes in the Local Weaving Development Project of the ATA. She was coordinator of the Northeast Network for Handicraft and Women Development.

14. **PHAN WANNABORIBOON** is a community organizer of the Justice and Peace Commission. She has been in charge of collecting data on homeworkers and subcontractors, initiating the organization of subcontractors.

15. **PHANOMWAN YOODEE** is director of the YMCA Sankampaeng and has been engaged in community development for more than fifteen years. She has been an advocate of women's social protection at national and international forum.

16. **SOMCHAI CHUAYKLING**,, manager of Training Centre for Urban Poor Development.

17. **TATSUYA HATA**, President of Sikka-Asia.

18. **PAIBOON WATTHANASIRITHAM**, Managing Director, Urban Community Development Office.

7. Conclusion

The development of informal sector in Thailand has a long way journey. At present, more than 2,000 projects due to informal sector have been implemented by the Royal Family Projects, GOs, NGOs and International Organizations throughout the kingdom. Duplication of activities always happen even in the same area due to the absence of institutional mechanism to coordinate activities. The establishment of coordination office seems to be very necessary, it could ensure policy coordination and facilitate project implementation. The Department of Employment also plans to set up the Informal Sector Coordination Unit under the Employment Promotion Division. The Provincial Employment Offices in 75 provinces also play a role of catalysts in bringing various resources available within the province for helping the informal sector, under the self-employment guidance scheme and vocational guidance at village level project.

Table 1. Percentage of Employed Persons in the Municipal Areas of Thailand
by Work Status, 1980-1994

Year	Work Status					Estimated Size of Informal Sector	
	Employer	Government Employee	Private Employee	Own Account Worker	Unpaid Family Worker	1*	2#
1980	3.4	16.1	42.6	22.8	15.0	37.8	62.9
1981	4.2	18.5	41.3	20.7	15.4	36.1	60.5
1982	3.9	19.2	42.4	20.7	13.8	34.5	59.5
1983	3.7	20.2	44.0	20.2	12.0	32.2	58.7
1984	3.9	19.9	42.8	20.4	12.9	33.3	58.6
1985	3.7	18.1	45.3	20.0	12.9	32.9	59.6
1986	3.6	18.2	44.7	21.0	12.4	33.4	59.8
1987	3.9	17.7	45.0	20.8	12.6	33.4	60.0
1988	3.6	18.0	45.7	19.9	12.8	32.7	59.7
1989	4.1	17.2	46.9	19.6	12.2	31.8	59.5
1990	4.1	17.0	47.0	20.3	11.0	31.3	59.0
1991	4.3	16.0	49.7	18.6	11.4	30.0	59.3
1992	4.7	15.9	51.1	18.4	9.9	28.3	58.4
1993	4.4	16.4	49.8	19.1	10.3	29.4	58.8
1994	4.4	17.1	50.0	18.6	9.9	28.5	58.0

Source : Based on the respective year's Report of the Labour Force Survey,
round 3 (September)

1* = (Own Account Worker) + (Unpaid Family Worker)

2# = (Pvt. Employee x 59%) + (Own Account Worker) + (Unpaid Family Worker)

Table 2. Percentage of Employed Persons by Work Status in Bangkok, 1980-1994

Year	Work Status					Estimated Size of Informal Sector	
	Employer	Government Employee	Private Employee	Own Account Worker	Unpaid Family Worker	1#	2#
1980	3.5	14.5	53.2	17.1	11.6	28.7	60.1
1981	4.4	17.1	49.6	16.5	12.4	28.9	58.2
1982	4.0	18.4	50.8	16.5	10.3	26.8	56.8
1983	3.6	17.9	50.9	16.2	11.3	27.5	57.5
1984	3.5	17.5	51.6	16.9	10.5	27.4	57.8
1985	3.9	16.6	52.7	16.8	10.0	26.8	57.9
1986	3.9	16.1	52.1	18.2	9.7	27.9	58.6
1987	5.0	15.9	52.0	16.4	10.7	27.1	57.8
1988	4.2	16.1	53.5	18.1	10.1	28.2	59.7
1989	4.6	15.5	54.1	16.5	9.3	25.8	57.7
1990	4.8	14.9	54.1	17.3	8.9	26.2	58.1
1991	4.8	12.7	57.0	15.8	9.4	25.2	58.8
1992	5.2	13.6	58.0	15.6	7.5	23.1	57.3
1993	5.0	13.8	57.3	16.4	7.5	23.9	57.7
1994	4.9	14.3	58.6	15.8	6.4	22.2	56.7

Source : Based on the respective year's Report of the Labour Force Survey, round 3 (September)

1# = (Own Account Worker) + (Unpaid Family Worker)

2# = (Pvt. Employee x 59%) + (Own Account Worker) + (Unpaid Family Worker)

Table 3. Estimated Percentage of Employment in Informal Sector

Industry	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Agricultural Sector	71.81	71.81	71.80	71.78	71.77	71.76	71.73	71.72
Non-Agricultural Sector	28.19	28.19	28.20	28.22	28.23	28.24	28.27	28.28
Mining...	0.11	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.11	0.10	0.11
Manufacturing	6.35	6.35	6.35	6.36	6.36	6.37	6.37	6.38
Construction...	2.85	2.84	2.85	2.85	2.86	2.86	2.87	2.88
Electricity,...	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.03
Commerce	11.60	11.61	11.60	11.60	11.61	11.61	11.61	11.61
Transport,...	2.17	2.17	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18
Services	5.07	5.08	5.08	5.08	5.08	5.08	5.09	5.09

Source: Human Resources Planning Division, NESDB

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