CHAPTER 31

INTRODUCTION
CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION
Background:

Rural Development has been one of the major concerns of the UNCRD\(^1\) ever since its establishment in 1971. The various training courses organized from 1974 to 1977 focused on planning for predominantly rural regions of the Philippines, Thailand and Indonesia. Concern about rural areas was equally visible in other programmes of the Centre, e.g., research, advisory, services and information exchange.

The tradition set in these formative years of the Centre, continue even today, with for greater coverage than before. One of the main strengths of the Centre lies in its expertise in Rural Regional Planning. The world is still predominantly rural, especially the developing world. This is in spite of industrialization and urbanization. The projection also indicates that the world will remain predominantly rural for at least some decades to come, and when it is no more rural, it may not be urban either\(^2\). A large part of the world is poor. More than a third of the developing world and more than half of the low income countries lives in absolute poverty in 1975. They numbered 770 million. Even in 2000 A.D., their

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1. "United Nations Centre for Regional Development"
number may still be around 600 million or more than if the present trends continue.

More than three-fourths of these poor live in rural areas. Most of them will live there for many years to come. About 40 percent of rural people in all developing countries live in absolute poverty. In the low income countries, more than half of the rural people live in absolute poverty. Even those who migrate to urban areas do not live in better condition. One-fourth of urban dwellers in developing countries are absolutely poor.

According to Sanwalk Kittiprapas migration is an observable phenomenon in Less Development Countries (LDCS) where there exist seriously unequal development among regions. It has wide impacts not only on the places where people move to but also on the origin area they leave. The overload migration may lead to the problems both in the origin and the residence areas, which call for a lot of policy implications and the government interventions. As a consequence of the rising significance of migration, interest in migration research has increased.


4. Ibid.

It has been observed by Somboon Siriprachai that in the area of migration study in Thailand, a lot of researches have been conducted with a primary concern in "determinant" of migration. However, the focus of such researches is somewhat limited to an aggregate macro level by using census data. Therefore, it is necessary to have a micro study into some neglected aspects. Thus, this micro study attempts to investigate the characteristics of migrants besides individual and family level. Moreover, it will explore migration history in order to obtain the details of migration in the past as well as role of information that causes migration and also about social problems of migration. It is anticipated that this migrant study may contribute some additional knowledge of migration study in Thailand, especially in the Bangkok Metropolis.6

The Bangkok Metropolis is a primate city. It is the Centre of Thailand's administrative system, education, trade, banking and the seat of major industrial sectors. The rapid population growth, primarily and mainly as a result of migrants looking for work in metropolitan areas or industrial sectors, has posed serious problems for the metropolis or urban areas. These include the problems of

6. See a review by Somboon Siriprachai, "Migration to Bangkok: A Survey, Report to Thaikhadee Institute, Thammasat University, Bangkok, 1985."
congestion and inefficient as well as disorderly land use pattern, due to the lack of proper city planning. The congested and traffic-jammed city of Bangkok has to face many other related problems resulting from environmental pollution, floods, inadequate public utilities, social services and shortage of housing supply. Therefore, is leading to expanding shanty towns.

However, rural-urban migration has been thought to be a desirable process in which surplus rural labor withdraw from agricultural sector to urban non-agricultural sector. This can be a way to solve unemployment and under-employment problems in the rural traditional sector. Labor transference from the traditional sector to the modern sector might be beneficial to economic and social development of the country since human resources are shifted from the rural areas to urban areas.

Bangkok Metropolis is not merely the capital of Thailand, it is the residence of the King, the seat of Government, the nation's main port, the centre of Thailand's international and domestic transportation systems and is the key to the country's financial, commercial, industrial, educational and administrative activities.

The Bangkok Metropolis has been gaining people primarily through internal migration rather than international migration. During the time of period 1985 - 1990, migrants who moved from foreign countries into Bangkok Metropolis were only less than 8 percent of the total migrants, while migrants who moved from other region in Thailand were around 92 percent. Thus the internal migration or migration within the country especially migration from rural areas to urban areas or into the Bangkok Metropolis is stressed in this study.

During 1985 - 1990 the gross domestic products of Bangkok Metropolis were over one-third of total gross national products (GNP) and its per capita income were higher than other principal regions about 2-8 times. The density of population in Bangkok Metropolis was 2,807 and 3,494 persons per square kilometer in 1976 and 1981 respectively, a projected density turned to be 3,718 persons per square kilometer in 1990. Population densities of other principal regions were at most 1,200 to 1,250 persons per square kilometer during the Fifth National Development Plan (1982 - 1986) and the Sixth Plan (1987 - 1991).

Although the population of the country has been growing rapidly, the population of Bangkok Metropolis has been increasing at a faster rate. During 1985 - 1986 the national economic growth rate was 8.5 percent while the population growth rate of the Metropolis was around 18.6 percent\textsuperscript{9}.

Pull factors of Bangkok Metropolis in terms of employment opportunity and higher wage rate in the modern sector have resulted in a flow of migrants from rural areas especially from the North and Northeast regions of the country into the Bangkok Metropolis. The rate of migration into Bangkok Metropolis increased at high speed during 1985 - 1990. Therefore, the problems of pollution, slums, crimes and un-employment, hard traffic etc. in the Bangkok Metropolis have been vastly greater than in other provinces or cities of Thailand.

It would be worthwhile to examine migration into the Metropolis from other part of the country and its impact on employment, especially to prove whether migration into Bangkok Metropolis is one of the causes of more serious unemployment problem in the Metropolis or not. In addition, advantages and disadvantages of migration into the Metropolis should be discussed. Hence, it is essential to know the Thailand country and the Bankok city.

\textsuperscript{9} Thailand, Office of the Prime Minister, National Statistical office (NSO), \textit{The Report of Labor Force Survey} (Round 1 January to March), 1989 - 1990.
THAILAND COUNTRY

Thailand, once known as Siam, is an exotic country in the heart of Southeast Asia. It is a land where the past and present meet to produce a kaleidoscope of stunning attractions, coloured by a unique culture and enduring traditions. Giving life to this enchanting world are the gentle and genuinely hospitable Thais who extend a warm welcome to all visitors. Indeed Thailand is a country of golden places and smiling faces.

Bangkok city:

Bangkok, the capital, is both Thailand's gateway and principal destination. Initial impressions are of a modern metropolis geared to the needs of today's world. Joyfully exuberant, the city embraces latter-day and largely Western inspired development. You see towering office blocks, world-class deluxe hotels, and other thrusting highrise buildings. Bangkok is almost a city state unto itself bearing little relation to the rest of the country.

Across this landscape live Thailand's 55 million people in the 1990, a rich cultural mise comprising ethic Thais (about 80 percent of the population), Chinese
Their Majesties the King and Queen visiting the Upper Bang Nara water-gate, which is a part of the Bang Nara River Basin Development Project under the Royal initiation of His Majesty the King, Muang Narathiwat District, Narathiwat Province.
(about 10 percent), Malaya (about 4 percent), the remaining (about 6 percent) Lao, mons, Khmers, Indians, Burmese and a scattering of hilltribes in the North.  

THAILAND

The Land of Smiles:

Imagine a land of infinite variety with high, tree-carpeted mountains, jungles rich with wildlife, orchids and exotic plants; shining rivers tumbling to the plains on their way to a warmwater gulf rimmed by miles of golden sands. This is what the gods have given to Thailand.

The picture of orange temple roofs, golden spires glowing softly in the dusk light, silver canals crisscrossing the low-lands through a patchwork of fertile rice paddies; fragile arts of breathtaking beauty. This is what Thais have created from their exquisite land. Together godmade and manmade Thailand has served as a magnet of endless appeal to travelers, may of whom journeyed for a look and stayed for lifetime.

Land of the Free people Land of Smiles. The former is a literal translation of the name "Thailand" : the latter describes the cheerful demeanor of its people.

Thais are proud of their ancestors rejection of foreign domination making their country the only one in Southeast Asia to escape the yoke of colonialism. This independent spirit is evident in everything they do. Beneath their graciousness is a strong sense of self a humanity without subservience. It is this pride in themselves which underlies their sense of nationalism and their ability to smile at the vicissitudes of life.

Thais have much to smile about: A sunny culture filled with color and brilliance sparkling waterways that offer cooling comfort from the heart of the sun, food that is a match for any other cuisine in Asia, handsome men and beautiful women, a healthy economy, a tolerance of religions, politicians, and especially foreigners. All these contribute to the Thais natural warmth hospitality and genuine concern for the traveler.

Boasting a population of 55 million and a land area of 198,114 square miles (513,115 square Km.). Thailand is very nearly the size and shape of Central America. Its climate is tropical with three seasons; hot (March-June), monsoon (July-November) and cool (December - February). Its capital Bangkok (population, 7 million) lies on the same latitude as Madras, Khartoum, Guatemala, Guam and Manila cities.
12 March 1992

Her Majesty the Queen presenting prints of the life stories of the Lord Buddha to representatives of teachers for use in the classrooms, on the occasion of Her Majesty's visit to Wat Yang Moen School, Samoeng District, Chiang Mai Province.
National Day and Public Holidays:

December 5, the birthday of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, is generally regarded as national day. This day is a public holiday. Most national holidays and festivals are of a religious nature and serve to evoke a sense of devotion to the monarchy, the religion, and the nation. Some are celebrated by the lunar calendar and thus vary in date from year to year, while others are celebrated according to the solar calendar.

The Modern Monarchy in Thailand:

The institution of Monarchy in Thailand is in many unique, often difficult for outsiders to fully comprehend. Not only does it have a history going back more than seven hundred years, but it also continues to function with extraordinary relevance and vitality in the contemporary world.

Indeed, although the Revolution of 1932 brought an end to monarchy in its absolute form, the institution today can be said to be more powerful than ever in the sense of providing a unifying element for the country, a focal point that brings together people from all backgrounds and shades of political thought and gives them an intense awareness of being Thai. This was clearly shown by the unprecedented outpouring of public pride and personal
พระราชาทานของเล่นแก่เด็กที่มาเฝ้าหูละออพระบาท ในโอกาสที่ได้พระราชทานในไปทรงเยี่ยมราษฎรในบ้านไร่ ดับบัวแม่เนรี อ่าเภอเมืองพยานะ จังหวัดพยานะ

25 April 1985

Her Royal Highness the Princess Mother presenting toys to children, who came to greet Her during a visit to Cho Village, Muang Phayao District, Phayao Province.
affection that greeted the occasion in 198 of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej's becoming the longest reigning monarch in Thai history and is also apparent in countless other ways, large and small.

The intensity of respect felt by Thai people for their King stems in large part from the distinctive form the modern monarchy has taken under his own leadership, one that involves a remarkable degree of personal contact. At the same time, it is rooted in attitudes that can be traced to the earliest days of Thailand as a nation and insome of the part rulers who continue to serve as models of kingship.

A Monarchy for the Times:

Adhering to the traditional close relationship between King, Queen, and people, yet daring to be innovative, Thailand's modern monarchy meets needs that are at once old and new. This makes it the central element in the traditional Thai triad of nation, King, and religion, binding the diverse elements of the country in a literal as well as a symbolic way. Much of its extraordinary success is due to the dedication and personal example of the ninth Chakri ruler who in 1987 was popularly acclaimed as a "Maharaj" or King Bhumibol Adulyadej "The Great", by his loyal and loving subjects.
Bangkok at Night
Urban Life in the Bangkok Metropolis:

In terms of present day Thailand, to speak of urban life essentially means to speak of Bangkok, for though many provincial capitals have grown rapidly in recent years the national capital is still the ultimate city to every Thai people. The Metropolitan Area now covers some 1,537 square kilometers on both sides of the Chao Phraya River.

Numerous districts in Bangkok are centers in themselves, each unified by common features rooted either in ethnic character of a specific function or business. Thus Ratchadamonens Avenue and its environs remain the center for government ministries and international agencies, while there is a major concentration of commerce in Chinatown. Silom Road has become the primary banking and financial district and the Sukhumvit Road area is predominatly a middleclass residential section. Those seeking entertainment are attracted by the neon glare of Patpong and New Phetburi Roads, where there are hundreds of bars and restaurants, etc.

Almost all major domestic and foreign companies are located in the capital, as are all government ministeries and most of the country's leading educational, sportsing, and cultural facilities. The
Her Majesty the Queen presenting basic necessities and medicines to a congregation of monks on the occasion of Her Majesty's visit to Wat Chanaram, Ruso District, Narathiwat Province.
greater part of Thailand's imports and exports pass through Bangkok and 90 percent of the motor vehicles in the nation are registered there. It is the focal point of Thailand's aviation, rail road, and communications network, as well as the chief destination for the majority of tourists who come annually to occupy its more than 20,000 hotel rooms.

The city's cultural life is greatly enriched by its minority communities. Chinese and Indians account for nearly 10 percent of the capital's population and contribute to its variety of cuisines and festivals. Japanese and Asians from neighbouring countries also figure prominently in the city's cosmopolitan atmosphere.

Urban Values and Religions

Buddhism is at the centre of the Thai view of life and forms the foundation of most attitudes, in the city as well as in the village. But just as even the toughest material will change its shape under pressure, Buddhism has undergone certain alterations caused by the stress of Bangkok's fast-paced urban life style.
Buddhist's Way of Life
In the village, the Wat (monastery) is the heart of social as well as religious life. Bangkok's monasteries today inevitably play less of a social role and are normally visited only for religious observances or for one of the festivals scattered throughout the Buddhist year. Accessibility is the main problem: in rural areas the Wat is generally just a short walk away, while in the city a visit often entails a long, hot drive in heavy traffic. Therefore, many Bangkok homes have a room set aside for family Buddha images and a small altar. This little private sanctuary serves as a place for prayer and meditation in the morning and evening daily rituals that in a village setting would be more often performed at the Wat.

Urban surroundings also rob many monasteries of the tranquil atmosphere which characterizes their upcountry counterparts. Nevertheless, monks continue to practice their meditation in them, apparently undisturbed, by the bustling life outside, just as they go out each morning to collect food offerings from city dwellers as anxious to make merit as villages. Many Bangkok residents also go there to study meditation during their off-duty hours from work.
AREA AND CLIMATE

RAINFALL DATA AT 7 METEOROLOGICAL STATIONS: 1988 - 1990

Grahem Panesar
BANGKOK METROPOLIS

Kanchanaburi
KANCHANABURI

Prachin Buri
PRACHIN BURI

Nakhon Ratchasima
NAKHON RATCHASIMA

Chiang Mai
CHIANG MAI

Songkhla
SONGKHLA

Phuket
PHUKET

M. M. J. F. M. A. J. A. S. O. N. D.

Source: Meteorological Department.
FOUR REGIONS:

The country is commonly divided into four regions: the Central plains which includes Bangkok, the North, the Northeast and the South. Each region has its own culture and appeal and must be explored thoroughly to gain a proper appreciation of Thailand's vast richness. Bangkok is, but, one small patch in the cultural quilt. When a Thai says "I'm heading up-country tomorrow", he could mean anywhere outside Bangkok's city limits; north, east, south and west. This is where the real Thailand begins Up-country.

Area and Climate:

Thailand is located in the tropics between latitude, 5° 37' N., and 20° 27' N., longitude 97° 22'E and 105° 37'E. The total area is about 513,115 square kilometers or 198,114 square miles. The northern part is mountainous with dense forests. The land of the northeastern region is dry and mostly plateau land, and a great central plain covers the central part of the country.

The boundary to the North is the Union of Myanmar and the Democratic People's Republic of Laos, to the East are Lao people's Democratic Republic and the Democratic Kampuchea and the Union of Myanmar situates on the West, while the South of the country are located the Gulf of Thailand, Malaysia and Andaman sea. The sea coast of Thailand is about 2,614 Kilometres. The climate of Thailand is dominated by the Northeast and South-West monsoons.\textsuperscript{12}

The Northeast monsoon or cold season normally effects Thailand from November to February. High pressure area from China mainland, usually extends its ridge to cover Thailand, causing cold and fairly dry weather all over the country. It is the season of relative little rainfall and lower humidity.\textsuperscript{13}

The Southeast monsoon or rainy season, from May to October, brings a stream of warm moist air from the Indian Ocean, causing abundant rain in various parts of the country. The pressures are comparative low, it is a period of increasing rainfall and high humidities. A short drought period of one to two weeks is normally experienced between June and July due to the influence of

\textsuperscript{12} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{13} Ibid.
anticyclonic circulation aloft. After the drought period, rainfall becomes more frequent and heavy rainfalls are expected from tropical cyclones which enter the country.

The climate of Thailand can be divided from the metrological point of view into the following three seasons:\textsuperscript{14}

1. Rainy season or Southwest monsoon, from mid May to mid October. The annual rainfall is moderate high over the greater part of the country. the average rainfall is about 1,800 mm. (70.9 inches). Dry regions are located in the interior of upper Thailand and also the northern portion of southern Thailand where the annual amounts in some years are less than 1,000 mm. (39.4 inches). The region of heaviest rainfall is along the west coast of the southern part and along the east coast of the Gulf of Thailand. the annual average is more than 4,000 mm. (157.5 inches).

2. Cold season or northeast monsoon, from mid October to mid February, is the mildest of the year. The daily temperature range during this period in quite large, its average is about 12° to 18°C, (21.6° to 32.4°F.). The coldest month is January and the average temperature is below 25°C, (77.0°F.).

\textsuperscript{14} Ibid. p.2
3. Hot season begins from mid February to mid May. It is the transitional period from the northeast to Southwest monsoon. The warmest month is April, and its average monthly temperature is above 30°C, (86.0°F).

**Rural and Urban Movement**:

The 1990 census also collected information on the urban-rural status of both place of present residence and place of previous residence for those persons who had moved in the five years before the census. This information allows investigation of rural-urban streams of Migration (see Table I-A). For the purposes of this analysis, urban and rural areas are defined as municipal and non-municipal areas, respectively. Of the 4,026,100 persons aged five years and over who had migrated in the five years preceding the 1990 census, 36 percent live in the urban and 64.0 percent lived in the rural areas.\(^{15}\)

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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
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<td>Total population ages 5 and over</td>
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<td>Migrants</td>
<td>03,331,100</td>
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<td>02,947,700</td>
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<td>Total Migrants</td>
<td>03,331,100</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>02,947,700</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>04,026,100</td>
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<td>Urban-urban</td>
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<td>0,506,000</td>
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<td>Rural-urban</td>
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<td>010.05</td>
<td>0,420,600</td>
<td>014.03</td>
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<td>003.06</td>
<td>0,098,300</td>
<td>003.03</td>
<td>0,165,200</td>
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<td>Rural-Rural</td>
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<td>062.06</td>
<td>1,532,900</td>
<td>052.00</td>
<td>1,645,100</td>
<td>040.09</td>
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<td>005.04</td>
<td>0,278,300</td>
<td>009.04</td>
<td>0,508,900</td>
<td>012.06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unknown-Rural</td>
<td>0,300,600</td>
<td>009.00</td>
<td>0,111,600</td>
<td>003.08</td>
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*Source: Subject Report No.1, 1990 population and Housing Census, National Statistical Office.*
Among migrants, 18.4 percent moved from a rural to an urban place. This stream was higher than those who moved from rural to urban place in the five-year preceding the 1980 census. Even though the Government has attempted to develop rural areas in order to reduce the rural to urban migration this data suggest that rural-to-urban movement was more than during the last two census. This indicates that the Governments efforts to reduce the rural to urban migration have failed and shows that rural people are more attracted towards cities. Inter-urban migration was a less important segment of recent migration in 1985-1990 than it had been decade earlier, when only 13.5 percent was in this stream compared to 17.2 percent in 1975 - 1980\textsuperscript{16}.

Most of the internal migration in Thailand involves migration between rural areas. Rural-rural migration constitute 40.9 percent of all five-year-migration. Yet, this represents a sharp drop compared to its level in 1975 - 1980 (52.0 percent). Urban to rural movement had also increased from 9.4 percent of migrants in the 1980 Census to 12.6 percent in 1990 Census. The changes in the various streams of migration over the last three censuses are reflected in the finding that all migration streams to

\textsuperscript{16} Ibid. P. 58 - 60
rural places had declined steadily from 77.0 percent in 1970 to 65.2 percent in 1980 and to 64.0 percent in 1990, while the streams to urban places increased from 23.0 percent in 1970 to 34.8 percent in 1980 and 36.0 percent in 1990. Such a change may be due to the diminishing availability of near land for cultivation. Also, the expanding urban economics, with rapidly growing industrial, commercial and servicial sectors, require large volumes of unskilled labour from rural areas.\textsuperscript{17}

Regional Migration Streams

Thailand is divided into four regions; the Central, North, Northeast, and South, plus Bangkok Metropolis.

The population in Thailand enumerated in the 1990 census was 54,532,300 persons. Of these, 18.7 percent (10,206,900 persons) resided in municipal areas and 81.3 percent (44,325,400 persons) resided in non-municipal areas.\textsuperscript{18}

The Bangkok Metropolis, Thailand's capital, encompasses, 1,600 square kilometers and is located adjacent to the Central region at the mouth of the Chao Phraya River. Because of its unique characteristics, it

\textsuperscript{17} Ibid. P. 61.
\textsuperscript{18} Advanced Report : 1990 population and Housing Census, National Statistical Office.
is the centre of the nation's economic and educational activities. By definition its entire population is considered urban, and in 1990 it accounted for 11 percent (5,875,900 persons) of the overall population, and contains almost 58 percent of the nation's urban population. It is, therefore, an extreme example of a primate city. Not surprisingly, it is also the most densely populated area of the country, with 3,700 persons per square kilometer, although a small percentage of its population (about 3 percent) are engaged in agricultural activities\textsuperscript{19}.

In 1990 the Central region with an area of about 102,300 square kilometers, contain 22 percent of Thailand's population. With 12 percent of its population living in municipal areas, it encompasses about 14 percent of the nation's urban population. This region receives the water of various large rivers and consists mainly of the fertile central plain. Most of its population is engaged in agriculture, including the production of rice, cassave, cattle breeding and growing a variety of vegetables. Out of the four regions (excluding the Bangkok Metropolis), the Central region has the highest population density of 118 persons per square kilometer.

\textsuperscript{19} Ibid, P. 58/59
The population redistribution policy effected since the fourth plan, has resulted in a population overflow from Bangkok to the adjoining provinces in the Central region.

The Northeast region covers approximately 168,900 square kilometers, and its population is 19,037,300 or about 35 percent of Thailand's population which is the highest percentage of among the four regions of the country's population. Only about 6 percent of the Northeast's population, live in municipal areas. Compared to other regions, the Northeast contains the smallest percentage of Thailand's urban population (11 percent). Its topography is characterized by an infertile plateau formed of red sandstone. Shortage of water, and inadequate irrigation, make's cultivation to heavily depend on the monsoon rains. It's main agricultural products are rice and cassava. Although under the development plans there has been the objective of concerte development and efforts are made to raise the low living standard of the farming population, which comprise almost 86 percent of the region's total population, people continue to move out of the region.

The North region, with 169,600 square kilometers, contain 11 million, or only one-fifth of the country's total population, and just over 8 percent of the nation's
urban population. Its density of population (62 persons per square kilometer) is the lowest in the nation. The region is mountainous and endowed with dense forests. Water is generally in ample supply due to dams, water pools and irrigation projects. As a result, the production of rice, vegetables, maize, and soybean as well as cattle breeding has permitted the population (three quarters of whom are in agriculture) to maintain a better standard and living than in the Northeast, but not as high as that in the Central region of the South.

The South, region with only about 70,700 square kilometers, is the smallest region. Its population, numbering about 7 million, constitutes just over 13 percent of the nation's total including 9 percent of the total urban population. It is located on the Malay Peninsula. Owing to the semiannual monsoon, rainfall and water supplies are generally plentiful, permitting farmer's to enjoy a high living standard. In addition to its rich agricultural products, including rubber, rice, fruits, oil palm and marine fishery it is the location of many kinds of minerals such as tin and lignite. Agricultural pursuits involve three-fourths of its people. The South is the most urbanized region in Thailand, outside the Bangkok Metropolis, with 13 percent of its
population living in municipal areas and with a density of 99 persons per square kilometer.

Reflecting its position as Thailand's major municipal area, the Bangkok Metropolis also has the highest level of socio-economic status as measured by average income per household per month.20

In 1988, the income per household averaged 8,280 Baht; double that of the Central region and over twice that of the South, the North and the Northeast. The average household income in the Central region, were 4,220 Baht, while households in the South, the North and the Northeast had average income of 3,959 Baht, 3,400 Baht, and 3,067 Baht, respectively.21

Among the four regions, the average income of households in municipal and non-municipal areas were quite different. The average in urban areas was 5,587 Baht in the Northeast, 6,145 Baht, in the Central region, 6,589 Baht in the North and 6,951 Baht in the South.22

21. Ibid. P. 60
22. Ibid. P. 61.
However, differences among rural areas in the four regions were much greater, ranging from only 2,894 Baht in the Northeast, 3,108 Baht in the North and 3,407 Baht in the South to a high of 3,964 Baht in the Central region. Judged by this indicator, economic conditions were poorest in the Northeast in the both of urban and rural areas.

The Role of Migration

Migration, evictions and the search for refuge indicate that human societies are never been static and generally been subjected to disasters, wars and traumas. There were situations of extremely sedentary economic and social activities ensuring the people prediction of living and dying under the same roof. In other situations regular flows of migration provided a stable pattern related to the seasons or to yearly migrations of domesticated or wild herds of animal birds etc. Migrations are also undertaken for the harvest of seasonal crops or in recognition of seasonal changes in farming patterns such as transhumance, all the above mentioned movements are largely social in nature.
The changes are significant when individual moves to an entirely new social and physical environment. Changing the house and establishment of a new dwelling, a change of work location and other transactions cause a break up from old social ties and forms new one.

The development of modern transport and communications have compensated there change to some extent by reducing the distance between place of work and house. Some occupations are migrating itself like only men, gangers, soldiers, sailors etc. Migration raises challenging analytical difficulties for the demographers, sociologists or economists who conventionally use one society as the boundry for analysis.

Migration implies movement of individuals and groups between two societies; that which they have left and that to which they have come. It is no different in character to the transitions that are achieved as the result of slow or sharp historical movements that bring about a radical change in circumstance for those who have lived through them. It is necessary that while discussing this social process to keep in mind the large as well as the small dimension. Although migration is expressed through the actual movement of individuals from A to B, that movement contracts and compares two whole societies
which continue to exist in encapsulated form in the migrant individual whose experience straddles and to an extent reconciles each to the other.

In the title of this thesis, it becomes very obvious that we will undertake the study of migration and that of rural - urban migration at first place and then look over to the social problems with their economic, psychological and environmental basis. These social problems are to be traced in the shadow of migration influence in Thailand's Metropolies i.e. the Bangkok metropolis because other regional cities are too small if compared to Bangkok.

The movement of people from one residence to other is not a new phenomenon. The evoluation of Homo Sapiens Sapien (modern man) shows migration as major characteristic, in the anthropological view. Migration was the fundamental human right i.e. to move to any place on earth but as time passed, it became restricted due to legal implication and various regulations. Even United Nations charter on Human Rights given this Fundamental human right.
The enormous rate of population growth and urbanization process, a type of indiscriminate and unbalanced development became a matter of concern specially in developing countries and in Thailand too. The movement of people from one residence to another always been a matter of interest. This effects not only the sizes of the population but also the composition of the population in the area of origin as well as in the area of destination. Now a days external migration which was of importance during 18th and upto middle of 19th Century, has decreased in importance as a factor to the change of growth or population distribution. On the contrary internal migration has become influential upon the demographic changes particularly in developing countries. This resulted in growth in every sense, of some of the communities relatively faster than others. The other communities are stagnating and some of them even deteriorating.

Large urban agglomerations, contain a disproportionate share of the total population. The growth rates have tended to be particularly high in such large urban places. This is due to two factors i.e. high rate of migration from country side and high rate of natural growth so the net increase is very high. By the year 2000
A.D., it is estimated that the population in urban places in developing countries will be 2,155 million and proportion of urban will be 42.6%. This statement, indirectly gives us the idea about the problems that we will face in near future and at what level the existing problems of urban area like unemployment, slums, transportation and communication, drug addictions, crime rates, various diseases particularly AIDS and other STDS (Sexually Transmitted Diseases) and other health related events, problems of environmental pollution etc. will reach what height? So it would be right strategy to think of tomorrow and act in a right way today, to plan future.

Although South - East Asia, where Thailand is located, is still one of the least urbanized in the world and despite its continued rural population increase, it is characterized by increasingly rapid urbanization. In 1970's the rate of growth of population in Thailand was estimated at 3.37 per year, one of the highest in the world. But it is now showing declining trends. The population increased from an enumerated 8 millions in 1911 (1st official census) to 26 Million in 1960 and more than 36 million in 1970. In the 1980 the population were 46.2 Million and increased to 55.8 Million in the 1990.

According to W.A. Lewis, if looked superficially, it can be dectuced that rural-urban migration to be a desirable process in which surplus rural labour withdrawn from agricultural sector (or primary or traditional sector) to urban non-agricultural sector (Industrial or Modern Sectors). This can be a way to solve the problem of disguised and over un-employment problem in the rural traditional sector. Labour transfer from the traditional sector to the modern sector might be beneficial to economic and social development of the country since human resources are shifted from the rural areas where there social marginal products are often assumed to be zero to the urban area where this marginal product is not only positive but also rapidly growing as a result of capital accumulation and technological progress.25

In 60's and 70's the growth of economy of Thailand was at an average rate of 7% per year. Growth of population and labour force (2.5 and 3% respectively) obtained employment and income during this period. Despite of these indicators, a sizable population of rural area remained in absolute poverty. Due to stagnation of

economy in 80's and 90's situation raises a question about the distribution of economic gains through employment generations and Labour migration.

The available information about Thailand, clearly indicates that the largest proportion of people under the poverty line live in the rural areas of the North-east and Northern region where agricultural yields are low and monocropping rain-fed agriculture severely limits employment opportunities. Large scale seasonal migration has opened up substantial employment opportunities for people in the poor rural areas. Although it is not yet clear to what extent seasonal employment has contributed to the reduction of poverty, but it provides opportunities for additional employment and income for a large number of people in the poor rural areas. While the process of seasonal employment is expected to extend further, opportunities for rapid acceleration of seasonal labour movements may become increasingly limited primarily due to limited land resources. One of the major concerns for policy makers presently is that the expected slow down in the growth of seasonal employment opportunities may come at a time when a large part of the rural population still have not received a share in the benefits of development.
The number of people under absolute poverty is still very large. The effects of the slow down in the growth of seasonal employment is therefore a very important issue in the future of Thailand's rural development.

Numerous studies have been carried out which have mainly concentrated on the patterns of migrations, rates of migration, reasons of migrations, migration differentials related to migration in Thailand. But this particular study exceptionally stresses upon the Social aspects and influences of migration upon the population of Bangkok. Though economic problems take an upper hand at rural level, as per my observation social, psychological and environmental problems take an upper hand at urban situation.

M.P. Todaro has said that according to various studies, the fact has been proved that the rate of rural-urban migration have continued to exceed the rates of urban job creation\(^\text{26}\). Migration today is being increasingly looked upon as the major contributing factor to the phenomenon of urban surplus Labour and as a Force which continues to exacerbate already serious urban unemployment problems caused by growing economic and

structural imbalance between urban and rural areas. According to Chaktip Nitibhon, Bangkok is not merely the capital of Thailand, it is the residence of the King, the seat of Government, the nation's main port, the Centre of Thailand international and domestic Transportation system and is the key to the country's financial, commercial, industrial, educational and administrative activities. G.D.P. of Bangkok metropolis accounts for more than one-fourth of total G.N.P. of Thailand and its per capita income is two to eight times higher than other parts of Thailand. The density of population in Bangkok is about 3,500 persons per square Kilometer whereas for other areas it is just 110-120/Km$^2$.

Pull factors of the Bangkok Metropolis in terms of employment opportunities and higher wage rate in the modern sector associated with other attractions like higher education facilities, health services, higher standard of living etc. have resulted in flow of migrants from rural areas especially from the North-east rural areas and the Central regions. So, the problems of population, slum, crimes and unemployment in Bangkok metropolis have been vastly greater than in other provinces. So it would be

worth while to examine rural-urban migration and its impaction on Social problems that are already existing and creation of some new social problems.

The observation of Sidney Goldstein and Alice Gold-Stein says that "as compared to other UDC's Thailand experienced rapid social and economical change during 1960 and 1980 and during study period too. The change also reflected in increasing percentage of boys and girls enrolled in schools, the expansion of cultivated lands concurrent with the emergence of small industrial sector (but mainly around Bangkok). There is notable shift away from self-employment in agriculture to salaried occupation outside the agricultural sector. Due to rapidly spreading family planning programme helped to decline the population growth rate (2.6% in 1980's ) still there was sharp increase in total population and density of population, this resulted in pressure upon the national resources. Recently, about 20% of population lived below poverty line. The growing opportunities outside agriculture, in both urban and rural locations provide new stimuli for migration and new opportunities to improve living standards without geographic movement. 'Migration may be a particularly attractive mechanism for persons in less developed areas of the nation to realize their aspirations
for a higher quality of life and to enable them to participate more fully in the growth process characterizing the country as whole. 28

In order to improve the economic conditions in Thailand new development policy has framed by the Government of Thailand. Therefore, I have discussed below the future of Thailand.

Looking to the Future:

What will Thailand be like in the 1990's? This is a question to ponder, having witnessed how rapidly Thailand has transformed itself from a purely agricultural country into an agro-industrial one. The answer is, it seems, in the eye of beholder.

For those looking at Thailand with economic foresight, a new decade opens up a new horizon of growing prosperity. New industrial country such as petrochemicals, pulp and paper, and large-scale garment manufacture develop alongside agriculture. Potash plants ensure the cheap production of chemical fertilizer which will benefit Thailand as an agro-industrial nation. The industrial development on the Southern Seaboard will bring

wealth to the region. Yet with all this industrial development, Thailand still prides itself on its agriculture as it applies modern technology in the fields.

A better infrastructure is now really underway and will speed development to accommodate pressing demands for a fast, effective and reliable communications network. One foresees high income but, at the same time, inevitably higher prices and inflation, a situation not unique to Thailand. Those who keep watch on Thailand's rapid development out of an educational concern will wish to see more emphasis on education for the long-term development of human resources to serve the increasing demand for quality in all its aspects. The expansion of basic compulsory education from 6 to 9 years age group will be put into effect in the near future. There is a vital emphasis on science and technology at the tertiary level, in tune with the country's overall technological development.

Those who see Thailand's role from the global angle will also notice a tendency for Thailand to take a more prominent international and regional stance, looking towards the time when ASEAN becomes a common market with international standards, common rules and regulations to be observed, mutual understanding, and good will to be
shared. But any development at great speed and on a vast scale is bound to have an impact on social conditions. Those with a social conscience will be aware of the massive rural migration from all directions towards Bangkok or Metropolitan Area in search or seek of employment as a result of the rapid growth of the nation's wealth.

Although a labour force is essential for a newly industrialized nation, the government is faced with countless aggravating social problems caused by this migration of workers from rural areas; these call for sympathy, support and improved social welfare. Thailand is certainly aware of these problems and efforts are being made to find appropriate solutions. Another effect of the outcome of rapid development is the environment, which finally seems to be a matter of increasing public concern. Lessons must be learnt from the past and measures taken to ensure that the environment will not be sacrificed to any form of development or modernization.

Altogether, the picture of Thailand in 1990's is a fascinating blend. As history tells us, the Thais have absorbed various foreign influences without losing their identity. Similarly, a number of changes may have taken
place in the process of industrialization. Nevertheless, little has changed beyond recognition. At the heart of the nation, the monarchy remains a unifying force, the source of Thailand's political stability, and everywhere in Thailand, traditional ways of life can still be found. The modern art of the present day reflects Thailand's prestigious cultural heritage, merging past, present and future into one.

Moreover, policy to increase non-agricultural employment in the rural areas such as handicrafts, rural industries which use labour intensive method, etc., is relevant provided that there is a market for them. This is because these activities can increase farmers' income, and can absorb the excess supply of farm labourers.

The characteristics as place of origin of migrants, labour force participation, unemployment rate, age, sex educational characteristics have been studied in detail in following chapters.

In the concluding chapter, the actual causes of the social problems and possible suggestions and solutions have been dealt relevantly. In the light of above discussion I would also like to discuss the various theories and models of migration in my second chapter.