

## OEC revealed: Research Findings Showed Shortage of Manpower in Manufacturing and Service Industry Sectors.



Recently, the Office of the Education Council (OEC) jointly with Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI) organized, at Grand Ballroom, Century Park hotel, Bangkok, the Meeting titled “Study on Manpower Needs for Production Planning and Manpower Development”. The research findings showed the shortage of manpower in industrial production and service sectors.

Mrs. Suthasri Wongsamarn, OEC’s Deputy Secretary-General said that the persistent shortage in manpower arises from the mismatch of manpower needs and manpower production in the country. This problem will continue to occur in the future unless corrective measures are seriously taken. The majority of manpower production doesn’t conform to the Demand driven. The education institutes choose to produce manpower according to their capability of Supply driven which eventually caused unemployment and shortage of manpower.

Dr. Yongyuth Chalamwong, Research Director for Labor Development, TDRI stated that the findings on manpower needs for production planning and manpower development of the country indicated that 2551 skill shortage accounted for the total number of 344,748. The most affected sectors are skilled labor in production lines and general labor accounting for 23.55 % of the overall labor shortage followed by production manager, workers in production operation, workers in manufacturing sectors, i.e. mining, electricity, gas and waterworks as well as mini truck and minivan drivers accounting for 7.78 % and 2.75 % respectively. Most of skill shortage is in the lines of production and services.

He continued to say that the number of graduates from lower-than-degree level declines more than degree level and that the number of bachelor or higher degree graduates increases progressively. There exists, in particular, an oversupply of graduates in Social Sciences and Humanities but shortage of those in Sciences and Technology and Health Sciences. The manufacturing and service industry sectors needs more skilled manpower in order to mobilize its development, Dr. Yongyuth finally closed his statements.