	angkok Post	Section: First Section/NATIONAL			
Ban		Date: Wednesday 19 June 2013			
		Volume: –	No: -	Page: 2(Center)	
Bangkok F	Post	Col.Inch: 12.54	Ad Value: 18,810	PRValue (x3): 56,430	Clip: Full Color
Circulation Ad Rate: 1	n: 70,000 1,500	Column: THE ROUND-UP: Economists give govt poor rating			



Economists give govt poor rating

Economists believe the government is failing to manage the country's financial matters effectively, according to a survey by Bangkok Poll released yesterday.

The survey was conducted between June 11-17, and questioned 60 economists from leading organisations. Respondents gave the government

an overall grade of 4.08 out of 10 for its performance on economic matters. The score was up from 3.83 in a similar survey carried out last year by the Bangkok University pollster.

On questions relating to specific financial issues, the government did best on the general outlook for economic growth, for which it scored 5.63 out of 10. For its success in managing public debt, the Yingluck administration was given its lowest tally of just 3.05.

Minister of Tourism and Sports Somsak Phurisisak received the highest grade for an individual minister, with 4.67, followed by Finance Minister Kittiratt Na-Ranong, with 3.86.

Commerce Minister Boonsong Teriyapirom came bottom of the list with just 2.5 out of 10, while Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra scored 3.66.

News ID: C-130619001017 (19 Jun 13/05:06)



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