

## Daily Thai News Updates: 06 October 2017

### 1. ThaiBev pushes white spirits abroad

Source: Bangkok Post ([Link](#))

Thai Beverage Plc, Thailand's largest food and Beverage Company, is ramping up its white spirits expansion to cover Asean and North Asia, hoping to capitalise on the mass market in those regions. The move is also part of ThaiBev's 2020 vision to become a stable and sustainable Asean leader in the beverage and food industry, with non-alcohol sales contributing 50% of the company's revenues in three years, up from 40%. ThaiBev is in the process of acquiring a distribution licence in Vietnam and expects to start selling Ruang Khao in Vietnam early next year and in South Korea and Japan by the end of next year. Myanmar and the Philippines will also be in the business' pipeline. Apart from Ruang Khao, ThaiBev's Old Pulteney scotch whisky will also be made available in Vietnam.

### 2. K-Research ups GDP forecast to 3.7% growth

Source: Bangkok Post ([Link](#))

Kasikorn Research Center (K-Research) has emerged as the latest to jump on the economic growth bandwagon by increasing its forecast to 3.7% this year from 3.4% after stronger than expected export growth. The research house also raised Thailand's export growth projection significantly to 7% this year from 3.8%, in line with the global economic recovery. Thailand's export growth forecast is expected to be in the single digits, well below the range of 12.9-21.3% projected for other Asean countries, as structural problems contribute to the slower pace of export growth, said Nattaporn Triratanasirikul, head of research.

### **3. PF plans launch of 25 projects next year**

**Source: Bangkok Post ([Link](#))**

SET-listed developer Property Perfect Plc (PF) is bullish about its prospects next year, predicting consolidated revenue growth of 24% from an estimated 19 billion baht this year. According to chief executive Chainid Adhyanasakul, next year's growth will be derived from the core businesses of property and hotels, the latter operated by SET-listed subsidiary Grande Asset Hotels & Property Plc. The company next year plans to launch 25 new projects worth 31.4 billion baht, including 21 low-rise projects worth 26.5 billion and four condominiums worth 4.9 billion.

### **4. Saab, Mitsubishi look to invest in EEC**

**Source: The Nation ([Link](#))**

SWEDISH aerospace and Defence Company Saab Group and Japanese electric giant Mitsubishi Electric Corporation are keen to join hands with Thai private firms to invest in Thailand's targeted industries in the country's Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC), Deputy Prime Minister Prajin Juntong said. After their discussions yesterday, Saab chief executive officer Hakan Buskhe said that it had discussed with Amata Corporation possible cooperation on maintenance and development of a smart city following Saab's earlier survey for investment in maintenance, repair and operations (MRO) in the EEC, Prachin said.

### **5. Jewellery institute aims to turn Thailand into global hub**

**Source: The Nation ([Link](#))**

The Gem and Jewelry Institute of Thailand (GIT) is planning to participate in seven major projects starting next year, in an effort to turn Thailand into a global jewellery hub. GIT director

Duangkamol Jiambutr said the institute is confident of achieving its goal of making Thailand a global jewellery hub by 2021. “We will concentrate on raising the potential of the industry and create new markets, as well as [develop] the image of Thailand as a global production centre in order to give confidence to customers,” she said