

## THAI NEWS UPDATE: 23 JUNE 2022

### **1. Four organic laws under PPDA published in Royal Gazette**

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

The Digital Economy and Society (DES) Ministry has announced four organic laws, including one to exempt small-and-medium enterprises and community enterprises from enforcement of the Personal Data Protection Act (PDPA). DES Minister Chaiwut Thanakhamanusorn said the four organic laws were published in the Royal Gazette on Monday and took effect immediately after they were approved by the Personal Data Protection Committee a week earlier. The first organic law would exempt SMEs and community enterprises from having to log working records of data controllers.

### **2. IEAT, PEA unit probe clean energy options**

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

The Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand (IEAT) is conducting a joint study on the "Smart Energy-Smart Grid" project aimed at promoting clean energy and reducing costs for factories in industrial estates. Under a memorandum of understanding it recently signed with PEA Encom International Co, the study will cover new energy technology, investment and a business model for smart energy and smart grid development on industrial estates. PEA Encom International is a wholly-owned subsidiary of state electricity distribution arm Provincial Electricity Authority (PEA).

### **3. Thailand, UK pledge to revitalise bilateral trade**

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

Thailand and the United Kingdom aim to reinvigorate two-way trade between the two countries to US\$7 billion as quickly as possible after the value declined significantly over the past five years. Speaking after the first Joint Economic and Trade Committee meeting between Thailand and the United Kingdom held in London on Tuesday, Commerce Minister Jurin Laksanawisit said the meeting offered a significant new opportunity to improve bilateral trade, including by addressing trade barriers affecting business activity in both countries. According to Mr Jurin, participants in the meeting discussed potential partnerships in six areas comprising digital, agriculture, food and drink, healthcare, financial services as well as trade promotion and investment activities.

#### **4. UAE interested in purchasing Thai rice: Sansern**

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

The United Arab Emirates is interested in purchasing Thai rice, Vice Commerce Minister Sansern Samalapa said on 22 June. His statement came after discussions with Abdunasser Jamal Alshaali, Assistant Minister for Economic and Trade Affairs at the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation on Monday. He said the UAE could be a gateway for Thai exports – especially agricultural products and food – to countries in the Middle East and North Africa. Thailand, meanwhile, would enable the UAE to penetrate the Asean market. Sansern went on to say that the UAE is interested in making a purchase contract for Thai rice, while the Gulf nation also saw an opportunity for the private sector of both countries to jointly invest in rice manufacturing in the future.