

## Thai News Update: 10 April 2019

### **1. Women Embrace Airbnb**

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

Women renting out their properties on Airbnb in Thailand earned a combined 2.8 billion baht in 2018, a 45% increase from the previous year, according to the accommodation sharing service. The number of female Airbnb hosts in Thailand also grew by 22% in 2018, it said. 'Airbnb is privileged to support women's empowerment through our platform,' says Mich Goh, head of public policy for Southeast Asia. Women make up 53% of Airbnb's host community in Thailand, with average annual income from rentals of 78,000 baht. "The advent of technology has opened up multiple opportunities for female hospitality entrepreneurs who are passionate about driving a creative and meaningful tourism industry," Airbnb said in a release.

### **2. Ubon Ratchathani To Get Industrial Estate**

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

A partnership between Thai and Japanese companies plans to invest nearly 3 billion baht to build an industrial estate in Ubon Ratchathani, focusing on agriculture processing and biotechnology. Natawatana Lerdsurawitaya, managing director of Ubon Industry Co, announced a partnership with Kaigai Advisory Co, Wellness Life Project Thailand Co and Asian Dynamic Communication Co. The companies recently signed a memorandum of understanding to establish the Ubon Ratchathani Industrial Estate, which is expected to begin construction by 2020 and conclude in 2022.

### **3. New Law Planned To Protect Interests Of Foreign Airline Passengers**

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

The Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT) is planning a draft regulation to protect passengers flying foreign airlines who are affected by flight delays to ensure equal consumer protection. The regulation is expected to come into force this year. CAAT director-general Chula

Sukmanop said, “Now, more passengers prefer to travel abroad by foreign airlines and there have been flight delays. The CAAT cannot force foreign airlines to pay passengers compensation or take care of the passengers, as there is no law to the effect. We will now rush regulations that will protect the interests of passengers.” The CAAT presently has the responsibility only of protecting the interests of both Thai and foreign passengers who are affected by flight delays involving Thai airlines.

#### **4. Govt Mulls Stimulus To Help Boost Growth**

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

The Fiscal Policy Office and related government agencies are discussing the launch of a stimulus package to boost the country's economic growth in view of domestic and overseas risks which have dampened consumer confidence, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Finance Prasong Poontaneat said yesterday. "We will prepare the appropriate measures and will meet with deputy prime minister Somkid Jatusripitak after the Songkran festival. We will consider when these measures should be announced and launched, taking into account the prevailing market sentiment," he said.