

## Thai News Update: 11 September 2018

### **1. PPP Panel Gives Nod To Fast-Track Motorway Project**

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

The Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Committee is going ahead with the Nakhon Pathom-Cha-am motorway project at a cost of Bt79.01 billion to facilitate transport to the South of Thailand, and has urged related agencies to propose projects under the fast track PPP scheme within this year. The PPP Committee meeting yesterday, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Somkid Jatusripitak, and attended by Prapas Kong-ied, director-general of the State Enterprise Policy Office and director and secretary to the PPP Committee, explained that the committee had agreed in principle to the Department of Highways' proposal to build the Nakhon Pathom-Cha-am motorway under the PPP fast-track scheme.

### **2. Thailand Focusing On Ranong Port Development To Improve Trade With India**

**Source: Business Standard ([Link](#))**

Thailand is focusing on developing Ranong port for improved connectivity with eastern and southern Indian ports so as to boost bilateral trade, a Thailand Embassy official said on 10 September. "Kolkata is a gateway to India. The Ranong port, which is nearer compared with Bangkok and Laem Chabang, has been operational but the (export-import) activities have been less. We are now focusing on developing Ranong to improve connectivity with Kolkata and Chennai ports as it will save distance and boost trade," said Tharadol Thongruang, Minister Counsellor (Commercial), Office of Commercial Affairs, Royal Thai Embassy.

### **3. Normalisation Of Monetary Policy Could Impact Global Stocks, Expert Cautions**

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

Stock prices could take a hit if there is a reduction in global money supply, Pornchai Prasertsintanah, Thailand's country manager and head of South Asia Equities of Credit Suisse Securities (Thailand) Ltd, said. In the next two to three years, the global money supply will be the most important factor in influencing the change in global stock prices, Pornchai said at an annual press interview. "From 2008 to today, there has been a significant increase in global money supply, which is one of the key factors pushing up global stock prices and asset prices", he

explained. “Hence, if there is a reduction in the global money supply, it will have a big impact on stock prices.”

#### **4. Dusit Thani Branches Into Luxury Holiday Rental Market**

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

DUSIT THANI Plc (DTC) , a leading hotel and property development company in Thailand, has expanded into the high-end vacation rental market through the full acquisition of Elite Havens, the leading provider of high-end vacation rentals in Asia, with an investment of Bt495 million. DTC made the acquisition through its wholly-owned Hong Kong-incorporated subsidiary, Dusit Overseas Co Ltd, which has bought all shares in LVM Holdings Pte Ltd. (LVMH), a Singapore-incorporated company and the ultimate holding company of Elite Havens. DTC's acquisition of Elite Havens follows the company's three-pronged strategy for sustainable and profitable growth, which includes balance, diversification, and expansion, particularly into new market segments, which will enhance DTC's capacity to provide integrated services and drive revenue growth.

#### **5. Air Italy Debuts Bangkok-Milan Route**

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

Air Italy, a privately owned airline, has started flights on the Bangkok-Milan route to cash in on tourism growth and capture greater market share from Thai Airways International Plc (THAI) and other carriers operating between Singapore and Italy. This is the first Italian airline to fly to Thailand. Flights commenced on 10 September but plans are afoot to have four a week using Airbus A330-200s. The Tourism and Sports Ministry reported 6.5 million visitors from Europe to Thailand last year, a 5.45% gain year-on-year. Travellers from Russia, the UK, and Germany had the largest tallies, at 1.34 million, 994,460, and 849,280 visitors, respectively. There were 264,430 visitors from Italy.

#### **6. Thailand Future Fund IPO set for October**

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

The long-awaited Thailand Future Fund (TFF) looks set to be allocated to the public in the second week of October, with at least 60% of its units being offered to retail investors, says the head of the State Enterprise Policy Office (Sepa). Finance Minister Apisak Tantivorawong suggested the

infrastructure fund would raise 45 billion baht from the impending initial public offering (IPO) and retail investors will be allotted units before institutional investors, said Prapas Kong-Ied, Sepo director-general.