

THAI NEWS UPDATE: 17 AUGUST 2021

1. THAI Announces Six-Month Operational Performance Results for 2021 during its Business Rehabilitation

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

As of June 30, 2021, total assets of THAI and its subsidiaries were THB 168,582 million, a decrease of THB 40,715 million (19.5%) from December 31, 2020. Total liabilities were THB 285,066 million, a decrease by THB 52,896 million (15.7%) from December 31, 2020. Thai Airways International Public Company Limited (THAI), announces consolidated financial statements for the first six months in 2021. THAI and its subsidiaries reported the operating loss of THB 14,335 million. The total revenue was 10,220 million, lower than last year's THB 30,273 or 74.8%. A decrease in both passenger and cargo revenue was THB 30,486 million (84.2%) and a decrease of THB 1,417 million (35.5%) was from other services. Moreover, other incomes have increased to THB 1,630 million. Total expenses amounted to THB 24,555 million which was THB 34,246 million (58.2%) lower than the previous year, mainly due to the variable operating expenses.

2. Thammasat set to import Covid-19 vaccines independently

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

Thammasat University Council announced on 16 August that university councillors have unanimously agreed to invoke a regulation that allows it to source medicines and equipment necessary for treating patients. The regulation stipulates that all relevant departments have the right to offer proposals to independently manufacture, procure, import, distribute and register drugs, medical supplies and equipment necessary for patient care. The councillors resolved to invoke the regulation because the Thammasat University Hospital has been overwhelmed with Covid-19 patients and the supply of vaccines from the government has been slow.

3. Thai Vietjet to open new and resume four Domestic Cross-regional Routes from just THB0

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

The new services Phuket (HKT) – Chiang Mai (CNX) and Phuket – Udon Thani will commence from September 15, 2021 and October 1, 2021. Enforcing 'Phuket Sandbox' model, Thai Vietjet announced new and resumption of cross-regional services connecting Phuket to Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, and Udon Thani, plus Hat Yai to Chiang Rai, offering additional convenience and valued choices to all passengers and further extending its success as the Fastest Growing Low-cost Carrier of the Year 2020 (by Global Business Outlook Magazine, London). The new services Phuket (HKT) – Chiang Mai (CNX) and Phuket –

Udon Thani will commence from September 15, 2021 and October 1, 2021, respectively. While Phuket – Chiang Rai (CEI) and Hat Yai (HDY) – Chiang Rai (CEI) services are scheduled to resume on October 1, 2021.

4. Nod for 7+7 provides cheer

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

Phuket sandbox and other provinces in the south struggling with ways to reopen for international tourists will be buoyed after the CCSA on 16 August nailed down the long-awaited 7+7 extension plan. The reopening plan to add destinations as links to Phuket sandbox have been approved in principal by the Centre for Economic Situation Administration (CESA) since July 22, but had to gain formal approval from both a CCSA subcommittee on Aug 5 and a committee under the Communicable Diseases Act on Aug 13, respectively. The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) governor Yuthasak Supasorn said from Aug 16 tourists can join the programme, which will help cut the mandatory stay in Phuket from 14 days to just 7 days before then traveling on to other designated destinations. However, participants have to apply for a Certificate of Entry (COE) for each route before departing for Thailand. The Foreign Ministry will open the system for registration within this week.

5. Philippines scraps plan to tax imported Thai cars

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

Thai car exporters' prospects have become brighter after the Philippines scrapped plans to impose tariffs on cars imported from Thailand, and returned 1.2 billion baht worth of safeguard duty to importers. According to Thai Commerce Minister Jurin Laksanawisit, the Philippines agreed on Aug 6 to scrap the tariff plans and return the import duties, after Mr Jurin and other officials ramped up attempts to resolve the trade dispute. The Philippines set up a committee to study and impose safeguard measures on Thailand's passenger car and pickup truck exports in December 2020, leading to the collection of import duties on Thai passenger cars and pickup trucks from Feb 1 this year.