

Thai News Update: 18 May 2020

1. Siam Paragon, Siam Center, Siam Discovery and ICONSIAM reopen with maximum health and safety measures and integrated innovations

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

Siam Paragon, Siam Center, Siam Discovery and ICONSIAM reopen with maximum health and safety measures and integrated innovations bringing back Siam smiles to Thai people. Global retail destinations Siam Paragon, Siam Center, Siam Discovery and ICONSIAM reopened for the first day on 17 May 2020, bringing back Siam smiles to the country. Innovative and integrated health & safety measures are implemented, setting a retail benchmark to ensure safe journey to all visitors – tenants, shoppers and employees, to serve the “New Normal Innovative Lifestyle.” Visitors are required to check-in and check-out via the government-mandated “Thai Chana” platform. The four shopping centers also expressed an appreciation to Thais for the whole nation’s quarantine collaboration, a joint force that helps bring back the Siam smiles to our faces and our nation.

2. Thai hospitals boost medical hub aim with high-tech weapons against Covid-19

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

Large private hospitals have adopted a telemedicine system that is being hailed as the future of patient-doctor communication, spurring Thailand’s ambition to become an international medical hub. Dr Somchai Leelakusolvong, an infectious diseases expert, said patients unable to attend physical appointments had responded positively to the telemedicine being used at his hospital, Praram 9. Encouraged by that reaction, the hospital is now developing its “Doctor Anywhere” application.

3. State Enterprise meeting okays THAI rehabilitation plan

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

A State Enterprise Policy Committee meeting today (May 18) approved a rehabilitation plan for Thai Airways International to solve the carrier’s financial difficulties, Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha said. The commission, which he chaired, will propose the resolution to the Cabinet for consideration on 19 May. When asked if the plan will proceed under the bankruptcy law, Prayut said the bankruptcy and the rehabilitation plan are not the same thing and the Cabinet will reveal more details later.

4. Thailand's in-bound flight ban extended until end of June

Source: Thai PBS World ([Link](#))

The Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT) has extended the ban on all flights into Thailand, except diplomatic, technical, medical and emergency landings, until June 30th, or until there is a significant change in the global COVID-19 pandemic situation. The ban was originally to end of May 31st. CAAT director, Mr. Chula Sookmanop, said that passengers and air crew on those exempted flights will be subject to 14-days in state quarantine if they want to enter Thailand. Meanwhile, Health Department director-general Dr. Panpi Wipulakorn said today that a recently conducted survey shows that Thai people have become less diligent about observing safety measures, with 72.5% strictly complying, compared to 77.6% in the previous survey.

5. Bangkok City Hall allows 10 more types of business to reopen

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

The Bangkok Municipal Administration, aka. City Hall confirms that more businesses in the city will be allowed to reopen today, including most shops at malls, in keeping with the second phase of the nationwide relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions. A BMA spokesman says its communicable disease control committee had eased restrictions on 10 business types. The businesses allowed to reopen are...Shopping centres, restaurants and beverage shops; Other shops at malls, excluding movie theatres, game shops, bowling alleys, coin-operated game machines, tutorial classes and amulet shops; Day-care nursing homes for the elderly