

## THAI NEWS UPDATE: 1 SEPTEMBER 2021

### **1. Hua Hin opts for Phuket's approach**

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

Hua Hin's reopening plan has adopted the quarantine-free approach from the Phuket sandbox, while the tourism sector is confident about achieving herd immunity by the slated Oct 1 reopening. Krod Rojanastien, president of the Thai Spa Association and head of the Hua Hin Recharge programme, said it will use the same model as Phuket but on a smaller scale. As of Aug 30, the vaccination rate reached 55% of the 90,564 inhabitants of Hua Hin Municipality, of which 59.2% received the first jab and 22.2% were fully inoculated.

### **2. PM hints at shortening, lifting night curfew**

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

The night curfew in dark-red zones may be shortened or lifted, depending on the Covid-19 situation, Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha said on 1 September. Gen Prayut said this in response to reporters' questions on arriving at parliament for the second day of the no-confidence debate against him and five other cabinet ministers. He said the Centre for Covid-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) had eased some disease controls, effective from 1 September, and he hoped everyone would to strictly comply with them.

### **3. E-service tax law comes into force**

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

Thailand will enforce the e-service tax law from 1 September, following in the footsteps of more than 60 countries around the globe which collect value-added tax (VAT) from foreign e-service operators reaping income in their territories. These countries, including Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Taiwan and South Korea, comply with guidelines ushered in by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to enhance VAT collection for cross border services. In Thailand, the Revenue Code Amendment Act, which paves the way for the collection of VAT from foreign e-service providers, was published in the Royal Gazette on Feb 10 and is due to come into force on 1 September.

### **4. BoI's Asean investment framework gets Cabinet okay**

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

The Cabinet on Tuesday gave the go-ahead to the Asean Investment Facilitation Framework (AIFF) proposed by the Board of Investment (BoI). It also appointed Deputy PM

Supattanapong Punmeechaow, who oversees issues related to the economy and investment, as the Thai representative at the Asean Economics Ministers' meeting on September 8. The AIFF, meanwhile, aims to help Asean countries recover from the fallout of Covid-19 by focusing on investment and promoting the region as an important supply source. The framework covers investment facilitation from several aspects, including immigration, workers, capital, business partners as well as support via the latest technology such as electronic documents and digital platforms.

#### **5. Bangkok named best city for digital nomads**

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

Bangkok took the top spot as one of the best cities for a “workation” in a survey conducted by the German rentals search engine Holidu. A “workation” is a trip where one can travel to a new destination and work from there. This allows you to visit family members or explore a destination without having to use up your leave. The website analysed both work and vacation factors in more than 150 countries. Work factors included remote connections, co-working spaces, caffeine, travel and after-work drinks. Vacation factors included accommodation, food, climate, tourist attractions and Instagramability.

#### **6. Thailand's daily caseload under 15,000 for 2nd day**

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

Thailand logged 14,802 new infections and 252 deaths over the past 24 hours on 1 September. Of the new infections, 217 were found in prisons. Meanwhile, 18,996 patients have recovered and been discharged over the past 24 hours. Thailand's total caseload from Covid stands at 1,219,531 – 1,040,768 of whom have recovered, 166,922 are still in hospitals and 11,841 have died. Separately, another 393,633 people were given their first Covid-19 shot in the last 24 hours, 431,777 their second shot, and 2,772 their third shot, bringing the total Covid-19 vaccine doses administered nationwide to 32,600,001.