

## Thai News Update: 22 May 2019

### **1. Nissan and Delta pioneer Thailand's first partnership to enable EV home charging**

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

Nissan in Thailand on 21 May announced the official appointment of Delta Electronics (Thailand) as its primary provider of electric-vehicle (EV) charging systems. The deal supports Thailand's electrification goal of 1.2 million units on the road by 2036 and will provide Nissan Leaf owners in Thailand international-standard charging facilities with Delta's quality standard of service, certified by Nissan. The partnership is supported by a Frost & Sullivan report which found that, for Thai consumers, having convenient and flexible charging options was one of the top three motivating factors to purchase an EV in Thailand.

### **2. THAI Smile Launches A Campaign For Smile Plus Tickets For Indochina Routes**

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

THAI Smile Airways would like you to experience the superior service in the Smile Plus or Premium Economy class in Indochina routes including Yangon, Vientiane, Luang Prabang, Phnom Penh and Siem Reap with a special promotion, starting at Bt13,855. It comes with full service and offers more than 40 kg of luggage loading. Check-in via expressway with lounge service, food and beverage, baggage handling and mileage accumulation with Royal Orchid Plus. Reservation can be made from now until 31 May 2019. Travel from today until 31 July 2019. Book a seat at [www.thaismileair.com](http://www.thaismileair.com) and ticket agents nationwide.

### **3. Taboola Seeks Local Partners To Serve 'Search In Reverse' Audience**

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

Taboola, a leading "discovery platform", has announced double-digit growth across Asia Pacific and is confident it will see the same growth for 2019. Adam Singolda, CEO and founder of Taboola, recently visited its regional headquarters in Bangkok to talk about discovery and his long-term vision for the region. With global headquarters in New York City, Taboola touts itself

as the largest discovery platform on the open web, with over 1.4 billion monthly users, reaching half of the world's internet users. As a top platform for engaging consumers beyond searches and social "walled gardens," numerous companies in Asia Pacific are using the discovery platform to move consumers along the purchasing funnel, from brand awareness through conversion, said Singolda.

#### **4. Economy Faces Heightened Political Uncertainties: BoT**

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

Heightened political uncertainties in Thailand after an election meant to herald a return to democracy have clouded the outlook for economic policy, the central bank said in minutes of a meeting earlier this month that left interest rates unchanged. No clear winner emerged from the March 24 election, the first since a military coup in 2014, and the country is still waiting for a new government to be formed. Central bank policy makers alluded to potential hazards for the economy in minutes of their May 8 meeting that left the benchmark interest rate unchanged at 1.75%. The central bank raised its policy rate in December for the first time since 2011 to help curb financial risks, but has held the rate steady at the three subsequent meetings of its MPC. The MPC will next review monetary policy on June 19, when it will also give updated economic forecasts. Most economists expect no policy rate change throughout 2019.

#### **5. Likely Influx Of Imports Spurs Action**

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

Thailand will boost anti-dumping, safeguard and anti-circumvention measures to curb an anticipated influx of import goods affected by the deepening trade war between the US and China. Adul Chotinisakorn, director-general of the Foreign Trade Department, said relevant authorities are on full alert and have prepared measures to protect local industries that could be hit by the flood of imports. "Whenever we find an influx of imported goods either from China or the US, or even from other countries, the department will immediately exercise the amended Anti-Dumping and Countervailing Act that adds new chapters regarding anti-circumvention penalties and the safeguard measures under the Safeguard Measure Against Increased Imports Act," Mr Adul said.

## **6. Thai April Exports Fall 2.57% Y/Y, In Line With Forecast**

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

Thailand's customs-cleared exports fell 2.57% in April from a year earlier, after contracting 4.88% in March, due mainly to reduced shipments of electronics, the commerce ministry said on 22 May. The April decline compared with a Reuters poll forecast of 2.5% drop in shipments, the main driver of Thai growth. Shipments to China fell 5% in April from a year earlier, while ones to the United States rose 4.7%, a ministry official said. In April, imports dropped 0.72% percent from a year earlier, after declining 7.63 percent in March. The poll forecast was for a fall in April of 4.6%.