

THAI NEWS UPDATE: 24 AUGUST 2022

1. CP robot fair to spread tech knowledge

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

The conglomerate Charoen Pokphand Group (CP) has joined hands with the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) and other partners to launch a two-day robot and innovation showcase event aimed at spreading knowledge of the latest advanced technology amongst Thai youth. The "CP Bangkok Witthaya" event, which kicked off on Monday, is being held at a 4,000-square-metre space at True Digital Park in Bangkok's Phra Khanong district. Entry is free of charge. The event is one of the 12 major monthly festivals supported by the BMA this year.

2. What are the benefits of the Portugal golden visa program?

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

The Portugal golden visa program launched a decade ago, and it remains among the most popular options to this day. That's because the scheme boasts a proven track record of success without some of the problems similar EU-based programs have encountered over the years. There are many benefits to the Portugal golden visa program that make it a good opportunity for those in Thailand. Firstly, holding one allows you to live, work or study throughout all EU countries should you apply for citizenship after five years. This makes it ideal for several groups. For starters, those with business interests in Europe can take advantage of visa-free entry to Portugal along with a visa exemption for travel through the Schengen Area. You will have the ability to work legally in Portugal during the first five years of the program with this being extended to the entire EU should you successfully apply for citizenship.

3. Diwali to shine bright in Bangkok's 'little India' this year

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

India's famous festival of lights, Diwali, will be celebrated in Bangkok's Pahurat area from October 21 to 23 this year. The Diwali Festival 2022 is being jointly organised by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration and related agencies, like the Indian Association of Thailand and Destination Siam. Bangkok deputy governor Sanon Wangsrangboon said the festival aims to shed light on Indian culture as well as attract more Indian tourists to

Thailand. He pointed out that Thailand has never marked any Indian festivals, adding that only Chinese New Year, Christmas and Songkran are celebrated in the capital.

4. Thai Leaf, Cornell team up on hemp

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

Thai Leaf Biotechnology, a private company that imports and produces hemp seed, in collaboration with Cornell University, has unveiled plans to upgrade the Thai hemp market by developing new strains of hemp and seeds that are suitable to be grown in Thailand's climate as well as yielding a high cannabidiol (CBD) content. The firm is working on three core categories -- beverages, food supplements and cosmetics -- and will later include pharmaceutical products. Yingyos Charubusapayon, chief executive of Thai Leaf Biotechnology, said his company has set a market share target of 10% and plans to become the leader of the Asian hemp-based pharmaceutical market in the future. Mr Yingyos explained that CBD extract is a key hemp business-driven factor because it can be used in various ways.

5. Ichitan to beef up carbonated soft drink business in H2

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

Ichitan Group Plc, the producer and marketer of Ichitan ready-to-drink green tea, looks set to beef up its carbonated soft drink business in the second half of the year. The company wants to boost its annual sales to 6.5 billion baht at the end of this year, up from 5.22 billion last year. According to Tan Passakornnatee, the company's chief executive, despite the value of Thailand's carbonated soft drink market contracting by 1.4% in the first half of this year and the volume easing by 2.1% from the same. New products scheduled for rollout in the second half of the year include a plum-flavoured herbal tea called YenYen, Ichitan No Sugar, a healthy green tea drink with zero calories, and Tansansu carbonated beverages