

Thai News Update: 24 February 2021

1. Thai companies planning to recruit

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

Although hiring activities dipped 37% during 2020, 33% of companies in Thailand now say they will increase their workforce in 2021 while 32% plan to maintain their current staffing levels, according to a survey by recruitment firm Michael Page Thailand. According to the report, 67% of employed technology professionals in Thailand anticipate looking for new opportunities in 2021, while another 31% are passively open to new ones, suggesting increased employment activity. "Like other markets in the region, Thailand's technology sector stayed afloat and resilient, particularly for e-commerce and other internet-based businesses," said Kristoffer Paludan, regional director of Michael Page Thailand.

2. Phuket gets tourism industry up and rolling

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

Phuket got the wheels rolling again on its tourism industry at the weekend by launching a new attraction – the “Amazing Thailand Phuket Surfskate Series 2021”. Local businesses have teamed up with the Tourist Authority of Thailand (TAT) to introduce surfskating as a trendy new way for visitors to experience the Andaman resort city. Launching the series on Saturday evening was the event “Tai Nai Lad” or Surfing in the Market, where participants rode through Phuket’s old quarter accompanied by the thumping rhythms of a DJ.

3. Nestle plant-based food in the offing

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

Nestle (Thai), a leading consumer goods manufacturer and marketer, is poised to cash in on Thailand's 900-million-baht plant-based food industry through the launch of its plant-based food products next month. Cruawan Varunpaichit, business executive officer at Food and Nestle Professional, Nestle Indochina, said the company's "Harvest Gourmet" plant-based food brand will be made available mainly to restaurant chains. "Plant-based food is one of the business trends that is capturing consumers' interest. At present, it is found that more than 25% of the Thai population prioritised plant-based protein intake," said Ms Cruawan.

4. Cabinet okays Interpol-DSI draft agreement

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

A Cabinet meeting on 23 February approved a draft agreement between Interpol’s National Central Bureau for Thailand in Bangkok and the Department of Special Investigation (DSI)

on direct access to Interpol's information system, said government deputy spokeswoman Ratchada Thanadirek. "The agreement, as proposed by the Justice Ministry, aims to enhance efficiency and cooperation between the Royal Thai Police and Interpol in various countries in investigation, prevention and suppression of international crimes," she said.

5. Dusit Thani posts losses of over Bt1bn in 2020

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

Hotel and property developer Dusit Thani has posted losses of Bt1.011 billion for 2020 after Covid-19 restrictions brought global tourism to a halt. Dusit Thani Group CEO Suphajee Suthumpun said the loss was to be expected following ongoing travel restrictions and the temporary second-quarter closure of its properties in line with government directives. However, she said Dusit Thani's efforts to mitigate the impact of the global pandemic on its business were reflected in its quarterly revenue increase of 60.3 per cent in the fourth quarter.

6. Ethisphere Announces Chareon Pokphand Group Company Limited as one of the 2021 world's most Ethical Companies for the 1st time

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

CHAROEN POKPHAND GROUP COMPANY LIMITED, or C.P. Group a Thai-Based conglomerate has been recognized as one of the 2021 World's Most Ethical Companies by Ethisphere, an organization that measures and advances the standards of ethical business practices. C.P. Group has been recognized for the first time, and is one of 7 honorees in the Food, Beverage & Agriculture industry. There are 135 companies honoured this year, with awardees panning 22 countries and 47 industries. C.P. Group's businesses have prioritized the implementation of the Group's Corporate Governance Principles, in an effort to ensure that the Group's operations in every jurisdiction meet the highest levels of integrity and uphold the highest degree of accountability and transparency.