THAI NEWS UPDATE: 29 JUNE 2021

1. Thai Union and V Foods Sign MoU to Expand their Plant-Based Food Businesses Source: Bangkok Post (Link)

Thai Union Group PCL and V Foods (Thailand) Co., Ltd. have recently signed a memorandum of understanding to develop and expand their plant-based food businesses. Under the MoU, the two companies will collaborate in exploring the utilization of Thai Union's manufacturing facilities to produce both V Foods' existing products and new products it will develop. They also intend to co-develop new product initiatives and to expand further into domestic and international markets where each of them have expertise. V Foods' 'V Farm' is currently Thailand's leading brand in ready-to-eat sweet corn and corn milk, with number one market share. It also offers other products including More Meat plant-based protein and V Farm plant-based food.

2. Scoot's First A321neo Aircraft Takes Flight to Bangkok Source: The Nation (Link)

Scoot's brand new A321neo aircraft offers additional capacity and range, unlocking new network growth possibilities for Scoot while enabling us to elevate the passenger experience for Thai customers. Scoot, the low-cost arm of Singapore Airlines, today welcomed the entry into service of its new single-aisle Airbus A321neo aircraft, as it made its inaugural flight from Singapore to Bangkok Suvarnabhumi as TR610. TR610 departed Singapore at 1524hrs on 28 June 2021 and arrived in Bangkok at 1639hrs the same day, all times local. The return flight TR611 departed Bangkok at 1733hrs on 28 June 2021 and arrive in Singapore at 2129hrs the same day, all times local.

3. Thailand opens door to Phuket Sandbox for 66 countries Source: The Nation (Link)

Thailand's Certificate of Entry (COE) was made available as of noon on 28 June. Now, travellers from the countries listed below can register for entering Thailand under the Phuket Sandbox scheme. The list will be updated every two months, based on each country's Covid-19 status. The list of travellers from the following countries can apply to enter Thailand under the Phuket Sandbox scheme: Albania, Andora, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia & more.

4. \$7.5bn allotted to help Thai workers and businesses hit by partial lockdown Source: Thai PBS (Link)

Thailand's Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) has set aside 7.5 billion baht, from the Social Security Fund and government borrowing, to compensate individuals and businesses affected by the month-long partial lockdown in Bangkok, Samut Prakan, Nakhon Pathom, Samut Sakhon, Nonthaburi and Pathum Thani provinces. According to the CCSA's announcement, issued on Sunday, all construction worker dormitories in the six provinces must be sealed for a month and all construction work are halted from 28 June. Eateries inside shopping malls, department stores, bus and train stations and airports are prohibited from offering dine-in services. It is estimated by the CCSA that up to 690,000 people in the six provinces are being adversely affected by the decision.