

Thai News Update: 29 September 2020

1. Koh Samui ALSQs prepared for new visitors

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

Hoteliers in Koh Samui are gearing up to welcome an influx of tourists with health volunteers at each alternative local state quarantine (ALSQ) site to ensure the safety of tourists and locals if new infections are detected. Ruengnam Chaikwang, president of the Thai Hotels Association (THA) southern chapter for the east coast, said ALSQ hotels in Koh Samui have to prepare three hotel health volunteers for emergency cases. Two hotel staff in the human resources department and the front office manager are responsible for monitoring possible infections of in-house guests during quarantine.

2. EVAT aims for EV outlet ubiquity

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

The Electrical Vehicle Association of Thailand (EVAT) vows to make charging outlets for electric vehicles (EVs) more widespread, similar to ATMs, to help the government reach its goal to increase EV production to 30% of total automotive output in the country by 2030. Earlier in March, the National Electrical Vehicle Committee (NEVC) announced an EV roadmap to help the domestic car industry manufacture 1.2 million units, a significant increase from zero, in 10 years. Charging facilities, together with batteries, will play a key role in building an EV infrastructure and making them more popular with motorists, said Krisada Utamote, the newly appointed president of EVAT.

3. India opens dumping probe on Thai copper tube, pipe exports

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

Power company Energy Absolute (EA) has completed the installation of solar rooftops for the Buri Ram United football team at its Chang Arena football stadium, Buri Ram Castle and Amari Buri Ram United Hotel all covering 3,032 square metres. Amorn Saphaweekul, EA deputy chief executive officer, said according to a recently signed deal, the system will sell electricity to Buri Ram United for 15 years. This makes Buri Ram United the first Thai soccer team to use clean solar energy.

4. Buri Ram United football team becomes energy efficient with solar rooftops

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

Despite coffee consumption out of home dropping throughout the pandemic, Nestle Thai is pursuing a fresh coffee cafe model. Nestle opened the first Nescafe Street Cafe earlier this

month in Chiang Mai as a pilot project before branching out into major cities across the country. Nescafe Street Cafe is operated by Nestle Professional, aimed at Thai entrepreneurs who want to have their own cafes. "The franchise system allows us to cover both in-home and out-of-home consumption," said Naritta Vipulyasekha, business manager for Nescafe mixes at Nestle Thai.

5. Prayut: New finance minister next week

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

Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha has ended speculation that outgoing finance permanent secretary Prasong Poontaneat could be the new finance minister. He said the new finance minister will be a familiar name, but it will not be Mr Prasong, and will be announced next week. Gen Prayut said reports that Mr Prasong, former transport minister Arkom Termittayapaisith and Krairit Euchukanonchai were in the running for the job were not correct. Mr Krairit is board chairman of PTT Plc and Krungthai Bank.

6. 34 industrial estates bag IEAT Eco-Champion title

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

Thirty-four industrial estates have been awarded the Eco-Champion title by the Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand (IEAT), governor Somchint Pilouk said. The authority has employed key performance indicators in ecological aspects to evaluate industrial estates nationwide and grade them in hierarchical categories – Eco-World Class, Eco-Excellence and Eco-Champion based on their ecological capabilities, she said. Apart from the eco titles, the IEAT has also granted certification of ecological efficiency to 29 factories and three industrial ports, as well as certificates of water footprint management to seven factories.