

Thai News Update: 30 August 2018

1. ACT Claims Billions In State Funds Saved

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

The Anti-Corruption Organisation of Thailand (ACT) celebrated its 7th anniversary on 29 August, with chairman Pramon Sutivong saying the organisation has helped save 25.1 billion baht of state funds that could have been lost to corruption over the past seven years. Mr Pramon credited the push for the State Procurement Act of 2017 and the initiation of an "integrity pact" that helped ensure transparency and competition in government contracts. Since 2015, the pact has brought together 73 government agencies with projects totalling 875 billion baht. Among these, 45 procurement projects worth 104 billion baht have already been signed.

2. Bangkok To Host International Beauty Industry Event Next Month

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

Serving as a showcase for international companies seeking to tap the lucrative regional beauty market, Beyond Beauty Asean will see 850 exhibitors from around the world gather at IMPACT Exhibition & Convention Centre in Bangkok from September 20 to 22. Exhibitors from China, Finland, France, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Poland, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand will be the focus of two shows: "BBAB Finished Products" and "BBAB Supply Chain".

3. Thailand Exhibition Targeting US\$1bn Trade To Open On Sept 1

Source: Pakistan Today ([Link](#))

A three-day single country Thailand Exhibition, eyeing to enhance existing US\$1 billion bilateral trade and expecting around 50,000 visitors from all walks of life, will be opened on September 1 at Pearl Continental Hotel, Karachi. Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) President Muffasar Atta Malik will inaugurate the event as chief guest along with Royal Thai Consulate-General, Karachi Consul General HE Suwat Kaewsook and Thai Government's Ministry of Commerce Thai Trade Centre Director Suebsak Dangboonrueng.

4. Thailand, Cambodia Edging Closer To Cross-Border Rail Deal

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

Cambodia and Thailand are both reviewing draft agreements for a deal on the transportation of goods and people across their shared border, a Cambodian official said, adding that the final agreement is likely to be signed before the end of the year. The railway systems of both countries have already been unofficially connected, but to begin transporting goods and people across the border, the countries must first reach an agreement on cross-border rail transportation. Ly Borin, under-secretary of state of the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, told the *Khmer Times* that officials from both countries have already submitted draft agreements on cross-border rail transportation to their respective ministries.

5. Thailand Ranks 10th Most Popular For Global Visitors

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

Thailand continued to position itself as a destination for travellers to visit by staying in the top 10 in the latest report by the UN travel agency. With 35.4 million visitors in 2017, the kingdom dropped one spot from ninth in 2016 to 10th last year, the World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) said in its recently released tourism highlights. France remained the most popular destination, with 86.9 million travellers, while Spain overtook the United States as the second most-visited destination when it recorded 81.8 million international arrivals, compared with 75.9 million in the US.