THAI NEWS UPDATE: 30 MAY 2022

1. New Thailand entry regulations issued for airlines and passengers Source: The Nation (<u>Link</u>)

The Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT) on 28 May issued airlines with a special Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) on the country's latest entry policy, reflecting cancellation of the Thailand Pass system for returning Thai nationals from Wednesday, June 1. Foreign travellers, however, are still required to register for Thailand Pass to receive the QR code, which will be checked at the airport on arrival. The QR code is generated immediately on registration, with no waiting period. The NOTAM contained the latest guidelines for passengers and airlines as follows: - Thai nationals can show a vaccine certificate or their negative rapid antigen (ATK) or RT-PCR test to enter Thailand. No registration for Thailand Pass required. - Foreign travellers with no Thailand Pass QR code, no vaccine certificate and no negative test result must follow the instructions of airport officials when they arrive in Thailand and others.

2. NIA, agencies team up for Tiger Warrior campaign Source: Bangkok Post (Link)

The National Innovation Agency (NIA) is joining hands with 15 state and private organisations to launch a new campaign to provide local entrepreneurs with a variety of non-financial support to enhance their innovative capacity to stay competitive. The Tiger Warrior project enables local firms to receive assistance, privileges and discounts from using the services provided by the 15 partner organisations. The campaign is meant to equip them to be innovation-based enterprises. NIA executive director Pun-Arj Chairatana said the world has been hampered by economic woes, the pandemic and the impact from climate changes over the past three years, while entrepreneurs without effective business plans have been bearing the brunt.

3. State mulls incentives to drive green push Source: Bangkok Post (Link)

The government is considering the provision of tax incentives for companies that participate in the government's ongoing efforts to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Jinanggoon Rojananan, deputy secretary-general of the National Economic and Social Development Council, said tax incentives are needed to entice the Thai private sector to reduce carbon dioxide emissions in line with the government's efforts to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 and net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2065. Thailand produces about 250 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per year, of which 100 million tonnes stem from electricity generation. Ms Jinanggoon said the Thai private sector is preparing to work with the government to achieve such goals, and many firms are getting ready to enter the carbon market.

4. Singapore, India head list of top 10 countries for travel to Thailand Source: The Nation (Link)

The Centre for Covid-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) on 28 May unveiled the top 10 countries with the highest numbers of visitors to Thailand between May 1 and 27. Topping the list of nations contributing the most travellers to Thailand was Singapore, while the top five is made up of Asian nations. The top 10 countries are: Singapore: 68,435; India: 58,716; Vietnam: 25,273; Malaysia: 24,804; Cambodia: 21,087; US: 20,407; UK: 18,255; Australia: 18,077; UAE: 14,933; Germany: 13,346.