

THAI NEWS UPDATE: 5 AUGUST 2022

1. Chiang Rai airport ready for flights

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

Chiang Rai's Mae Fah Luang Airport will reopen on 5 August now that the stranded Nok Air aircraft has been removed, Transport Minister Saksayam Chidchob said. s of 4am on 4 August, the Nok Air DD108 flight from Bangkok that had skidded off the runway last Saturday night had been removed. The minister said that the runway has also been repaired and cleaned with help from Thai Airways International's aircraft recovery team and related agencies. The flight from Bangkok's Don Mueang Airport had skidded off the runway while trying to land in heavy rain. Its 164 passengers and six crew were transported to the terminal after a long wait. The airport immediately closed up after the incident and said it would take until August 5 to have the runway ready.

2. KBank unveils Vietnamese expansion plan

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

Kasikornbank (KBank) is pressing ahead with plans to become a regional digital bank, with an expansion drive in Vietnam. Aiming to invest more than 2.7 billion baht to fortify its service network within AEC+3 (Asean plus Japan, China, and South Korea), KBank has announced its commitment to broaden its presence in the Vietnamese market in order to serve customers across all segments with digital services. For the Vietnam market, the bank aims to lend 20 billion baht and have a retail customer base of 1.2 million by 2023. Kattiya Indaravijaya, KBank chief executive, said that bright prospects lie ahead for the Asean economy post-pandemic. Aside from a recovering economy, Asean is known for its large marketplace with a growing share of young people -- the main driver of its economic expansion.

3. Mama, Lay's unveil unprecedented tie-up

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

Mama, Thailand's leading instant noodle brand, is breaking with tradition by forging the first partnership in its 50-year history with Lay's potato chip snacks. The move is aimed at tapping into young consumers who want to explore diverse flavours and stimulating the public's appetites amid soaring costs of living. According to Petch Paniangvait, marketing director at Saha Pathanapibul, the marketer and distributor of Mama products, the company, in

partnership with Pepsi-Cola (Thai) Trading Co, the marketer of Lay's potato chips, will roll out two new Mama OK flavours of Lay's potato chips called "Chili Crab-Miso Butter" next week.

4. PTTEP to bid for new licences in the Gulf

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

PTT Exploration and Production Plc (PTTEP) is preparing to join a new auction for petroleum exploration and production licences in the Gulf of Thailand, part of the government's efforts to increase the domestic gas supply. The licences, to be granted under the 24th round of auctions covering three offshore areas, does not include the Erawan and Bongkot gas blocks, currently operated by PTTEP. Orachon Ouyiamapun, PTTEP's senior vice-president for finance, said yesterday that the company has yet to conclude whether it will take part in the auction on its own or form a partnership with other firms before bidding for new petroleum development projects.

5. Registered illegal workers allowed to stay until 2025

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

The Ministry of Labour has allowed Thai employers of illegal migrant workers from four neighbouring countries to register their employment online by August 15, deputy government spokesperson Rachada Dhnadirek said on Thursday. he said the registration and submission of the employee lists could be done through the Department of Employment website at e-workpermit.doe.go.th from August 1 to 15. This applies to migrant workers from Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam who have stayed illegally in Thailand. The illegal migrant workers registered during the period will be allowed to stay in Thailand until February 13 next year. If they need to further extend their stay, the workers will be required to apply for a visa.