

Thai News Update: 4 July 2019

1. Commerce Ministry confident of 3 percent export growth for 2019

Source: Thai PBS World ([Link](#))

Thailand's Commerce Ministry is confident that Thai exports for the second half of this year will grow at a higher rate than in the first half and export growth for the whole year will not be as bad as initially forecast by the Bank of Thailand and the economic research departments of commercial banks. Mr. Lawaron Saengsanit, director of the Fiscal Policy Office, said on 5 July that the Commerce Ministry is confident that the export stimulus package, introduced by the ministry, and the easing of US-China trade war will help boost Thai export growth to an estimated 3% for the whole year.

2. NESDC mulls Southern Economic Corridor scheme

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

The National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC) plans to propose developing a Southern Economic Corridor to the new government in a similar fashion to the ongoing Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC) scheme. Thosaporn Sirisamphand, secretary-general of the NESDC, said the agency plans to propose concrete development projects for the southern corridor in tandem with the EEC.

3. CPF guns for 75% foreign revenue share

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

SET-listed Charoen Pokphand Foods (CPF), the agro-industrial and food conglomerate, has devised a three-pronged strategy to drive its corporate mission to become the "Kitchen of the World", aiming for overseas revenue to account for 75% by 2023. The strategy comprises value creation, digital transformation and driving business sustainability, said chief executive Prasit Boonduangprasert. The company has implemented several projects to create value for its food

business, starting from chicken feed mills, to minimise the use of antibiotics by mixing probiotic material in chicken feed ingredients, Mr Prasit said.

4. CAAT insists it gave the go-ahead for 'Central Village'

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

The Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT) confirms it gave the green light for a five-billion-baht luxury shopping outlet next to Suvarnabhumi airport, the launch of which is planned for next month. The Central Village project, developed by Central Pattana (CPN) Plc, came under scrutiny by Airports of Thailand (AoT), which raised doubts over whether it was approved by the CAAT since its location is close to the aviation pathway. The AoT said the developer needed to submit the project's design to the CAAT for examination to ensure aviation safety.

5. Thai brands urged to access malls on 'booming' cruise ships

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

Thai brands are being urged to seek access to floating shopping malls on cruise ships to profit from the booming tourism business. Nithima Siriphokakij, director of the Miami-based International Trade Promotion Office of the Department of International Trade, said the cruise ship business is now booming and could be a good channel for selling Thai goods. Cruise ships have malls on board, said Nithima, providing tourists a shopping experience featuring all manner of branded and non-branded goods including clothes, bags, books, goods for children, souvenirs, perfume, chocolates, cosmetics and electronic gadgets. Some also boast art galleries on board.