

## Thai News Update: 6 February 2019

### **1. India Seen As Food Export Destination**

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

Thailand plans to increase exports of agricultural and food products to India this year as a way to offset the impact of escalating trade wars and the slower growth of the global economy. Deputy Commerce Minister Chutima Bunyapraphasara said India has high potential for trade and investment, with a population of 1.34 billion that includes 200 million super-rich. The country also has a massive working population and a growing middle-income segment. Rapid urbanisation means greater demand for goods and services.

### **2. PM Narendra Modi to open ASEAN meet in Bengaluru on February 25**

**Source: The Economic Times ([Link](#))**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the ASEAN Chambers of Commerce & Industry Business Meet in Bengaluru on February 25. The three-day conference, which is being organised by the FKCCI in collaboration with the State Government will see participation of business leaders, industrialists, exporters and importers of 30 countries. FKCCI president Sudhakar S Shetty said at a curtain raiser that they are expecting the participation of about 2,000 delegates, 125 speakers, 1,500 organisations and over 120 exhibitors.

### **3. Senior Thai Delegation Visits Israel To Cultivate Medical Cannabis Knowledge**

**Source: The Jerusalem Post ([Link](#))**

A 20-strong delegation of senior Thai government officials has arrived in Israel to learn from Israeli expertise and experience in medical cannabis cultivation, and to evaluate possible areas for cooperation between the countries. Their visit follows both the Israeli government's decision last week to approve exports of locally-grown medical cannabis to the worldwide legal market and the December 25 decision by Thailand's military junta-appointed National Legislative Assembly to legalize the use of cannabis for medicinal and research purposes.

#### **4. Smart City, Aircraft Parts Top French List**

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

French investors are interested in smart city projects and the aircraft-parts industry, said Narit Therdsteeerasukdi, deputy secretary general of the Board of Investment (BOI). Last year, French investments in Thailand totalled Bt8 billion, ranking the third-largest investor from Europe after German and the Netherland. Most of the investments were in the auto assembly, aircraft-parts, and medical equipment sectors. They are also keen on the maintenance and assembly of airplanes and the rail system," he said.

#### **5. Krungsri Aims To Double Mobile-App Users In Major Digital Push**

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

Bank of Ayudhya Plc (Krungsri) has allocated an investment budget of Bt7.5 billion to Bt8.4 billion to upgrade its digital platforms this year while it aims for 6 to 8 per cent loan growth year on year, the bank's president and chief executive officer, Noriaki Goto, said. The investments are aimed at providing a holistic end-to-end mobile banking experience and becoming the number one bank in the country for retail banking services, Goto said. "To enhance customer experience and increase customer engagement, we will continue to improve our various digital services such as digital lending, QR code payments and AI chatbots," he said.

#### **6. Pattaya Continues Rise As Development Hotspot**

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

Pattaya has been a focal point for development historically. In the past decade, Pattaya's more popular areas such as Wong Amat, Phra Tamnak, Jomtien and Na Jomtien were developed heavily for the condominium market. With limited beachfront land along these beaches, developers are looking further down the coastline in areas between Bang Saray and Sattahip. This shift in development to the south coincides with the government's plans to develop the Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC), which further increases the opportunity for the area's potential for future growth...

## **7. Bang Saray New Destination On EEC**

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

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