

Thai News Update: 7 July 2021

1. Thailand will get its share of Biden's gift of 80m Covid vaccines to the world

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

The US Embassy in Bangkok said in a Facebook post on 7 July that President Joe Biden plans to deliver 80 million Covid-19 vaccines to countries in need, including Thailand. Thailand will receive a share of safe and effective vaccines from this worldwide donation. The United States is sharing these vaccines to save lives and to lead the world in bringing an end to the pandemic," said the post. "President Biden's plan for the 80 million donated doses includes over 23 million for Asia, an effort that will keep the region – and Thailand – safe. These donations are in addition to the United States' \$4 billion in commitments to Covax, the Covid-19 Vaccines Global Access Initiative, including half a billion Pfizer doses over the upcoming year."

2. Agency's platform provides solutions to local bodies

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

The Digital Government Development Agency (DGA) is working with 56 local administrative organisations (LAOs) to support them with digital solutions through its cloud platform to enhance their management and operations. The 56 LAOs are the first batch of more than 7,000 tambon and provincial administrative organisations nationwide that need digital solutions to enhance their services under the government's local digitalisation policy, according to the DGA.

3. Vaccine dispersal key to driving exports

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

The government is being urged to speed up allocation of Covid-19 vaccines to the manufacturing sector to increase exports, which are the only engine driving the country's economy. Chaichan Chareonsuk, president of the Thai National Shippers' Council (TNSC), said the group repeated its call for the administration to expedite vaccine distribution to cover all groups, especially workers in the manufacturing sector. "Vaccination can help stop the spread of infections in the supply chains of industrial factories," he said. "The export sector is the only engine driving the Thai economy, with tourism likely to take time to recover."

4. CPN acquires shares of SF from Major

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

Central Pattana Plc (CPN) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to acquire ordinary shares of Siam Future Development (SF) from Major Cineplex Group, equal to

30.36% of all issued shares at a price of 12 baht per share or 7.7 billion baht. The transaction is expected to be completed at the end of August, with a tender offer for the remaining shares filed afterwards. The acquisition reinforces CPN's property development portfolio, with two large regional malls -- Central WestGate and Megabangna -- helping the company grow together with partners like Ikea.

5. Bangkok's first boat-to-rail link up and running at Phra Nangklao Pier

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

Phra Nangklao Pier is seeing an increasing number of passengers, a week after Bangkok's first boat-to-rail link opened on July 1. The Mass Rapid Transit Authority of Thailand (MRTA) launched the pier to connect with the MRT Purple Line at Phra Nangklao Station under the Transport Ministry's integrated wheels-rails-boats policy. The new pier gives MRT commuters access to Chao Phraya Express Boats (green flag) and Mine Smart Ferry electric passenger boats. The electric boat service runs Monday to Friday, 6am-7.50am and 4.20pm-5.45pm. Meanwhile, a red flag air-conditioned express boat service between Phra Nangklao and Sathorn Pier will launch soon.