

DAILY THAI NEWS UPDATES: 8 JANUARY 2018

1. New Regulator to Oversee Cooperatives, Credit Unions

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

The government plans to set up a new regulator to oversee large cooperatives and credit unions, PM's Office Minister Kobsak Pootrakool said on 8 January 2018...The regulator would lay down policies, regulations and guidelines for the sector and support the setting up of a fund to protect members' deposits...The new regulatory body was likely to be under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives.

2. Central Group expects online surge through JD pact

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

The company with the biggest grip on the brick-and-mortar retail market is expecting a partnership with China's JD.com Inc to help it do the same in online sales. Central Group, which controls the country's biggest operator of shopping malls and department stores, expects online sales to account for as much as 15% of its revenue in five years, from 2% now. The partnership with JD will help it compete in Southeast Asia's booming e-commerce market and also open up businesses opportunities in China, CEO Tos Chirathivat said in an interview.

3. Roadshows to attract global companies to EEC

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

The government will be busy this year holding international roadshows to lure more investors to its much-touted Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC)... Projects to be launched this year include improvements to roads linking Laem Chabang port and U-tapao airport, Map Ta Phut's port expansion and development of highways in the three EEC provinces.

4. Thai junta stakes legacy on industrial plan

Source: The Financial Times ([Link](#))

Thailand's military junta is staking its legacy on a plan to direct more than \$45bn of investment into three eastern seaboard provinces, as it tries to revitalise lagging growth and prepare the south-east Asian kingdom for a new world of sharper competitive challenges.

5. Ericsson technology 'will help achieve Digital Thailand vision

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

Ericsson (Thailand) is well positioned to help Thailand further transform for the benefit of its people, business and society, the company's president and country manager, Nadine Allen, has said.

6. FedEx outlines its strategy to help small businesses expand their global reach

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

The company has focused on small businesses and making it easier for them to grow, added Galvin, who was appointed to her present post in Thailand in November last year. The digital economy is bringing significant opportunities to Thai businesses as a result of advancement in technology, government policy to support digital society and more online financial payment systems, she said