

Thai News Update: 8 July 2021

1. CPTPP studies to go before the cabinet

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

Final studies on the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) are ready and scheduled to go before the cabinet's consideration over the next few weeks so that the government can make a decision whether to apply to join the pact. Commerce vice-minister Sansern Samalapa said if the cabinet endorses the final studies commissioned by the International Economic Policy Committee and gives the green light for the country to join the CPTPP, Thailand will later file a letter of intent to apply for the CPTPP. Once signatory members of the pact approve Thailand's application, a negotiation panel that includes members from all related stakeholders will be established to prepare the participation.

2. dtac launches proof-of-concept 5G Private Network to Boost Thai Industry

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

Collaborating with AWS, dtac unveils proof-of-concept 5G Private Network services with edge computing 5G Private Networks are expected to accelerate the digital transformation of automotive manufacturing, shipping, and public health dtac urges Thai businesses to explore how 5G Private Networks can support their future use cases. dtac announced the launch of its proof-of-concept 5G Private Network solution to unlock the full potential of 5G for Thai enterprises. The solution is envisaged to help enterprises operate more efficiently and securely, while also unlocking the full power of Cloud through edge computing integration. As a proof of concept, dtac also unveiled a real-time, artificial intelligence (AI)-based Video Analytics solution in its corporate headquarter 'dtac House', covering Covid-19 use-cases, such as personal protective equipment (PPE) Compliance, Intrusion Detection, People Occupancy and Physical Distancing.

3. AirAsia buys Gojek's Thai business

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

AirAsia is aiming to use its strong network in Thailand to speed up the growth of Gojek in the country and put the loss-ridden service on the path towards profit within one year via upcountry expansion, starting with three key provinces in the fourth quarter. The group's plan is to boost revenue from digital services to 50% within five years, which will become easier after it agreed to acquire the unit from Indonesia's delivery giant via a share deal worth US\$50 million (1.61 billion baht). Malaysia-based AirAsia Group chief executive Tony Fernandes said the

negotiations between AirAsia and Gojek began two months ago and wrapped up recently. The deal will enable Gojek to transfer its resources and services in Thailand to airasia Digital -- a venture arm of AirAsia Group -- in early August and rebrand from Gojek to AirAsia.

4. Egco keen on energy storage opportunity

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

SET-listed Electricity Generating Plc (Egco), a subsidiary of the state-run Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand, will venture into the energy storage system (ESS) business by partnering with a global company. Egco, currently in talks with several firms in the battery industry, aims to become a key player in the ESS supply chain, which covers stationary batteries and batteries for electric vehicles (EVs), said Egco president Thepparat Theppitak. He declined to name the firms, saying only that the talks are expected to be finalised within the second half of this year.

5. Digital project targets four Central provinces

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

The Digital Economy and Society (DES) Ministry has worked with four Central plains provinces to promote digital adoption to improve their living conditions, particularly during the pandemic. The four provinces are Ayutthaya, Pathum Thani, Nonthaburi and Suphan Buri. Governors of these provinces and relevant agencies pledged their full support and cooperation for the project. The move comes under the ministry's hand-in-hand digitised community initiative prioritised for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and local communities over three years, in line with the government's digital transformation policy, said DES Minister Chaiwut Thanakamanusorn.