

Thai News Update: 8 March 2019

1. Cambodia trade push sharpened

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

The Export-Import Bank of Thailand has officially opened a representative office in Phnom Penh to facilitate the operations of Thai exporters and investors and Cambodian importers of Thai products, says the bank's president Pisit Serewiwattana. The bank, in collaboration with public and private entities, will provide entrepreneurs with news and information needed for their business planning and operations in target countries, especially new frontier markets including Thailand's CLMV countries - Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam.

2. Japanese vow backing for high-speed rail

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

The Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) has confirmed it will finance the high-speed rail linking the three main airports and the Eastern Economic Corridor's smart city in Chachoengsao. JBIC governor Tadashi Maeda, who met Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha on 7 March, and Deputy Prime Minister Somkid Jatusripitak said JBIC is ready to extend soft loans for the 224.54-billion-baht high-speed railway linking Don Mueang airport in Bangkok with Suvarnabhumi in Samut Prakan and U-tapao in the eastern province of Rayong.

3. Exim targets CLMV entrepreneurs

Source: Bangkok ([Link](#))

The Export-Import Bank of Thailand (Exim Thailand) has unveiled a new loan facility for entrepreneurs in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) who purchase products from Thai operators, aimed at boosting exports to the subregion. Under the scheme, each borrower is offered up to US\$4 million in credit facility for a maximum 85% of purchase value. The five-year loan charges four percentage points on top of the London Interbank Offered Rate, Pisit

Serewiwattan, president of Exim Thailand, said at a ceremony to open the bank's third overseas representative office in Cambodia.

4. Centara opens Doha hotel

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

Centara Hotels and Resorts, a Thai hotel operator, has celebrated the grand opening of its new waterfront hotel in Doha, introducing the company's Thai hospitality to Qatar for the first time. The 265-key Centara West Bay Residences and Suites Doha is in the city's West Bay district, which is home to many of Doha's skyscrapers. Overlooking the Arabian Gulf, the hotel is near the lively Doha Corniche and 25 minutes' drive from Qatar's Hamad International Airport. The launch marks a milestone for Centara, as the company continues to expand its international footprint. The opening event traditional Thai and Qatari performances, including a falconry show, and a ribbon-cutting ceremony and VIP dinner by Michelin starred chef Alfred Prasad.