

## Daily Thai New Summary: 2 September 2015

### 1. Stimulus focuses on village funds, small projects

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

The cabinet has approved an economic package worth more than 100 billion baht to stimulate the economy at the village and tambon levels as proposed by the Finance Ministry. In the first project, two state banks will extend 7-year loans of up to 1 million baht to each village fund, totaling 60 billion baht.

The two banks are the Government Savings Bank and the Bank of Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives.

### 2. SME stimulus “within 1-2 weeks”

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

The Second Phase of the government's latest economic stimulus package, aimed at helping small and medium-sized enterprises, will begin in a week or two, while the third phase aimed at wooing foreign investors will be initiated via a roadshow in three months' time, said Somkid Jatusripitak, the deputy prime minister in charge of the economy.

The Cabinet yesterday approved the first phase of the package, which entails Bt120 billion worth of new capital - Bt60 billion injected into the Village Fund scheme, Bt36 billion in cash handouts to 7,000 tambon, and Bt24 billion worth of small government projects. The package also includes the acceleration of the investment projects under the 2015 fiscal budget, worth a total of Bt16 billion, which brings the total value of the new package to Bt136 billion.

*"The government has the intention to rebuild the economy from within to balance the current expansion of exports, and this [the first phase of the stimulus package] is the starting point,"* Somkid said after the Cabinet meeting. The first phase is to ease the financial problems of the majority in this country, which will lead to the circulation of capital within the economic system, while the second phase to help SMEs will come out in one to two weeks' time," he said.

### **3. Japanese keen on Thai medical appliances**

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

Japanese investors are seeking joint ventures with Thai firms to produce medical appliances, particularly wheelchairs, to be exported mostly to Japan to meet rising demand from its ageing population, says the Federation of Thai Industries (FTI).

Winit Ritshim, chairman of the FTI's medical and health device manufacturers industry club (Medic), said Japanese investors had expressed interest in investing in medical appliances in Thailand via the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO). *"Jetro has conveyed a message to the FTI that Japanese investors, mostly small and medium-sized enterprises, are seeking Thai partners,"* he said.

### **4. Thai hospital owner proposes joint investment plan to Tokio Marine**

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

Tokio Marine Life Insurance (Thailand) has been approached by a Thai hospital owner to invest jointly in the nursing-home business for high-end elderly people in Thailand.

*"We have to propose this issue to Tokio Marine Holdings for consideration, but nursing homes for ageing people in Thailand have a good chance to be seen in the next five years because Thailand will become an ageing society soon,"* said Somphot Keitkraival, deputy chief executive officer of Tokio Marine (Thailand).

Tokio Marine Holdings in Japan has expertise in the nursing-home business through its wholly owned subsidiary Tokio Marine Nichido Samuel, which operates 11 for-profit homes for the elderly with nursing care provided under the Hyldemoer and Huette brands in Tokyo, Kanagawa, Nagano and Kyoto.

The Thai hospital owner requires Tokio Marine's logo for nursing homes. It wants to set up the nursing-home business to tap both rich Thais and Japanese who decide to live in Thailand when they retire.

## **5. Fuji Xerox opens Asia-Pacific customer experience centre in Samut Prakan**

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

Fuji Xerox, one of the world's largest suppliers of printers and copiers, announced yesterday the opening of an integrated customer experience centre (ICEC) in Samut Prakan to provide one-stop support to its customers across the Asia-Pacific region.

Masashi Honda, senior vice president of Fuji Xerox and chief executive for Asia-Pacific, said that although the company had an ICEC facility in Australia, the Thai centre would be the first to offer a full suite of production printing capabilities and would serve customers in the Asia-Pacific and Oceania regions.

## **6. CPN allots B30 bn for expansion**

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

Central Pattana Plc (CPN), the listed property developer under Central Group, has earmarked 30 billion baht to develop four to five new projects during 2016-18 as part of its plan to boost its annual revenue growth to 15% over the next five years.

Of the total budget, 6.45 billion baht is to develop potential projects in 2016, 10.2 billion for 2017 and 13.3 billion for 2018, said chief financial officer Naparat Sriwanvit. The new projects are slated for Bangkok and major cities, excluding those already announced for Phuket, Nakhon Ratchasima and Nakhon Si Thammarat. Another 12 billion baht will be allocated during 2016-18 for projects under construction and 4.18 billion for project enhancement.

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