Thai News Update: 15 July 2021

1. THAI ready to deliver cargo to 22 destinations in Asia, Europe, Australia Source: The Nation (Link)

Thai Airways International (THAI) is offering cargo services to 22 destinations in Asia, Europe and Australia in line with its flights scheduled between July and September this year, THAI's chief commercial officer Nond Kalinta said on 14 July. Cargo will be delivered to the following destinations: Asia: Round-trip flights from Bangkok to Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Osaka, Nagoya, Seoul, Tokyo (Narita), Tokyo (Haneda), Jakarta, Manila, Singapore, Taipei and Ho Chi Minh. One-way trip from Hong Kong to Bangkok.

2. Phuket bans entry to unvaccinated domestic travellers Source: The Nation (Link)

The ban on unvaccinated travellers will be effective from July 15-31 or until the order changes, Phuket authorities said on 14 July. Those vaccinated with AstraZeneca must have had their second jab at least 14 days before arriving in Phuket. Travellers who have recovered from Covid-19 must show a negative RT-PCR or antigen test taken no more than seven days before entering the province

3. GPO set to sign Moderna purchase contract with private hospitals Source: The Nation (Link)

The Government Pharmaceutical Organisation (GPO) will start signing purchase contracts for Moderna's Covid-19 vaccine with private hospitals on Friday, while a contract with Zuellig Pharma, which imports Moderna, will be signed on July 23. Moderna is among the top choices of alternative Covid-19 vaccines in Thailand, with private hospitals opening reservations earlier this month.

4. PTT unit GPSC invests \$500m for 25% of Taiwan wind farm Source: Bangkok Post (Link)

Energy company Global Power Synergy Plc (GPSC) on Thursday said it had acquired a 25% stake in a Taiwanese offshore wind farm for \$500 million. The deal comes a day after it announced a \$453 million investment in a solar project in India. "The Changfang and Xidao (CFXD) project will be installed in two phases. The first 96 MW (megawatt) phase is expected to achieve first power in 2022 and the second 499 MW phase in 2023," GPSC chief executive Worawat Pitayasiri said. The firm bought the shares of the CFXD wind farm from Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners, which will remain majority shareholder.

5. SHR plans to launch property in the Maldives by 2023 Source: Bangkok Post (Link)

With a promising outlook for tourism in the Maldives, S Hotels & Resorts (SHR), a hospitality arm of SET-listed Singha Estate, will launch its new property SO/ Maldives valued at US\$60 million (1.9 billion baht) by 2023. Dirk De Cuyper, chief hospitality officer at SHR, said construction of the 80-villa property will start in November this year on the third island of the Crossroad Maldives project, SHR's integrated resort project at Emboodhoo Lagoon. The development, owned through an equal joint venture with Myanmar-based Wai Eco World Developer, will be the third property in the Crossroads Maldives project, following SAii Lagoon Maldives and Hard Rock Hotel Maldives which opened in September 2019.