

Thai News Update: 1 May 2019

1. Netflix, Makers Of 'Crazy Rich Asians', Team Up For Thai Cave Rescue Production

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

Netflix agreed on 30 April to team up with the makers of "Crazy Rich Asians" for a production based on the gripping real-life rescue of the "Wild Boars" football team from a flooded Thai cave. But the streaming giant would not immediately be drawn on whether it would give the saga its high-end mini-series treatment or be made into a film. The 12 boys and their coach became trapped in a flooded Tham Luang cave in northern Thailand during the monsoon season on June 23 last year after finishing football training.

2. SCG In The Bag

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

SCG, the building-material innovation leader, has collaborated with three noted fashion brands namely Issue, Kloset & Etcetera, and Urface for the "Bag to the Future" project by launching limited-edition bags made from unused cement bags. These bags will be available at select outlets of the three brands and online channels from tomorrow (May 1) onwards, priced at between Bt1,880 and Bt3,590 apiece.

3. B22bn Plan To Combat 'Slowdown'

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

The government has launched a fresh economic stimulus package worth 21.8 billion baht to counter signs of an economic slowdown and boost domestic consumption to offset weaker exports. The measures include 13.2 billion baht of public welfare benefits for low-income earners, the disabled, farmers and children; and tax measures worth 8.6 billion baht for those who purchase books, property and certain products such as uniforms, sports equipment and textbooks for students.

4. Fiscal Package Aims To Boost Domes

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

The Thai Cabinet on 30 April gave the nod for a Bt13.2-billion fiscal package to prop up the Thai economy in the middle of this year, while expecting Thailand's gross domestic product (GDP) to expand 3.9 per cent this year. Nattaporn Jatusripitak, spokesman for the deputy prime minister in charge of economic affairs, said the fiscal stimulus package includes four measures: N State welfare cards will see an increase of Bt200 per person per month in allowance for five months (May-September 2019) to those registered as disabled, for the purchase of products and services through electronic data capture (EDC), Thung Ngern Pracha Rat (Pracha Rat Money Bag) mobile app or cash withdrawal.

5. CK Eyes Large Projects At Home And Abroad

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

Ch Karnchang Plc (CK) will focus its efforts in bidding for large construction projects in both domestic and foreign markets, leveraging on the group's extensive expertise, especially in managing large and highly complicated projects. The company has set 2019 revenue targets of Bt25 billion and Bt30 billion and aims for construction projects in the Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC). Plew Trivisvavet, who chairs the company board, yesterday pointed to its leadership in the market, confidence in strong business backed by a credit rating upgrade to A level by TRIS Rating and the positive trend in the construction industry.

6. Relief Urged For Blue-Collar Workforce

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

Around 95% of Thai blue-collar workers are heavily in debt and need the government to help raise wages and reduce their living costs, according to the Thai Labour Reconciliation Committee (TLRC). Chalee Loysung, chairman of the TLRC, said research prepared by the committee indicated that 98% of blue-collar workers in the country have problems with debts. In times past, these workers could survive by working overtime, but automation and less money in the economy have curtailed these opportunities, he said. The cost of living, meanwhile, continues to rise at speeds the recent minimum wage hike has not kept up with, he said.