

THAI NEWS UPDATE: 20 OCTOBER 2022

1. Special THB20 coins for upcoming Apec Summit

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

The move is aimed at enabling Thais to be aware of the importance of the Apec Summit and to seek their cooperation in warmly welcoming all delegates, Foreign Ministry spokesman Tanee Sangrat said on 19 October. He explained that the copper-nickel commemorative coin features His Majesty King Vajiralongkorn on the head of the coin and this year's Apec logo on the back. Each coin is worth 20 baht. The Treasury Department will allow people nationwide to purchase the commemorative coin from November 1, Tanee said. "The Foreign Ministry will announce details about reserving the special coin soon," he added.

2. Exhibition in Bangkok brings latest printing and technology for Thai entrepreneurs

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

Kriengkrai Thiennukul, president of the Federation of Thai Industries (FTI), said at the opening ceremonies of the "Pack Print International 2022" and "Corrutec Asia 2022" on Wednesday that there is still high demand in Thailand for printing and packaging. People's purchasing habits have changed, and they are ordering more daily products online. Therefore, business or product owners must redesign their packaging to make it more appealing and functional. He added that the overall outlook for printing and packaging in Asia is improving. To keep pace, Thailand must not only transform its businesses to be more digital and resilient, but also keep business owners updated on global trends.

3. TAT prepares new phase of subsidies

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

The new phase of the domestic tourism subsidy programme is being drafted with an additional 3-4 million hotel rooms, double the number in the fourth phase, which is scheduled to end this month, as the government aims to push GDP growth to 3.3% this year. Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) governor Yuthasak Supasorn said the upcoming fifth phase of "We Travel Together" will continue to offer a 40% subsidy on hotel rooms to domestic tourists, along with a voucher worth 600 baht per night for food and shopping. However, airfare subsidies, included in previous phases, are discontinued in the new phase as there were almost 122,000 privileges for airfares remaining in the current phase. The package tour

subsidy programme named "Tour Teaw Thai", which received lukewarm feedback from travellers, will be scrapped, he said.

4. BoI overseas roadshows focus on Japan

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

The Board of Investment (BoI) is preparing to organise roadshows overseas, with Japan the first destination, as it aims to bolster foreign investment in five categories emphasising creativity and high technology. The categories comprise electric vehicles (EVs), smart electronics, digital technology, bio-, circular and green (BCG) economic development projects and creative industries. While BCG involves manufacturing of value-added products with no or minimal impact on the environment, creative industries make use of art and cultural power to create products and services. "These five categories will be a gamechanger for investment in Thailand," said Narit Therdsteeerasukdi, secretary-general of the BoI. Categories such as EVs have potential for strong growth because Thailand is a major car manufacturing base in Asean and the government already set clear policies to promote more environmentally-friendly cars. Earlier in February, the cabinet approved a package of incentives including tax cuts and subsidies to promote EV consumption and production between 2022 and 2023.