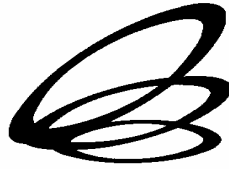


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สำนักงานคณะกรรมการส่งเสริมการลงทุน
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Thailand investment surged to 10 months high in Sep-Oct

Investment from China increased 10 times

Thailand Board of Investment (BOI) has approved 929 investment projects worth Bt 333.40 billion during the first 10 months of 2009. In September and October, the number of investment projects applying for BOI incentives and privileges hit an annual record high. Three Asian nations were among the top investors while the number of investment projects from China increased 10 times over the previous year.

Dr. Atchaka Sibunruang, BOI Secretary General, revealed that during the first 10 months of 2009 (Jan-Oct), the BOI approved 929 investment projects worth Bt 333.40 billion which created 116,756 jobs.

The overall perspective on Thailand investment for the rest of 2009 is recovering, in September and October alone, 132 and 130 investment projects applied for BOI investment promotion respectively as compared to 60-120 projects per month in the months before.

The growing number of investment projects were those from the small and medium businesses (SMEs) in electronics and electrical appliances, machinery and equipment, and electricity generation sectors.

The BOI has approved 17 large scale projects worth Bt 32 billion, mostly in the manufacturing of electronics and parts which showed a promising sign of recovery with rising orders from the world electronics market.

The investment applications for low and middle income housing have also surged. Within the first 10 months, there have been 42 investment applications with total value of Bt 3.1 billion. The number has increased significantly compared to 3 applications worth Bt 500 million in the same period of last year.

The majority of 929 investment projects applying for the BOI incentives from January-October 2009 were from the service and public utilities industries, the electronics and the electronic appliances industries, and the metal products, machinery and transport equipment with total investment value of Bt 180.6 billion, Bt 47.4 billion and Bt 39.7 billion respectively.

“Although compared to the same period last year, within the first 10 months the number of project application has decreased by 10% and the investment value also dropped by 9%, we are still optimistic about the overall investment situation in Thailand, there are consistent positive signs of recovery in term of the number of investment projects and expansion of large investment projects worth more than Bt 500 million each.” added the Secretary General.

Within the first 10 months of 2009, the value of foreign direct investment (FDI) in Thailand has reached Bt 157.401 billion. 33% of the investments worth Bt 52.307 billion were from Japan. The U.S., Europe and ASEAN were the second, third and fourth largest investors with total investment value of Bt 25.546 billion, Bt 18.457 billion and Bt 12.325 billion respectively.

The investment from the Asian region has also grown during the 10 months of this year, investment from China has increased 10 times from last year with the investment value of Bt 10.174 billion. As for the Republic of Korea, the investment value from the country increased by 39% to Bt 6.013 billion while the investment from India surged 5 times with the investment value of Bt 4.622 billion.

“The improvement of foreign investment in Thailand is the positive outcome of the BOI proactive measures and activities such as the stronger collaboration between Thai-Chinese economies, the investment road-show to India and the establishment of the BOI office in Seoul, the Republic of Korea” added the Secretary General.
