

INVESTMENT SERVICES CENTER THE BOARD OF INVESTMENT MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY

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Press Release

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98% of foreign investors remain confidence in Thailand More expansion planned

A BOI survey of foreign investor confidence has revealed that 98% of investors remained strongly confident in Thailand. Among them, 24% planned to expand investment while 74% maintained their investment and had no plan to relocate to other countries, according to BOI's Secretary General Udom Wongviwatchai.

In the Thailand Foreign Investors' Confidence Survey 2014, 600 companies were interviewed. Most of them expressed strong confidence in Thailand and none of them planned to withdraw investment from the country. Only 2% were considering lowering investment.

Among the major factors that sustained investors' confidence was the large pool of suppliers and the sufficiency of raw materials, which were cited as the primary factors. Others included the country's good infrastructure, easy access to funding and appropriate labor wage. When compared to other ASEAN countries, Thailand is second only to Singapore.

Investors in the metal, machinery and transport equipment industry are most interested in expanding investment, followed by those in the electronics and appliances, and industrial chemicals, paper and plastic industries.

Mr. Udom said, "The survey result showed that foreign investors continue to have a positive impression of Thailand investment. Most of the investors are continuing to maintain or even expand their investment. This corresponds to the improving investment climate after the BOI approved 18 project applications worth 122,837 million baht and continues to approve projects and to conduct weekly project application screenings." Apart from plans to invest in Thailand, the survey also indicated that most foreign investors predict better performance in 2015 in term of total revenue from both domestic and international markets and in company profits. It is expected that the debt burden and investment volume would be similar to those in 2013.

Investors who participated in the survey said they wanted the government to improve efficiency through such measures as eliminating redundant procedures, improving anti-corruption measure and increasing efficiency and effectiveness in the customs duty system.

Investor satisfaction with the BOI's services was shown to be greater as compared to 2013. Investors were satisfied most with the BOI incentives, followed by the visa and work permit service center provided by the One Start One Stop Investment Services Center (OSOS).

The BOI appointed Bolliger & Company (Thailand) Ltd. to conduct the 2014 survey which was done during March-May 2014. The majority of the investors who participated in the survey were Japanese, accounting for 53% of the total 600 samplings.
