



INVESTMENT SERVICES CENTER

THE BOARD OF INVESTMENT

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

555 Vibhavadi-Rangsit Road, Chatuchak 10900 Tel. 0 2553- 8111, Fax: 0 2553-8222

PRESS RELEASE

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Thailand's Investment Picks Up

The investment climate in Thailand showed positive outlook, as there was a dramatic increase of 234% in the investment value of the first quarter of 2016. Compared to the same period last year, the number of projects applied for investment promotion increased by 98% to 311 projects.

The Board of Investment (BOI) was assured that the investment application value will reach 200,000 million baht by the first half of this year.

Deputy Prime Minister Somkid Jatusripitak said after a meeting with BOI that such impressive numbers confirmed that the country's new investment promotion policies and measures were on the right track. In the first three months of 2016, there were 12 projects with a total investment value of 21,608 million baht applied for investment promotion under the Cluster policy. It is expected that an additional of 20 projects with a total investment value of 78,000 million baht will apply for investment promotion under the same policy within June 2016.

During the same period, there were 31 project applications with a total investment value of 7,684 million baht applied for the international trading center (ITC) and 14 project applications with a total investment value of 229 million baht applied for the international headquarter (IHQ).

"Foreign investors consider Thailand as a gateway to ASEAN and Asia, and this is the reason why they decided to choose Thailand for their production and services bases" said Dr. Somkid.

Japan continues to rank first in terms of the foreign direct investment (FDI) value, it is accounted for 30% of the total FDI value. Followed by the Netherlands, People Republic of China, Republic of Korea, and Singapore that are ranked from second to fifth respectively.

Dr. Somkid said the BOI's investment promotion strategy and plans to attract investments are on the right track. In the second quarter, the BOI will focus more on new target industries such as next-generation automobiles and parts, smart electronics and telecoms equipment, biochemicals and bioplastics, digital economy, food innovation, medical hub, aerospace, and automation and robotics. The BOI will push itself to exceed the target investment value of 450,000 million baht for 2016.
