



INVESTMENT SERVICES CENTER
THE BOARD OF INVESTMENT
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY

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Press Release

No.38/2014 (O.27)
28 May 2014

Four-month investment applications stronger than expected Political improvement to boost investment

The relieving of the political conflict is expected to encourage investors to apply quickly for investment incentives with Thailand Board of Investment (BOI). Meanwhile, total investment applications during the first 4 months of 2014 were stronger than expected, and FDI remained stable.

Mr. Udom Wongviwatchai, Secretary General of the Thailand Board of Investment, stated that the BOI was confident that foreign investors will file more applications for investment promotion incentives after the political conflict eases up within the 2nd quarter of this year, and that the total investment value will reach the target of approximately 700 billion baht.

During the first four months this year (January – April 2014), the BOI received applications for 399 projects with a combined investment value of 270,000 million baht. In 2013, however, there were 692 projects applying for investment promotional incentives with the total investment value of 488,900 million baht during the same period. This represented a 42% decrease in the number of projects and a 44.8% decrease in terms of investment value.

The main reason for the decrease is that in the first four months of 2013 there were more than 10 large-scale projects applying for promotion incentives, boosting the total investment value to over 158,000 million baht. These large-scale projects included Thai Airways International's air transportation services project, and the Thai AirAsia, Nok Air. Moreover, there were Honda car manufacturing projects, which had total investment value of more than 33,200 million baht, and also maritime transportation services projects with an investment value of more than 20,000 million baht.

When comparing this year's statistics with 2012 and 2011, when similar political situations occurred, the number of applications this year was higher in terms of investment value. The investment value in 2010 was 135,700 million baht while in 2011 it was 170,000 million baht.

Investment in the automotive, auto parts, and machinery industries continued to expand, with a total value of 161,600 million baht, 61% higher than the same period last year. Most applications were from the Eco-car Phase II, petrochemical, and paper and plastic industries, with the a total investment value of 24,500 million baht, 75% higher than the same period last year.

FDI slightly decrease at 1.9%

Mr. Udom added that the number of FDI applications during the first four months of this year was 264 projects, with a the total investment value of 219,932 million baht, 1.9% decrease as compared to the same period last year, when the total investment value was 224,314 million baht.

Japan has remained the number one investor despite a drop in the number of projects from 216 to 126, and a fall in total investment value from 149,713 to 67,321 million baht, 41% and 55% decreases, respectively.

However, investment value of some countries increase significantly as compared to the same period last year, such as FDI from the United States of America, with the total investment value of 41,090 million baht; the FDI from South Korea, with a total investment value of 12,179 million baht; and FDI form China; with a total investment value of 9,344 million baht.
