



INVESTMENT SERVICES CENTER
THE BOARD OF INVESTMENT
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY

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PRESS RELEASE

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Total investment incentive applications exceeds Bt600bn Record high of Bt135bn in November

The Board of Investment has announced that the total number of investment incentive applications from January to November 2011 reached Bt615.4 billion, well exceeding the initial target of Bt500 billion. In terms of projects applying for the incentives, the total number in November alone was as high as 177 projects while the highest investment value was Bt135.6 billion. Such an impressive number confirmed that foreign investors' confidence in Thailand continues to be very strong.

Dr. Wannarat Channukul, Industry Minister, said that during the first 11 month of this year the total number of investment projects applying for investment incentives reached 1,630 projects, while the total investment value was Bt615.4 billion. This has already exceeded the Bt500 billion target for the entire year, confirming strong foreign investor confidence in Thailand.

The total number of applications is 20 per cent higher than for the same period last year, while total investment value is 77 per cent higher than in 2010.

The industry minister said, "What confirmed strong confidence among Thai and foreign investors is the number of investment applications received in November when the country suffered the worst flood in its history. We earlier anticipated that investment applications would decrease, but that is not what happened. There are as many as 177 projects applying for investment incentives and the total investment value is Bt135.6 billion, higher than for the earlier months of this year. There is no doubt about investors' confidence in Thailand. What we now have to focus on is flood relief measures to help investors who are doing business in Thailand, especially those who have been in Thailand for a long time."

Projects applying for investment incentives during the past 11 months are in various industries. The service and infrastructure industry is the largest investor this year, with a total number of 376 projects and a total investment value of Bt246.9 billion. Large-scale projects include power production from natural gas and biomass, natural gas pipeline distribution and aviation transport, to name a few.

The second largest industry is metal, machinery, automotive and auto parts, with 424 projects applying for investment incentive. Total investment value was Bt118.8 billion. Large

projects in this industry are, for example, vehicle tire production, aluminum parts production and lathe machine production projects.

The third largest investment is being made in the electronics and electrical appliance industry, with 229 projects applying for incentives and with total investment of Bt75.6 billion. Large investments are being made in electronic part production and integrated circuit production.

Other applications have been made for projects in various other industries, namely petrochemical, paper and plastic (191 projects, Bt73.1 billion) and agricultural and agricultural produce (257 projects, Bt60.5 billion).

Foreign investment expanded by 77 per cent

Foreign investment during the past 11 months also grew significantly. There were 921 projects applying for investment incentives with a total investment value of Bt354.54 billion, representing an increase of 77 per cent over the same period last year.

Japan remains the largest investor with applications for 496 projects totaling Bt168.392 billion. The total project number increased by 54 per cent while the total investment value increased by 90 per cent compared to the same period last year.

The second largest investor is China with 131 projects and Bt26 billion in value, followed by Singapore (48 projects, Bt22.876 billion), Hong Kong (29 projects, Bt12.552 billion) and South Korea (37 projects, Bt7.584 billion).

Other countries making investments are Taiwan (42 projects, Bt6.451 billion), USA (29 projects, Bt6.3 billion), UK (23 projects, Bt5.953 billion), and Switzerland (Bt5.691 billion).
