



INVESTMENT SERVICES CENTER
THE BOARD OF INVESTMENT
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

555 VipavadeeRangsit Road, Chatuchuck 10900 Tel. 0 2553- 8111, Fax : 0 2553-8222

PRESS RELEASE

No. 47/2018 (O.20)

Date: 9 May 2018

BOI Board approves 6 large-scale projects to support local production of medical biomaterials, sweetener, pipeline transportation

The Thailand Board of Investment (BOI) has approved 6 major projects, include the manufacturing of 10 medical biomaterials, the production of a stevia-based sweetener, and the oil pipeline transportation to the northeastern region aiming at reducing traffic congestion and pollution caused by trucks.

Ms. Duangjai Asawachintachit, BOI Secretary General, said after the board meeting chaired by Prime Minister Gen. Prayut Chan-o-cha that six large-scale projects worth 37,726 million baht were approved.

Project 1 – Manufacture of medicine: BOI decided to grant investment incentives for a 4,500 million-baht conventional medicine and medical biomaterials manufacturing project which will be located in Rayong province. The project will increase patients' access to more affordable locally produced medicines as alternatives to expensive imported ones as well as increase medical security within the country. It will also support the development of local knowledge and skills in medicine production based on advanced biotechnology.

Project 2 and Project 3 - Stevia production: The two projects are related activities, starting from the production of stevia extract using biotechnology and the production of a stevia sweetener. The projects, worth 4,097 million baht and 4,589 million baht respectively, will be located in Rayong province. These two projects will be able to supply stevia, a sugar substitute, to the market where demand is constantly rising in accordance with healthy living and low sugar consumption trends. At the same time, the projects will support farmers growing the *Stevia rebaudiana* plant, thereby generating more income for them, while also increasing consumers' access to a healthy sweetener

without harmful side-effects to health. The projects will serve as a pilot initiative in the use of biotechnology for developing local plants and herbs.

Project 4 – Polypropylene production: Investment incentives were approved for a 12,200-million-baht polypropylene (PP) production project. PP is widely used in other manufacturing industries, such as furniture, packaging, automotive and fiber. Located in Rayong province, the project will use raw materials from local mid-stream petrochemical industries worth over 10,600 million baht per annum.

Project 5 – Oil pipeline transportation: BOI will grant investment incentives for oil pipeline transportation project valued at 9,500 million baht. The underground pipeline will be built from Saraburi province to Khon Kaen province. When completed, the project will increase energy security in the northeastern region in addition to reducing traffic congestion and pollution from road transport.

Project 6 – International distribution center: BOI approved investment incentives for an international distribution center (IDC) project. The 2,840-million baht investment project will be located in Rayong province, providing storage services for plastic pellets, steel sheet rolls and other products in support of the government’s policy to promote the country’s logistics industry.
