

## Office of Agricultural Affairs – Royal Thai Embassy, Washington DC

## Cabinet has approved payment of 5,000 THB for 3 months to farmers affected from COVID-19

The Cabinet has approved the resolutions with regards to the payment of 5,000 THB for 3 months of 2 projects. Payment is approved to expand to cover a maximum of 16 million people. The other approval related to financial aid of a maximum of 10 million extended to affected farmers. The total budget will cost 320 billion THB.

On April 28, 2020 Mrs. Narumon Pinyosinwat, Government spokeswoman, revealed that the Cabinet has approved the proposal made by Office of the National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC) as per the results from the 2/2563 meeting of the Loan Spending Committee. The Committee has considered the proposals for projects aiming at providing aid, relief and compensation to people, farmers, and entrepreneurs affected from COVID-19 outbreak by the Ministry of Finance (MOF). The Cabinet has approved 2 projects consisting of;

1) Aid, relief, and compensation project for people affected from COVID-19 outbreak proposed by MOF. This project will provide assistance to the target group, a maximum of 16 million people. The project will spend a maximum of 240 billion THB. The source of funding (a maximum of 170 billion THB) will obtain from a loan for resolution, relief and restoration of socioeconomics affected from COVID-19 outbreak, to be seek by MOF as authorized under the Royal Decree.

This financial aid will be in the form of direct payment of 5,000 THB/month each for 3 months from March 24 – June 30, 2020.

2) The project to aid farmers affected from COVID-19 outbreak proposed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOAC). This project will provide assistance to not more than 10 million farmers of the target groups. The project's budget is scoped to not exceed 150 billion THB. The source of funding (a maximum of 150 billion THB) will obtain from the loan for resolution, relief and restoration of socioeconomics affected from COVID-19 outbreak, to be seek by MOF as authorized under the Royal Decree.

This financial aid will be in the form of direct a payment of 5,000 THB/month for each farmer for 3 months from May – July, 2020. The target groups of a maximum of 10 million farmers consist of;

- 2.1 A total of 8.43 million farmers previously registered with the Department of Agricultural Extension, Department of Livestock Development and Department of Fisheries.
- 2.2 A maximum of 1.57 million farmers whose registrations are being reviewed.

The total budget of the project will not exceed 150 billion THB.

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Source

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