

First five S-Curve industries were aimed to hastily reach concrete result by this year with Bht.10 billion ready funding, projected by Office of Industrial Economics.

The Office of Industrial Economics (OIE) went along with the Thailand 4.0 industry development concept by initially promoting the first five S-Curve industries and looking forward to concrete development within this year. It has provided Bht.10 billion funding to the targeted industries.

To support government's policy, the Ministry of Industry has speeded up the first five S-Curve industries by targeting to food processing industry, automotive and parts industry, robotics industry, bio-fuel and bio-chemical industry, and textile and garment industry in order to achieve continuous drive and concrete output within year 2017, said Mr. Siriruj Chulakaratana, Director-General of the Office of Industrial Economics. The first five pilot industries will be driven under "civil state" direction by forming driving committees and sub-committees for each industry. It will focus on developing and promoting investment under the Thailand 4.0 industrial development concept by applying innovation in both automatic and digital technology production process with the following areas.

1. **Food processing industry.** The industry structure will be upgraded from formerly low value added production which previously was under world market price suppression to become higher value-added processed products, including innovative health foods, proportionate with energy needs, and functional food (food development for nutrients or ingredients additive or formula and medical food for athletes, pregnant women, infants and elderly patients). This also includes upgrading local community enterprises producing medicinal herbs and foods to be more industrialized.
2. **Automotive and parts industry.** The aim is to have the investment go more to the electrical power vehicle production (xEV) and the key parts production domestically to be in line with the global automotive industry direction while upgrading Thai industry to innovative producing products with advanced technology. Also it aims to push to have National Automotives and Tyres Testing Center



and to further upgrade Thai products standard and innovation which are key elements in expanding Thai industry towards automotive future investment. The Cabinet has approved the supporting measures of electric powered vehicles production as proposed by the Ministry of Industry and commanded the related agencies to accelerate any relevant supporting measure to reach the concrete outcome.

2. **Robotics industry.** The aim is to become ASEAN leader in manufacturing, and robots and automation system applying with own technology through the Center of Excellence establishment for product, personnel and technology development. Also it will push to have sufficient System Integrators (SI) business development and the core industry development to support future expansion of the robotics and automation industry. The parallel demand driven measure and changing of the production processes are to be more robotic and automatic have to be implemented.

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4. **Bio-fuel and bio-chemical industry.** The projection is to become "Bio-economy" with well prepared agricultural raw materials for biological products production by upstream production development to make appropriate utilizing allocation among food, fuel and bio-chemistry. The development focus is to target on high value products such as specialty polymers, bio-plastics, and other biological products by investment in appropriate areas like Bio Complex where human resource and technology producing high value added and environmental friendly biological products will be developed. In parallel, there should be stimulating markets demand creating.

5. **Textile and Garment Industry.** As the fundamental entailed potential industry which has created numerous jobs, the target is to build up to become 1 in 5 of Asian Fashion Capital within year 2036. The industry has to be reformed from defensive separation to becoming proactive supply chain, changing development direction from supply driven to demand creation, establishing of Thai trading district to be ASEAN trade center and building international fashion festival in Thailand. Also it needs to promote the development of specialized textiles (functional / technical textile & fabric) such as Meditech, Mobiltech, Hometech, Agrotech and to establish the international standard



prototype, testing center and fully integrated laboratory to create variety of products to support the expansion of both creative and S-Curve industry.

"The Ministry of Industry will implement the program under "civil state" direction by forming driving committees and sub-committees whose members are from public, private, university and regional organizations to form the direction and drive the S-Curve industry development to be realistic within this year. The Bht.10 billion has been raised to support such move by providing more benefits through obtaining the BOI's privilege approval", said Mr.Siriruj.

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