



Legal Update Week 45-46 (5 – 18 November 2018)

Dear All,

Thailand legal news

- **5 November 2018:**

- The National Statistical Office planned to amend the Statistics Act B.E. 2550 for more effective information storage and organization restructuring. The new draft act will be ready to be proposed to the Cabinet in February 2019. Additionally, in 2020, the information will be collected in form of e-Survey through QR Code for more comprehensive.

- **7 November 2018:**

- THB 2,000 visa-on arrival fees are waived from 1 December 2018 to 31 January 2019 for tourists travelling into Thailand, for not more than 15 days, from 21 stipulated countries (including China) to bring back trustworthiness from Chinese tourists, after the number of Chinese tourists has been notably decreased due to the Phoenix boat tragedy.

- **8 November 2018:**

- The Ministry of Public Health proposed to the Cabinet to consider increasing financial penalties from THB 400,000 to THB 2.5 million for medical students who fail to conform to the rural service contract in their clinical years, as the old penalty was established since 1973.

- **10 November 2018:**

- According to the new five-year plan of Toshiba, the company planned to restructure by cutting 7,000 jobs (5% of its employees) through early retirement scheme to invest more on renewable energy and information technology.

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- **13 November 2018:**

- The owner of the Waterfront condominium in Pattaya had been sued for the compensation of THB 100 million by 20 buyers, as the ownership of the rooms cannot be transferred as per the contracts. The construction was pending due to the violation of the Building Control Act (blocking the view of Pattaya).

- **16 November 2018:**

- Draft Land and Building Tax Act was approved by the NLA, such taxes will be collected on 1 January 2020. Please see the rate in the table below.

Types of Land	Value (THB Million)	Tax Levy	
Agricultural	0 - 75	0.01%	
	75 - 100	0.03%	
	100 - 500	0.05%	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PIT exemption for the first THB 50 million. ● Tax exemption for the first 3 years of enforcement (2020-2023). 		
Residential	0 - 50	0.02%	
	50 - 75	0.03%	
	75 - 100	0.05%	
	100 +	0.1%	
	Type	Ownership	Exemption
	MAIN residence	Land and building	First THB 50 million
	Only building	First THB 10 million	
Commercial	0 - 50	0.3%	
	50 - 200	0.4%	
	200 - 1,000	0.5%	
	1,000 - 5,000	0.6%	
	5,000 +	0.7%	
Wasteland	0.3% (+ 0.3% every 3 years), but not exceeding 3% in total.		

New Cabinet resolutions

6 November 2018:

- **Approved Principle:** Draft Act on legislative drafting and its accomplishment B.E., to revoke or amend outdated law.
- **Approved Principle:** Draft Arbitration Act (No. ..) B.E.
 - Allow foreigners to be an arbitrator or attorney to proceed arbitration case in Thailand.
- **Approved Draft:**
 1. Draft Min. Reg. No. .. (B.E.) issued under Consumer Protection Act B.E. 2522
 - a. Regulations on prize competition, prize draws, contest, or giveaway.
 - the period of such events (containing start and end date) shall be clearly specified in advertisement.
 - b. Advertisement on telecommunication, billboard, movie, and video.
 - total amount of prizes shall be indicated.
 2. Draft Min. Reg. revoked outdated Min. Reg. issued under Consumer Protection Act B.E.
 - a. Revoke Min. Reg. on advertisement of alcoholic beverages and caffeinated drinks in theatre and billboard B.E. 2547

13 November 2018:

- **Approved Draft:** Draft Drugs Act (No. ..) B.E.
 - The FDA is entitled to assign national or international specialists, public entities, or private entities to help certify drugs in the registration process to reduce waiting time.
 - Certificate of Modern Pharmaceutical Registration must be renewed every 5 years.
 - Increase fees and fines.
- **Approved Principle:** Draft Narcotic Drugs Act (No. ..) B.E.
 - Legalize the use of Marijuana and Mitragyna speciose (Kratom) for research and medical purpose under supervision of physician.

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Royal Gazette Update:

Date	Part	Subject
5 November 18	Gor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Min. Reg. prescribing other asset as business security B.E. 2561- 58 kinds of economic value perennial trees can be used as collateral (e.g. Teak, Siamese Rosewood, etc.).
8 November 18	Ngor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Announcement of the Director-General of the Revenue Department on income tax (No. 331) B.E. 2561 re: tax exemption for antenatal care and child delivery expenses.- actual expenses, no limit on the number of childbirth, but shall not exceed THB 60,000.
11 November 18	Gor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Copyright Act (No. 4) B.E. 2561- enable disabled persons to equally access copyright works by amending limitations and exceptions of the copyright infringement for the benefit of disabled persons.
11 November 18	Gor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Act amending the Revenue Code (No. 46) B.E. 2561- Parents can deduct an additional THB 30,000 in expenses for the second child (born in 2018 or later) on top of the THB 30,000 they already get for the first child.

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13 November 18	Gor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Min. Reg. on temporary fees exemption for single entry tourist visa B.E. 2561- THB 2,000 visa-on arrival fees are waived from 1 December 2018 to 31 January 2019 for tourists travelling in Thailand not more than 15 days from 21 stipulated countries.
14 November 18	Ngor Piset	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Announcement of the Ministry of Finance prescribing rules and regulations for Tax Single Sign On service (TSSO) B.E. 2561, effective immediately.- TSSO is the cooperation between the Revenue Department, the Excise Department, and the Customs Department to convenient taxpayers using 1 account to access electronic service system of such 3 departments.
16 November 18	Gor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Royal Decree on Senator Selection B.E. 2561- 200 senators shall be elected, and the process shall be done at least 15 days before the election of the Members of the House of Representative.
16 November 18	Gor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Min. Reg. on protection and resolution for pregnant teen employees B.E. 2561- Employers shall provide precise information and knowledge on protection and resolution for pregnant teens to teen employees- For place with 200 employees or more with nurse as specified in the LPA, a nurse shall provide proper suggestion to such employees.- Teen employees shall obtain proper social welfare regarding this matter.- Consideration, confidentiality, and privacy of such employees shall be concerned.