

“depa” Continues to Revise Fiscal Budget, Rolls Out 3rd Batch of Stimulus Measures to Equip People with Digital Skills that Enhance Employability to be Ready for Economic Challenges After COVID-19 Crisis



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April 17, 2020: depa Building Ladprao – The Digital Economy Promotion Agency (depa) came up with the third batch of stimulus measures to enhance human resource development and improve skills of personnel working in the digital technology and innovation fields. The measures will focus on three areas, comprising human resource development in the digital-related field, Cyber Security and Data Analytics. The development process will be conducted through an online learning scheme with an aim to help improve digital skills in preparation for new job opportunities and to cope with economic challenges and fallout of the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

Dr. Nuttapon Nimmanphatcharin, President/CEO of depa, said the economy suffered impacts of the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), so Buddhipongse Punnakanta, Minister of Digital Economy and Society (MDES), instructed depa to revise key development plan and its fiscal 2020 budget planning as depa launched relief and aid measures to enhance the potential and capabilities of people in the digital technology and innovation fields through reskilling and upskilling with funding sought from the depa Digital Manpower Fund.

“The support measures aimed at enhancing the capabilities of people working in the digital technology and innovation industries are the third batch of stimulus measures after the relief

measures for Digital Startup, SMEs, hotels, businesses in the hospitality and service sectors, small businesses, street vendors and shops, food stalls, farmers and community businesses were launched. The third batch of support measures aims to improve human resource development to equip people with new digital skills through upskilling and reskilling

In order to enhance employability and create new jobs. It is also a means to help shore up the Thai economy after being battered by the spread of the COVID-19 through the online learning platform to enhance people's digital skills as well as promoting capabilities in Cyber Security among small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and new generations. The measures also aim to promote skills in Data Analytics" Dr. Nuttapon said.

Under the human resource development scheme to support and enhance digital capabilities and skills, depa aims to generate no less than 700 digital personnel and workforces across the country, targeting education personnel such as executives of educational institutions, teachers and educators of primary and secondary schools as well as staff and employees in the industrial sector and workers of SMEs. The application for receiving depa's support of human resource and skills development and enhancing capabilities of people in the digital technology and innovation industries is divided into five projects. The skills development will be carried out by coding courses: Programming Cloud Service and Digital Content. The application is open from now until April 24, 2020.

As for the skills development in Cyber Security for SMEs and new-generation people, depa divided the application for skills development in cyber security into four projects. They are learning course for students and undergraduates to learn about how to prevent cyber threats, course for gamers to become aware of cyber security and to create good-quality gamers, course for programmers to become white hackers and course for SMEs to drive the business performance. It aims to upskill and reskill no less than 1,250 people in those target groups. The application runs from now until May 5, 2020.

For the Data Analytics skills development to create the digital-driven, skilled workforces to deal with the digital data usage, the support measures emphasize on reskilling and upskilling no less than 400 working people, final-year university students, newly graduated students from both government agencies, specialized state bureaus, state enterprises, public and private educational institutions and private companies. The support measure will prioritize

developing the digital personnel under the "Digital Professional" course to accommodate the growing demand in the Thai market. There are also Data Analytics and upskill courses in analyzing data to optimize the efficiency in working and performance. The application runs from now until April 15, 2020.

Dr. Nuttapon added that the support and aid measures for human resource development and enhancing the capability of people in the digital technology and innovation industries will help leverage the potential and digital skills of Thai people in various aspects through certain learning courses that the country is lacking to cater to the digital economy. It is expected to help revive and turn around the Thai economy that is struggling to cope with the impacts of the COVID-19. depa stands ready to provide support of digitization in all aspects so that Thailand will be able to move forward immediately after crises.

All in all, depa plans to propose a series of stimulus measures aimed at improving the quality of life and security in life of Thai people as well as stimulating investments, tourism and a turnaround in the economy after the COVID-19 crisis. Interested people can visit www.depa.or.th/thaifightcovid to follow up on the latest news, updates and more information or scan QR Code below.

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