



Asian Productivity Organization “The APO in the News”

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Investors urged to be eco-friendly

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A boy is playing a game at the Eco-Products International Fair 2016 held until Saturday at Bitec Bang Na. (Photo by Somchai Poomlard)

The government has urged Thai investors in several industrial sectors to produce more environmentally friendly products to tap the world's green trend, says Deputy Prime Minister Prajin Juntong.

He said it was important to produce eco-friendly products to meet global demand.

"The government wants private firms to develop more green products, while the government will provide support to help improve our industrial sector and society," he said.

With the plan to encourage the private sector to produce green products, the government expects carbon emissions to drop by 6-20% by 2020.

Industry Minister Atchaka Sibunruang said environmental concerns have become a global trend, so Thai firms should provide products that match the market's demand.

"Demand for eco-products has risen substantially in many countries. Many countries impose non-tariff measures to prevent non-eco products from getting into their countries," she said.

Thailand launched the Eco-Products International Fair 2016 in Bangkok yesterday under the cooperation of the Federation of Thai Industries (FTI), Asian Productivity Organization (APO) and Thailand Productivity Institute.

The four-day event features eco-friendly products, services and innovations and has more than 200 exhibition booths. It aims to create business matching, promote green industry development and create a sense of awareness among consumers keen on sustainable environmental protection.

FTI chairman Chen Namchaisiri said business matching would help create new investment value of up to 300 million baht, mostly for eco-friendly products.

"The APO will evaluate the result of the business matching from the event within six months and we believe that the fair will create many business opportunities," he said.

APO secretary-general Mari Amano said the event would be a major platform to improve Thai industry as well as to help save the world's environment.

"This fair has gathered 28 Japanese companies and other organisations as well as 70 Thai companies to work together in reducing carbon emissions," he said.