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**Press Release on Northern Region Economic Conditions
in February 2005**

Bank of Thailand, Northern Region Office

FARM INCOME FROM MAJOR CROPS

FARM INCOME FROM MAJOR CROPS

MAJOR CROP PRICES

MAJOR CROP PRODUCTION

CHANGE IN FARMCOME FROM MAJOR CROPS, MAJOR CROP PRODUCTION AND MAJOR CROP PRICES

%	(Y-o-Y)	2003		2004			2005	
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Jan	Feb	
Farm Income	14.7%	1.5%	-3.6%	13.1%	1.3%	19.5%	16.8%	
Production	7.8%	-0.5%	3.1%	9.9%	-5.5%	0.6%	-1.9%	
Price	6.9%	2.0%	-6.7%	3.2%	6.8%	18.9%	18.7%	

Source: Index constructed using data from Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives, (1988=100)
Economic Research Division, Northern Region Office

MANUFACTURING

NRIE - Export

Million US\$	2003		2004			2005	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Jan	Feb	
	1,286.6	1,589.1	790.0	417.2	381.9	120.3	118.2
% Y-o-Y	(16.4%)	(25.5%)	(35.6%)	(31.0%)	(4.5%)	(1.2%)	(7.4%)

Sugar

1,000 Metric ton	2003		2004			2005	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Jan	Feb	
	1,804.1	1,872.2	1,575.2	297.0	555.7	467.4	
% Y-o-Y	(30.1%)	(3.8%)	(1.7%)	(16.5%)	(3.5%)	(6.8%)	

Zinc

Metric ton	2003		2004			2005	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Nov	Dec	
	113,685	115,096	56,250	28,388	30,158	10,292	9,624
% Y-o-Y	(8.1%)	(1.2%)	(5.7%)	(-1.2%)	(4.7%)	(2.2%)	(-12.8%)

Sources: Pa-Dang Industry Co., Ltd.; Thai Cane and Sugar Cooperation Co., Ltd.; and Chiang Mai Airport Customs House
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SERVICES

Hotel and restaurant VAT

Million Baht	2003	2004	H1-04	H2-04	Jan-05	Feb-05 P1
	214.8	253.9	140.7	113.3	26.8	24.6
% Y-o-Y	(-0.4%)	(8.2%)	(9.6%)	(16.6%)	(-1.7%)	(-15.7%)

Air passengers

Thousand persons	2003	2004	H1-04	H2-04	Jan-05	Feb-05
	2,825.1	3,832.3	1,752.4	2,079.9	390.8	345.5
% Y-o-Y	(-4.2%)	(25.7%)	(33.8%)	(37.3%)	(7.2%)	(14.7%)

Hotel occupancy rate

%	2003	2004	H1-04	H2-04	Jan-05	Feb-05 P1
	52.4	56.6	54.7	58.4	65.3	68.2
% Y-o-Y	(-2.3%)	(4.2%)	(5.3%)	(3.1%)	(5.8%)	(0.3%)

Hotel average room rate

Baht/room	2003	2004	H1-04	H2-04	Jan-05	Feb-05 P1
	823.2	888.0	906.3	869.2	1,296.0	989.1
% Y-o-Y	(7.0%)	(11.8%)	(11.1%)	(4.7%)	(25.0%)	(6.3%)

Source: Ministry of Finance, Airports of Thailand Public Company Limited., and Bank of Thailand
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PRIVATE CONSUMPTION

VAT: Wholesale/retail trade

Baht	2003	2004P1	H1-04	H2-04	Jan-05	Feb-05P
	1,844.7	2,260.5	1,116.4	1,144.1	325.9	206.9
% Y-o-Y	(25.5%)	(16.2%)	(23.9%)	(9.6%)	(7.2%)	(2.1%)

VAT

Million Baht	2003	2004P1	H1-04	H2-04	Jan-05	Feb-05P
	4,461.3	4,993.3	2,407.9	2,585.3	580.9	500.0
% Y-o-Y	(3.2%)	(11.9%)	(10.3%)	(13.5%)	(32.5%)	(15.1%)

Registered passenger car and registered commercial car

Unit	2003	2004	H1-04	H2-04	Jan-05	Feb-05P
	50,585	64,786	36,496	28,290	8,741	6,123
% Y-o-Y	(35.1%)	(28.1%)	(32.5%)	(23.0%)	(84.4%)	(0.9%)

Registered motorcycle

Unit	2003	2004	H1-04	H2-04	Jan-05	Feb-05P
	295,676	313,476	161,984	151,492	25,147	26,430
% Y-o-Y	(31.7%)	(6.0%)	(5.9%)	(6.1%)	(15.6%)	(6.5%)

Sources: Ministry of Finance, Provincial Land Transportation Offices
Economic Research Division, Northern Region Office

PRIVATE INVESTMENT

Construction areas permitted in municipal zone

1,000 m ²	2003	2004	H1-04	H2-04	Jan-05P	Feb-05P
	1,370.8	1,310.8	637.0	673.8	80.8	120.5
% Y-o-Y	(37.5%)	(-4.4%)	(6.9%)	(-13.1%)	(-21.0%)	(39.8%)

Land transaction fee

Million Baht	2003	2004	H1-04	H2-04	Jan-05	Feb-05P
	442.3	510.6	245.3	265.3	46.1	35.8
% Y-o-Y	(46.4%)	(15.4%)	(44.3%)	(2.6%)	(58.7%)	(2.5%)

Import of non electrical machinery & parts

Million USD	2003	2004P1	H1-04	H2-04	Jan-04	Feb-04P
	62.4	104.7	55.5	49.2	5.7	8.2
% Y-o-Y	(25.0%)	(67.8%)	(74.0%)	(61.3%)	(-39.8%)	(-10.3%)

Investment value of projects approved by BOI

Million Baht	2003	2004	H1-04	H2-04	Jan-05	Feb-05
	7,063.1	13,292.7	4,869.3	8,423.4	63.8	463.6
% Y-o-Y	(104.3%)	(82.2%)	(88.3%)	(88.1%)	(+83.4%)	(15.8%)

Sources: Municipality Offices; Provincial Land Offices; Customs Department; Northern Region Investment and Economic Center (BOI)
Economic Research Division, Northern Region Office

