



BANK OF THAILAND NEWS

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External Debt Position in April 2001

The Bank of Thailand (BOT) recently announced that Thailand's external debt as of April 2001 continued to decline.

BOT disclosed that at end-April 2001, the total external debt outstanding was US\$ 74.9 billion, decreased by US\$ 0.7 billion when compared to that of end-March 2001. The decrease was due to the private external debt repayments, while the public external debt increased due to debt revaluation.

The private external debt outstanding was US\$ 43.0 billion, declined by US\$ 0.8 billion from the previous month. This was due to debt repayments of banking and non-banking sectors. Short-term debt of banking sector decreased slightly to almost the same level as that in Q4 last year. Long-term debt of banking and non-banking sector continued to decrease but at a decreasing rate.

The public external debt outstanding was US\$ 31.9 billion, increased by US\$ 0.1 billion from the previous month. The increase was due to debt revaluation in US dollar terms, resulting from the appreciation of Japanese Yen. Debt repayment by the BOT in April 2001 was US\$ 150 million.

As for the structure of the external debt, the ratio of long-term to short-term debts stood at 82:18, while the ratio of private to public debts stood at 57:43.

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3 July 2001