



# BANK OF THAILAND NEWS

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**No. 12/2007**

## **The Discontinuation of the Bank of Thailand's Import and Export Prices Indices**

### **1. Rationales**

The Bureau of Trade and Economic Indices, Ministry of Commerce (MOC), the National Economic and Social Development Board and the Bank of Thailand (BOT) discussed over ways to improve the methodology of compiling and computing import and export prices indices to better reflect the actual data by adopting the survey approach. With mutual agreement, the Bureau of Trade and Economic Indices would be responsible for the compilation of the indices. The new series have now been available and disseminated since February 2005 and October 2006, respectively.

As a result, the BOT would discontinue its import and export prices indices and disseminate them until end-2006. Meanwhile, the Bureau of Trade and Economic Indices will be responsible for the compilation and dissemination of both indices from now on.

### **2. The Ministry of Commerce's Import and Export Prices Indices**

The new MOC's prices indices are obtained from the survey on export and import companies directly. This is different from the BOT series computed from the unit value approach, in which the value divided by the corresponding quantity, using the data from Customs Department. Under the new methodology, the MOC conducts the survey on prices of key export and import products, using the year 2000 as the base year. The new series are available since the year 2000 onwards.

The details of new import and export prices indices are available at the Ministry of Commerce's homepage, <http://www.price.moc.go.th>.

The Bank of Thailand

28 February 2007