



Revenue Department News

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Subject : Thailand's ease of paying taxes ranking for 2019 has improved to 59th among 190 countries

On 1st November 2018, the World Bank published the report "Doing Business 2019: Training for Reform" or the Ease of Doing Business report 2019. The report shows Thailand's ease of doing business for 2019 ranks 27th among 190 countries worldwide while its ranking in the area of paying taxes soared from 109th in 2017 to 67th in 2018 and rose to 59th in 2019, which among the ASEAN countries is second only to Singapore.

Dr. Ekniti Nitithanprapas, Director-General of the Revenue Department revealed that "In accordance with government's policies, the Revenue Department has proceeded to encourage every section of the country to be digital economy. To this end, electronics service systems for taxpayers have been developed and improved pursuant to National e-Payment strategy. This strategy currently allows taxpayers to rely on electronics channel for tax process without interruption. For example, taxpayers can calculate tax through Tax Calculation Spreadsheets program, rendering easier, faster and more legally accurate process. Besides, taxpayers are also able to file a tax return by means of e-filing system instead of paper filing and pay taxes via e-payment system. All of these bring to taxpayers convenience, cost and time saving as the electronics systems are causing the entire tax process to consume lesser operating time by 30 hours, according to Doing Business 2019. In addition, in order to improve tax collection efficiency and lead the Revenue Department to become Digital RD by 2020, the Revenue Department has introduced the strategy "D²RIVE" (Digital Transformation, Data Analytics, Revenue Collection, Innovation, Value and Efficiency) adopting digital as a tool to achieve the Department's missions, conduct essential data analytics and create tax-collection plans as well as effectiveness-enhancing innovations."

The Revenue Department's continuous efforts in developing and promoting electronics tax systems have resulted in less-time consuming and more cost-saving process for doing business, all of which is to persuade business sectors to adopt the systems. The World Bank perceived the said intention of the Revenue Department and increased Thailand's ease of paying taxes ranking for 2019. However, the World Bank suggests that if employers in Thailand's business sectors submit contributions to Social Security Office through e-payment system, the steps in paying taxes will decrease by 11 times equal to those in OECD countries. In sum, Digital RD 2020 will completely facilitate taxpayers in Thailand,

reduce cost for doing business and accelerate Thailand's ability in competing with other countries for better ranking in the area of ease of paying taxes.

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