

FACT SHEET - THAILAND

August 1990

Area: 513,115 km²

Population: 55.9 million (1989 approx)

Capital: Bangkok (Krung Thep)

System of Government: Constitutional Monarchy

Head of State: HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej (Rama IX)

Prime Minister: Chatichai Choonhavan

Minister of Commerce: Subin Pinkhayan

Language: Thai/Chinese/English **Ethnic Background:** Thai 80%; Chinese 10%; Malay 3%; Other 7%

GDP: US \$75.34 B (1990f)

Per Capita Income: US \$1,176 (1990f)

Currency: Bahg (100 Satang)

Cdn \$1 = approx 21.9 baht

Inflation Rate: 6.1% (1990f)

Debt Service Ratio: 9.7% (1990f)

Unemployment Rate: 4.6% (1989)

Economic Growth: 9.1% (1989)

Major Trading Partners (1988):

Exports (Total: US \$14.7 billion)

1. USA (\$3.1 b)
2. Japan (\$2.5 b)
3. Singapore (\$1.2 b)
4. Germany (\$0.7 b)
5. Hong Kong (\$0.7 b)

Imports (Total: US \$17.5 billion)

1. Japan (\$5.8 b)
2. USA (\$2.7 b)
3. Singapore (\$1.5 b)
4. Germany (\$1.1 b)
5. UK (\$0.6 b)

Canadian Trade Statistics: (Cdn \$ millions)

	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
Exports	105.3	194.9	259.0	339.8
Imports	161.5	209.8	343.4	419.9
Balance	-56.2	-14.9	-84.4	-74.5

Major Canadian Exports 1989 (Cdn \$'000)

Boilers (parts of)	37,946
Flat Rolled Steel Prod.	37,287
Asbestos	29,539
Chemical Wood Pulp	27,906
Newsprint	20,848
Flight Simulators	15,606

Major Canadian Imports 1989 (Cdn \$'000)

Automobiles	73,982
Clothing	52,020
Tuna	45,977
Storage Units	26,145
Pineapples	15,056
Textile Fabrics	12,872

Main Sectors of Opportunity for Canadian Business:

1. Advanced Technology (Products/Services)
2. Oil & Gas
3. Power & Energy Equipment/Services
4. Defence Sector
5. Agriculture & Food Products

EDC Status: On cover

CIDA Status: CORE country (Category I)

Resident Canadian Bank: Bank of Nova Scotia, Bangkok - Robert Rayner

Canadian Reps in Thailand: Ambassador - To be announced; Commercial Counsellor - Robert Vanderloo; First Secretary - Bertrand Desjardins; Third Secretary - David McKinnon; Telex: 82671 DOMCAN TH; Tel: (011-66-2) 234-1561/8; Fax: (011-66-2) 236-7119

Department of External Affairs/PST Trade Contact: Alan McBride, Tel: (613) 992-0959, Fax: (613) 996-4309; Telex: 053-3745

Thailand Reps in Canada: Ambassador - Chawat Arthayukti (Ottawa); Tel: (613) 722-4444; Commercial Reps: Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal, Edmonton, and Vancouver