



นโยบายเร่งด่วนของรัฐมนตรีกว่าการกระทรวงกลาโหม
Immediate Policy
of the Minister of Defence







พลเอก ประยุทธ์ จันทร์โอชา
รัฐมนตรีว่าการกระทรวงกลาโหม
General Prayut Chan-o-cha
Minister of Defence





Immediate Policy of the Minister of Defence for Fiscal Year 2021 (1st October 2020 – 30th September 2021)

The immediate policy of the Minister of Defence for the 2021 Fiscal Year (1st October 2020 - 30th September 2021) directs all agencies of the Ministry of Defence and those under the purview of the Minister of Defence to give priority to driving forward the Royal Thai Government's immediate policy in order to ensure a strong foundation, on which the country is developed and the Ministry's potential can be advanced. Emphasis is placed on adapting the day-to-day operations of the agencies in accordance with the government's guidance to support the "New Normal" as well as synergising the efforts of all sectors to make plan for the future of Thailand under the mission of "Unifying Thailand, Building the Nation" as set forth in the government's policy. To this end, the Ministry shall strive for tangible outcomes of the immediate policies, which comprise of strengthening the country's security and safety, reforming the armed forces and promoting good governance, and supporting the government's effort in resolving major problems of the country.

1. Strengthening the Country's Security and Safety

1.1 Attach greatest importance and priority to upholding and protecting the monarchy. The Ministry is to provide efficient royal protection service, prevent and suppress all forms of lese majeste-related activities, so that the monarchy serves as a strong unifying institution at the centre



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of the people's hearts and minds, and continue to be the country's main institution.

1.2 Continue, preserve, and build upon the wisdom of the Sufficiency Economic Philosophy, the Royal Projects and the teachings of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great (King Rama IX) throughout his seventy year reign, by educating and training personnel, their families and the general public in military units, especially organising training courses on the holistic approach to agriculture pioneered by the wisdom of King Rama IX. Biography detailing the extraordinary life of His Majesty the Late King, and information regarding his royal duties and unparalleled engagement in public service that reflect the long relationship between the monarchy and the people will also be distributed to the public.

1.3 Support the Royal Initiative Volunteer Project Operations Centre and the Royal Thai Volunteers School, so that the Royal Volunteers Project can be carried out efficiently, which includes Development Volunteers, Disaster Relief Volunteers and Ad Hoc Volunteers. In carrying out these works, the Ministry stresses inclusivity and participations of all sectors in fulfilling the wishes of His Majesty. The goal is to improve the environment and the people's wellbeing as well as make sacrifices in all matters for the people.

1.4 Enhance the potential of the Royal Thai Armed Forces and the national defence system, so that they are fully prepared in terms of personnel, intelligence, armaments, education and training, logistics,



mobilisation for national defence, and advanced command and control system for force preparation and projection on land, sea and air. The Ministry will strictly adhere to the use of military forces for self-defence and employ such forces through the use of joint operations, while ensuring that the military has sufficient forces to participate in other assigned missions. To support these efforts, the Ministry will procure new equipment as necessary, as well as repair, overhaul and upgrade existing ones to increase their effectiveness and extend the service life.

1.5 Strengthen security and military cooperation with ASEAN Member States and the international community as well as international organisations at both bilateral and multilateral levels by using mechanisms in the form of committee at various levels and military diplomacy on the international stages in order to promote and maintain international balance, mutual trust, peace and stability on the basis of dignity, national interest and equality. The Ministry will adapt its form of interactions with allied countries to conform to the New Normal, as well as conduct assigned missions, namely United Nations Peacekeeping Operations, the provision of Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) to ASEAN Member-States and allies, addressing the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and military medicine, so that the role of the Royal Thai Armed Forces is recognised internationally.

1.6 Engage in cooperation activities with ASEAN Member States within the framework of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus), as well as



with the member countries of ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), bilateral cooperation with ASEAN Member States at the policy level, and meetings within the framework of the border committees between Thailand and the neighbouring countries. Furthermore, the Ministry stresses the importance of co-chairing the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Maritime Security in the current four-year cycle (2020 - 2023), and supporting the work of the ASEAN Center of Military Medicine.

2. Reforming the Armed Forces and Promoting Good Governance

2.1 Integrate cooperation and participation among agencies, both within and outside the Ministry of Defence as well as with all sectors, while adhering to the people-centric concept. All agencies will have their work performance evaluated by the stakeholders, and shall work proactively with clear targets in order to modernise the armed forces capable of undertaking complex, multifaceted, and constantly-evolving missions under the “Unifying Thailand, Building the Nation” mission. The aim is to have armed forces that are resilient, transparent and just, so that the people can rely on, in every occasion.

2.2 Conduct a study on the Ministry's approach for the New Normal covering all dimensions, such as personnel, intelligence and security, operations, education and training, logistics, civil affairs, budget, and information technology, giving attention to social distancing and hygiene measures, conforming to the changing circumstances. Work protocols are to be adjusted along with implementing staggered working hours



and organising personnel working in shifts. This is to maintain operation readiness and capability as well as ensuring tangible results.

2.3 Expedite the formulation of the 3rd Level Plan, namely operational plan, action plan and other plans of the Ministry of Defence to conform to and interconnect with the National Strategy, its Master Plans, the National Reform Plan, and other related plans. Additionally, the Ministry will expedite the execution of important projects to support the 3rd Level Plan. Emphasis will be placed on reporting the projects' outcomes to the Committee for Integrating and Implementing the National Strategy on Security, and the Committee on Implementing the Sub-Plan on the Development of Country's Potential so as to be prepared to meet the threats facing national security, and registering the progress onto the Electronic Monitoring and Evaluation System of National Strategy and Country Reform (eMENSCR) on a quarterly basis.

2.4 Develop and improve the Ministry's organisation structure and its personnel, so that they are at the appropriate size, highly capable, modern, flexible, agile, and in conformity with the modern government administration. Additionally, the Ministry will develop an integrated security management mechanism as well as improve the quality of public service, so that the people can have access to fast, reliable and convenient services in the areas of recruitment affairs, reservists, and medical services. This is to be realised by removing legal and regulatory impediments as well as bureaucratic red tape ensuring that services rendered to the people are fast and efficient. It will also ensure people's fast access



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to correct information and news provided by the government via all available platforms, namely radio, television, printed media and social media.

2.5 Improve the education and training management system in the education institutions at all levels under the purview of the Ministry and compulsory military education courses, as well as encourage personnel to obtain civilian education degrees. Special attention will be given to human capital development, improving personnel's standard of living through the promotion of life-long learning, so that education becomes the main driving force for country development. Likewise, the Ministry will focus on improving the mode of military training appropriate to the COVID-19 situation. Furthermore, the Ministry will develop and improve the educational curriculum, instructors and staff with emphasis on increasing the use of foreign languages.

2.6 Expedite continued cyber operation capability development in the areas of personnel, equipment, knowledge base and the management system in order to effectively combat cyber threats that undermine our national security as well as support cyber security operations at the national level, and conduct integrated collaboration with all sectors both domestically and internationally.

2.7 Develop the capability of the Ministry's space affairs, covering satellite communication, satellite imagery, and space surveillance, so that it can respond to space-related threats to national security. The Ministry aims to elevate its capability status from "User" to "Operator," of satellite signal channels in order to become self-reliant, leading to sustainable development of space affairs.



2.8 Develop a large database system for big data for the benefit of security management as well as integrating with and supporting other state agencies' use of the data to resolve the country's major problems. Digital system development and promoting the use of technology across all of the Ministry's agencies are also to be carried out.

2.9 Expedite the promotion of and build upon research & development projects and the defence industry under the supervision of the Ministry and the Defence Technology Institute by establishing guidelines for integrated collaboration with all the relevant sectors that will lead to production for commissioning into service, establishing military standards, reduce dependence on foreign imports, and production for commercial purposes as well as establishing special economic zones to give concrete support to the defence industry.

2.10 Integrate cooperation with all sectors and intelligence agencies, domestically and internationally, which includes improving and modernising administrative tasks, data management and linking geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) systems, so that they can effectively and continually support the Defence Command Centre.

2.11 Create awareness and understanding of the people, such that they can receive true and sufficient information in order to promptly eliminate the issue of falsified information ("fake news"), which affects the Ministry's operation. This is to be achieved by disseminating information through various channels, especially the social media, highlighting the benefits the people and the society will gain from the Ministry's operation.



2.12 Build upon the outcome of the temporary enrollment of reservists in the designated-pilot units by applying such an initiative to combat and combat support units in a result-oriented manner, so that the units can continually retain personnel at operational levels who are physically strong and mentally fresh. This will also reduce budgetary obligation for human resources-related expenses and help to address the problem of aging personnel within the units. Along with this effort, the Ministry will consider increasing the temporary enrollment of inactive duty personnel into active service in the future, so as to increase diversity for personnel selection process and create incentive for volunteer-enlisted soldiers. Consideration will also be given to streamlining the procedure, amending the relevant regulation appropriate to and consistent with the overall personnel management system.

2.13 Expedite the enrollment process of civilian defence employees to replace military personnel in certain positions. This process is to be applicable to all of the Ministry's units while complying with the management process of other personnel types and in line with the Ministry's organisation restructuring and administrative reform. Civilian defence employees will fill positions that require specific specialties or expertise. Modern equipments are to be procured to support day-to-day operations to reduce unnecessary personnel enrollment.

2.14 Promote and develop the judicial process in military courts and military legal system by adhering to the rule of law, amend and update legislations on the basis of overall national security, public order, country development, and international standard.



2.15 Promote and develop a prevention and suppression system for corruption and malpractice at the Ministry of Defence, so that its operations adhere to good governance, and is transparent and accountable in accordance with the laws and the framework of the Integrity & Transparency Assessment. The people may participate by voicing their opinions and requesting relevant agencies to launch lawful investigation complete with witnesses and evidence, and free of outside interference. The Ministry will process all complaints of corruption and malpractice according to the procedure and timeframe laid out, organise activities that promote morality, decency and ethics, as well as instilling awareness on the importance of prevention and countering corruption. This is to be carried out in coordination and cooperation with all sectors, as well as assigning education courses on anti-corruption in compulsory military education curriculum at all levels.

2.16 Expedite the process of defence budget spending according to the expenditure plan, so that it serves as one of the factors that stimulate and strengthen the economy, taking into account the readiness and capability of the Ministry's agencies, transparency, accountability and complying with the targets and measures specified by the government. Integrate missions and budgets of the Ministry's internal agencies and between the Ministry of Defence and other ministries in order to reduce redundancies, be economical and justifiable, and maximise benefit for the government.

2.17 Enhance the welfare and quality of life for personnel and their families by continually increasing their morale throughout their career,



caring for their rights, ensuring good working and living conditions and providing necessary facilities and other entitled benefits.

2.18 Develop the potential of veterans, their families, and non-active duty personnel so that they can live in our society with honour and dignity through the enhancement of welfare support and job security, which will boost morale of veterans, their families and non-active duty personnel as well as personnel responsible for border protection and internal security.

3. Supporting the Government’s Effort in Resolving the Country’s Major Problems, Country Development, Disaster Relief and Assisting the People in Order for the Country to Overcome Obstacles and Challenges, and Stride Forward Resiliently with Cooperation from the Public and Private Sectors, and the People.

3.1 Maintain continued support for addressing the major problems confronting the country, people’s hardship, and improving quality of life, such as providing support to the relevant government agencies in order to expeditiously combat drug trafficking within the country and in the border areas, gambling, social inequality, informal loans, human trafficking, terrorism, transnational crimes, and the prevention and suppression of illegal activities along the land and sea borders.

3.2 Maintain continued support for the Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) and the Centre for the Resolution of Emergency Situation (CRES) as well as giving support to the supervision and preparation of government-designated quarantine facilities or the so-called “State Quarantine” and “Alternative State Quarantine.” All the relevant



agencies will be ensured that they perform their functions in a meticulous, transparent and accountable manner.

3.3 Provide assistance to the government in the monitoring, prevention and control of the spread of emerging infectious diseases and re-emerging infectious diseases as well as the provision of medical treatment to patients. The armed forces' potential will be directed to supporting the relevant agencies by developing military medicine and other relevant capabilities, so that they are prepared to confront and resolve future pandemic situations.

3.4 Integrate with public agencies and other relevant organisations in managing natural disaster-related risks. Special attention shall be directed to disaster prevention and mitigation, and immediate provision of assistance to the affected communities. To this end, the Ministry will develop the capability and potential of its personnel, equipment and tools to achieve international standard in order to be able to effectively support public disaster prevention and relief as well as people assistance missions. Strengthen cooperation in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) with our allies and international organisations within the framework of ASEAN and the United Nations.

3.5 Support the Internal Security Operations Command and the Thai Maritime Enforcement Command Center in their efforts to address the country's and the people's problems in all dimensions, particularly the unrest in the southern provinces. Emphasis is placed on peaceful resolution, promotion of economic and welfare development in the areas, along with impartial law enforcement to ensure situation control to



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establish order. The Ministry stresses the suppression and interception of drug trafficking and other illicit trade as well as cooperating, in an integrated fashion, with relevant government agencies in order to jointly manage the areas. The desired outcome is that peace and order can be maintained and the local populace can live their lives in normalcy. Resolve the problems of Illegal Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IUU Fishing) in a sustainable way by maintaining the coordinated operation and joint action with other relevant government agencies in identifying and closely monitoring unlawful maritime activities and strictly enforcing the laws and regulations.

3.6 Promote and support efforts to move forward the economy. The Ministry's resources and potentials will be utilised to develop new economic zones in the region, such as the development of the area of U-Tapao Airport into an aviation hub for the eastern region, the developments of special economic zones along the borders, and other special economic development zones. This will support the implementation of the National Strategy on Increasing Competitiveness and Thailand 4.0 Policy. The Ministry of Defence will promote military units and installations as tourist attractions while ensuring that each attraction meets the prescribed standard. All enlisted personnel are to have their civilian working skills enhanced before the end of their military service in order to prepare them for civilian career.





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