

Client Alert

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Additional COVID-19 Relief Measures Announced by the Thai Government

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Further relief measures have been announced by the Thai government to mitigate the financial impact of the government-imposed preventive measures to control the COVID-19 infections, following the recent escalation of the outbreak in the country, in addition to the measures previously announced and already summarized in our earlier alert ([link](#)).

To further assist affected businesses and workers, the government has introduced additional relief measures summarized below:

- **Delay in the provident fund contribution** – The measure was first introduced last year but ended on 31 December 2020. Due to the new surge in COVID-19 cases, the extension to this measure has been announced.

Effective from 9 January 2021 onwards, employers and employees who are financially affected by COVID-19 can temporarily suspend or postpone their contributions and savings to the provident fund from January to June 2021 by notifying the registrar and submitting the required documents including the employer's letter confirming the difficulty in operating its business as a result of the COVID-19 situation.
- **THB 3,500 Monthly Cash Handout** – The government has announced that, among others, self-employed workers and workers who are not registered with the Social Security Fund, will be eligible for cash subsidies of THB 3,500 per month for two months. We are waiting to see more specific details on this program, which should be announced by the government in due course.

Apart from the above measures, it is expected that the government may introduce additional relief measures to further alleviate the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak. We will keep you posted on any further developments.