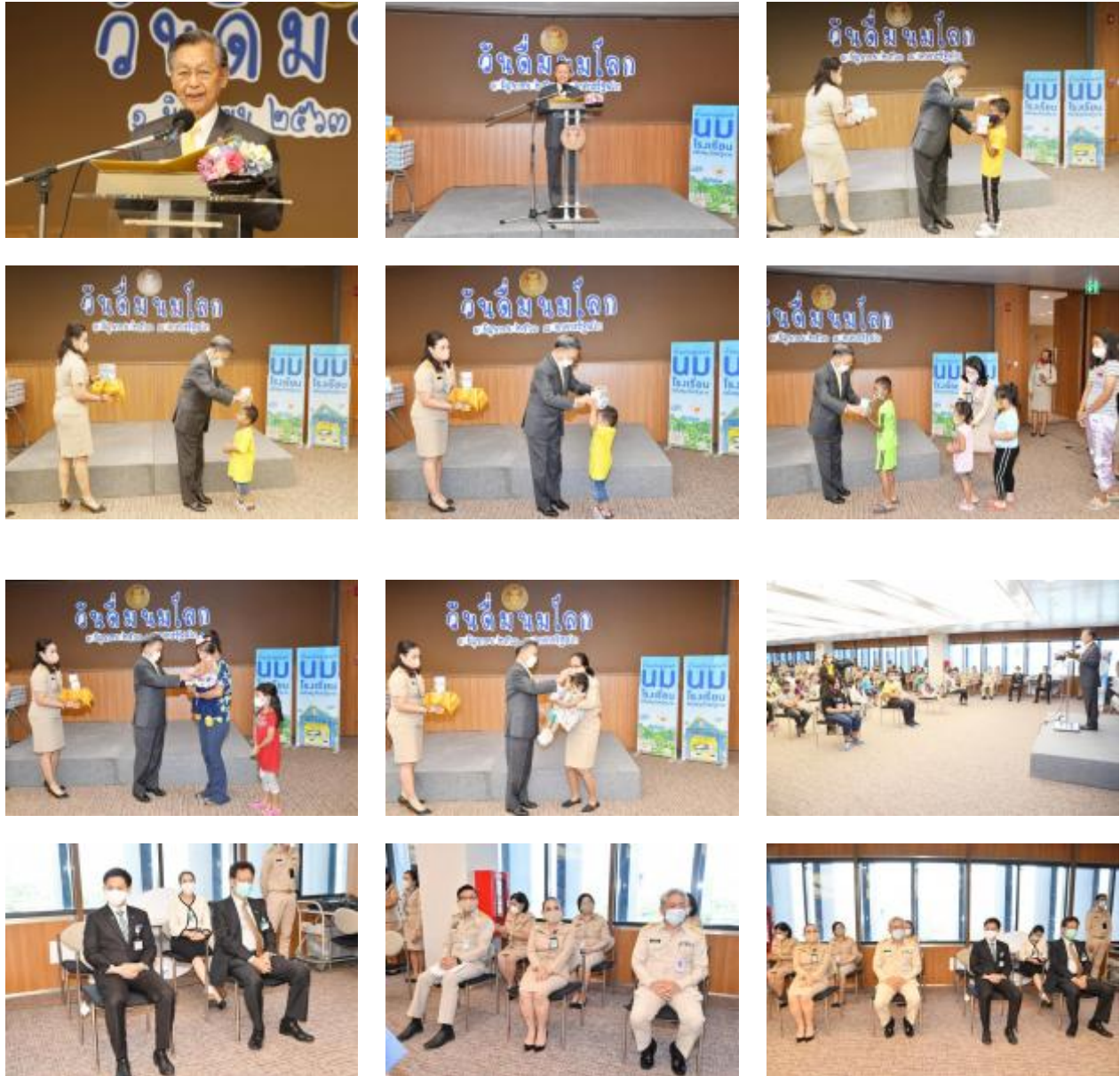


President of the National Assembly and Speaker of the House of Representatives presided over the opening ceremony of “World Milk Day” activity

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1 June 2020



On Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020, at 13.00 hrs., at meeting room no. 601, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Parliament building, H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai, President of the National Assembly and Speaker of the House of Representatives, presided over the opening ceremony of “World Milk Day” activity, and handed out UHT milk products to children and youths who participated in the activity. In addition, Hon. Mr. Issara Sereewatthanawut, Member of the House of Representatives, Advisor to the President of the House of Representatives, Assistant Secretary to the President of the House of Representatives, and Secretary-General of the House of Representatives also joined the activity.

On this occasion, H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai, gave a speech to children, youths and parents that joined the activity by mentioning the school milk project initiated by himself as Prime Minister in 1992. He wished to solve the problem of malnutrition in children and to promote dairy farmers in Thailand to have high ability to sell raw milk. This project aimed to cultivate Thai children to love drinking milk, at least until they finished their primary school. Nowadays, the said project still operates as milk drinking is very important and should be continuously supported. As to the coronavirus epidemic caused students to stay at home without joining drinking milk project, then they should be encouraged to receive the nutrients needed for growth and to build learning potential and brain development as well as physical growth. In the future, when these children become elderly they will not have osteoporosis and thin bone diseases due to receiving enough calcium, protein, and minerals from drinking milk since childhood. As a result of drinking milk, Thai children's bodies had changed. It found that over the last 10 years the average height of children has increased 10 centimeters. Milk is good and useful, children should not refuse drinking it. He recommended parents to consider on nutrition for children, and also suggested children make good use of school holidays by learning and easing parents' burden, because life experiences could encourage children to become decent adults. In conclusion, he wished all children to get progress in life, with perfect and strong bodies, and to be a major force of the family, school, society, and nation.