



Asia (ex-China) Retail & E-commerce

Weekly Updates

5 March – 11 March 2020

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the latest in Asia

Asia at a glance

[Retail in general: Tesco to sell Asian Business to CP Group for US\\$10.6b](#)

Tesco has agreed to sell its Asian business to Thailand's CP Group for US\$10.6 billion; the disposal will enable Tesco to further simplify its business in Asia, concentrate its resource in the U.K. market and return significant value to its shareholders

[Duty-free shops: COVID-19 outbreak to cost Asia Pacific US\\$8.3b in duty-free sales](#)

The accelerating COVID-19 outbreak has significantly altered forecasts for Asia-Pacific duty-free sales this year; the duty-free market was originally forecast to post US\$43.4 billion in sales by the end of 2020, but now the figure is forecast to be US\$35.2 billion, US\$8.3 billion less than the previous estimates, according to research firm GlobalData

Japan

[Retail in general: Japan pushes through 2nd relief package targeting COVID-19-hit SMEs](#)

The Japanese government approved on Tuesday night a financial aid package worth 1 trillion yen (US\$9.6 billion) for small and medium-sized enterprises as well as self-employed workers affected by the COVID-19 outbreak; following the first financial support package worth 500 billion yen launched by the government last month, the second package brings the total amount of financial support to around 1.6 trillion yen

[Shopping malls: Aeon to spend US\\$2b on store expansion in Vietnam](#)

Aeon will invest US\$2 billion to expand its presence across Vietnam, aiming to have 25 shopping centers in the country; following its first launch in Vietnam in 2013, Aeon so far operates five shopping centers in the country

South Korea

[E-commerce: eBay reportedly to sell eBay Korea](#)

eBay reportedly has decided to offload its 100% stake in eBay Korea, with Credit Suisse chosen as the lead financial advisor to handle the relevant procedures; the value of the deal is estimated to reach US\$4.22 billion

[Apparel and footwear: South Korean fast fashion brand 2358 plans 100 stores in India](#)

South Korean fast fashion brand 2358 plans to open 100 stores in India by the end of 2020; currently operating on a franchise model, the brand will focus on expanding its store network in emerging cities across India

Malaysia

[E-commerce: Shopee Malaysia offers fresh food online](#)

Shopee Malaysia has expanded into the fresh food segment by offering fresh food items including vegetables, seafood and poultry on its platform; the e-tailer will initially launch the online grocery service in the Klang Valley area of Greater Kuala Lumpur in a pilot program and then gradually roll out the service nationwide

Thailand

[E-commerce: Lifestyle service platform LINE MAN to offer new dining experience](#)

LINE MAN, an on-demand lifestyle service platform under Thailand's major messenger app LINE, has recently unveiled its "Exclusive Menu" strategy, in tie-up with 17 local restaurants to offer new dining experience to its users, aiming for 200% sales increase for its restaurant partners

India

[E-commerce: Reliance Brands plans to set up luxury fashion e-commerce site](#)

India's Reliance Brands plans to launch an e-commerce platform for luxury fashion products through its online fashion site Ajio; the new opening aims to capitalize on India's e-commerce boom and boost the company's share in the market

[Apparel and footwear: H&M sets sights on smaller Indian cities](#)

H&M is planning a broad expansion into smaller cities in India; the move is in response to a burgeoning demand for its apparel items in tier 2 and tier 3 cities in India and part of the brand's efforts to fuel its rapid growth in the market

[Consumer electronics: Indian retailers boycott Samsung over online discounts](#)

The All India Mobile Retailers Association (AIMRA) has called for a three-day nationwide boycott on selling Samsung mobile devices in response to the company's exclusive discounting deals with e-commerce operators; local mobile retailers joining the boycott have showed their

protest through digital posts, covered Samsung branding with a black cloth in their stores, and stopped doing business with Samsung distributors for three days

Asia Distribution and Retail

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