



# Asia (ex-China) Retail & E-commerce

## Weekly Updates

9 January – 15 January 2020

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*the latest in Asia*

### Asia at a glance

[Apparel: Forever 21 to relaunch e-commerce site targeting Asia, Australia and the U.S.](#)

U.S. fast fashion retailer Forever 21 is set to relaunch its e-commerce site targeting customers in Asia, Australia and the U.S.; the retailer has paired up with cross-border e-commerce solutions provider Global-e to create a new site which will support 21 languages and nearly 100 currencies and over 150 local and alternative payment methods

### Japan

[Apparel and footwear: Fast Retailing trims earnings forecast](#)

Japan's Fast Retailing has trimmed forecasts for its full-year operating profit by 11% as its business has been adversely affected by protests in Hong Kong and a trade war between Japan and South Korea that resulted in a boycott of Japanese products in South Korea, which currently has the most Uniqlo outlets after China

### South Korea

[Discount stores: Emart to shut down Pierrot discount store chain](#)

Emart will shut down all the six remaining Pierrot discount stores this year considering that Pierrot logged significant sales decline last year; in addition, Emart plans to remodel about 50 out of its 160 general merchandise stores this year to offer a larger selection of lower-priced items and high-margin, private-brand products

[Duty-free shops: The Shilla Duty Free rebrands its mobile app to 'Global Shilla Tipping'](#)

The Shilla Duty Free has recently rebranded its Shilla Tipping mobile app to Global Shilla Tipping, aiming to increase overseas awareness of K-beauty brands; upgraded with new multi-language services, the revamped app offers over 150,000 real-time product reviews, which will be auto-translated to Chinese, followed by Japanese and English

### [Beauty and personal care: Amorepacific unveils 3D face mask-printing technology](#)

Amorepacific has recently revealed its high-tech 3D face-mask printing system “IOPE Tailored 3D Mask” through its lab-based skincare brand IOPE; available at the brand’s Seoul flagship store opening this April, the 3D printing system can design a personalized hydrogel mask that caters to individual facial features and skin conditions

## Singapore

### [E-commerce: Zalora seals partnership with luxury resale marketplace StyleTribute](#)

Zalora has sealed a partnership with Singapore-based pre-owned luxury online marketplace StyleTribute; the partnership provides fashion shoppers in Singapore and Malaysia with pre-owned fashion luxury items on Zalora’s website and mobile app, on which StyleTribute plans to list more than 10,000 preloved items

## Thailand

### [Supermarkets: Thailand’s PTT retail unit reportedly plans to bid for Tesco Asia](#)

PTTOR, the retail unit of Thailand’s largest energy company PTT, plans to bid for Tesco’s Asian operations, competing with other Thai conglomerates including Central Group and CP Group for the operations worth up to US\$9 billion

## India

### [Retail in general: Walmart sacks 56 executives in India](#)

Walmart has laid off 56 of its executives in India as it restructures business in the country; the move underscores the challenges that the retail giant has faced in expanding its wholesale business in India

### [E-commerce: Ant Financial reportedly injects extra US\\$150 million in Zomato](#)

India’s online food delivery platform Zomato has reportedly raised additional US\$150 million from existing investor Ant Financial, taking its valuation to US\$3 billion; Ant Financial has been backing Zomato since it acquired a 14.7% stake in the company in 2018 and raised its holding to 23% in November the same year

### [E-commerce: Snapdeal to add 5,000 manufacturer-sellers in 2020](#)

India’s online marketplace Snapdeal will add 5,000 manufacturer-sellers on its platform by the end of 2020, gradually shifting its focus from metro shoppers to tier-2 and -3 cities

### [Cash-and-carry stores: Metro India plans smaller format stores to reach more customers](#)

Metro Cash & Carry, the Indian arm of German wholesaler Metro AG, is looking to open smaller format stores in India, with a view to improving profitability and yield better margins; the retailer operates 27 stores in India, mainly competing with Walmart, Reliance and new entrant Lots Wholesale from Thailand

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