

October 7, 2020

Thai Enquirer Summary

Political News

- Yesterday (October 6) marks the 44th anniversary of the October 6, 1976 student massacre at Thammasat University, political activities were held throughout the day.
 - ❖ The morning ritual at the Tha Prachan campus was a solemn affair attended by protest leaders and a number of politicians.
 - ❖ Human rights lawyer Anon Nampa who laid flowers at a monument commemorating the anniversary of a student massacre more than 40 years ago said, “It’s like history repeating itself. They were students who came out to protest, demanding change in our society”.
 - ❖ Opposition MP Rangsiman Rome pointed to sedition charges targeting Mr Anon, as well as dozens of activists, as proof of the need for reform.
 - ❖ Representatives from the pro-establishment Democrat Party also attended the event. “If every side understands the history, then we can solve our country’s problems,” former Democrat MP Tankhun Jittitsara said.
 - ❖ In the wake of the 44th anniversary of the October 6, 1976 student massacre, Chaturon Chaisang, a former deputy prime minister and one of the leaders of the

student movement of 1976, came out to rule out the chance that student-led protests will cause the October 6, 1976 student massacre to repeat itself, but it may develop into a political scene that is similar to the October 14 incident or the Black May 1992 incident.

❖ At Chulalongkorn University's Faculty of Political Science, an event was held to mark the 44th anniversary of the October 6 massacre yesterday.

➤ Addressing at the commemoration ceremony, political science professor Surachart Bumrungsuk, also a student leader at the time of the massacre, identified 3 methods to help the pro-democracy side to win the fight for democracy which are “

- 1) Expose
- 2) Protest in a peaceful way
- 3) Creating a united front to strengthen calls for democracy.

❖ During the event, Surachart raised a 3-finger salute while calling for everyone to support youth-led protests.



• Meanwhile, embattled Prime Minister Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha came out to shrug off protesters' call for him to resign, saying that the call did not cause him to lose focus on carrying out his duties as prime minister.

❖ Gen Prayut said he is accustomed to this kind of demand. He said growing pressure made him work harder.

- ❖ When asked if he is aware of protest leaders' estimation that millions of people will join their planned rally on October 14, Gen Prayut gave a short response, "I know".
- In regards to the progress of local elections, the Cabinet meeting has approved the holding of provincial administrative organisations (PAOs) elections in 76 provinces first at the end of this year.
 - ❖ Following the Cabinet's approval, the Election Commission (EC) hinted at a timeline for local polls will have to be pushed back to December 20 to correlate with government measures to halt the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak and a long weekend holiday in the last month of the year.
 - ❖ The PAO elections are expected to be held under a budget of around 3.2 billion baht, Jarungvit Phumma, EC secretary-general, said after meeting with the Cabinet to explain the EC's readiness for the holding of local polls.
 - ❖ Embattled Prime Minister Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha pledged to the public that PAO elections will likely to take place within December this year, leaving the EC to determine the actual election date and timeline for the procedures for PAO elections. Other kinds of local elections will then follow; meaning elections for tambon administration organisations (will take place in February 2021), municipalities and special administrative areas such as metropolitan Pattaya (April 2021) and followed by the election for the governor of Bangkok.
 - All this could be derailed, warned Deputy Prime Minister Wissanu Kruangam, who said that if the constitutional amendments are undertaken then the entire process could be delayed by months or more.

- Soon after the announcement was made to hold the local elections, the Progressive Movement came out to make its announcement, saying that it is set to shake up local politics with local poll campaign by fielding candidates in provincial administrative organisation (PAO) elections.
 - ❖ Pannika Wanich, a member of the Progressive Movement, announced that the movement geared up for PAO elections by completing the selection of candidates in 40 provinces across all regions.
 - ❖ She told the public to wait and see its campaign for local election which will be delivered by movement leader Thanathorn Jungroongruangkit on October 9. Thanathorn will also introduce all candidates for local elections across the country on the same day.
- The Democrat Party shows signs of an internal rift following dividing voices for Deputy Interior Minister Niphon Bunyamanee who is now being urged to resign as both deputy interior minister and deputy leader of the Democrat Party after being implicated in a malfeasance case by the national anti-graft body for wrongdoing.
 - ❖ The latest call for his resignation came from his fellow Democrat deputy leader Alongkorn Ponlaboot. Alongkorn pressured Niphon to resign for the sake of preserving the Democrats' reputation, citing a similar situation, including former public health minister Witthaya Kaewparadai.
 - ❖ However, a group of former Democrat MPs turned about to show moral support for Niphon.
- New army chief Gen Narongpan Jittkaewtae has come out to make the traditional pledge to defend the country, the religion, the monarchy and the people, ruling out the chance of coup-making.

- ❖ Speaking at his 1st news briefing yesterday (October 6), the new army chief did not directly criticised protesters for their anti-monarchy stance but warned that they must respect other people's rights and accept the consequences if they violate the law.
- ❖ When asked about the possibility of a coup, the new army chief said there was "zero chance" for a military coup now and urged all parties to avoid creating conditions that would lead to violence amid growing anti-government protests.
 - "We should make the possibility for such action to go below zero. All parties must help," Gen Narongpan stated.
- ❖ When asked whether the protesters' 10-point manifesto including reforms in the Monarchy, Gen Narongpan avoided a direct answer but said reform is a positive thing but everyone should look at themselves first before asking others to change. He said Thai society should have tolerance for people with different beliefs.
- Meanwhile, rumours have swirled that ex-army chief Gen Apirat Kongsompong, now Deputy of the Lord Chamberlain, is preparing to enter the monkhood at 05.00 hrs on October 7 at Wat Hong Rattanaram Ratchaworawihan, the same temple as ex-police chief Pol Gen Chakthip Chaijinda who was ordained early this week.
- Bad Omen or was it a total coincidence ?
 - ❖ One day after Arkhom Termpittayapaisith was named new Finance Minister, a large Chongkho or Purple orchid tree, more than 50 years old, that stood in front of the Thai Khu Fah Building at Government House was shattered and blown down by heavy rain and strong winds. The incident has caused panic among civil servants and bystanders who witnessed the event.

- ❖ As if the fallen tree is not bad enough, Matichon newspaper has reported that a fire broke out from a room on the 3rd floor near the office of the Finance Minister on the same day. The fire is said to be caused by an overheated air compressor.



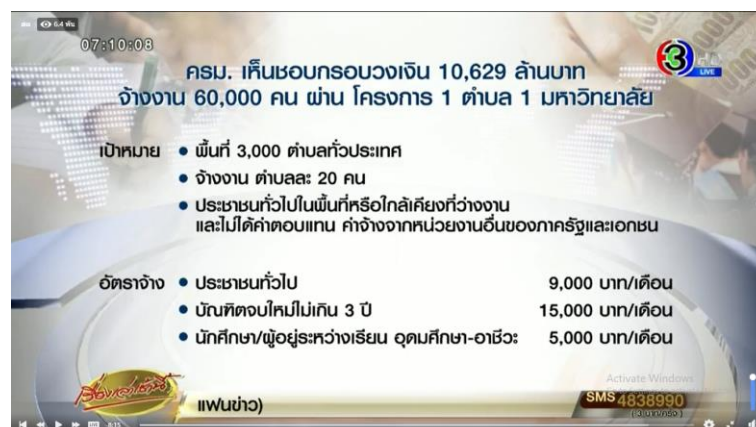
- In the day and age when frugality is the name of the game and showing off being elite is a taboo, a merit making ceremony by the family owning Singha Beer has been going viral on social media.
- ❖ Suriyothai movie actress – Piyapas Bhirombhakdi and her husband, were seen going to a merit making in traditional style in a palanquin.
- ❖ To make matters worse was the fact that the priest was on walking on the ground while these 2 people were on the palanquin, thus prompting questions on was this process going to give the family blessing or sin.



Source - https://twitter.com/Sila_klm/status/1313126592739078145

Economic News

- The Ministry of Finance will today (October 7) propose a new economic stimulus packages similar to the “Chim-shop-chai” (Taste-Shop-Spend) scheme to stimulate domestic spending in the last quarter of the year to the Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA), according to Finance Permanent Secretary Krisana Jinavijarana.
 - ❖ The new scheme will be called the “shop-chuey-chart” (Shop to Help the Nation) scheme with cash refunds or tax deductions for shoppers.
 - ❖ The Shop to Help the Nation scheme will target shoppers and taxpayers with purchasing power and encourage them to spend.
- The Cabinet approved a budget of 10 billion baht to fund the “One Tambon One University” scheme proposed by the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation, Government spokesman Anucha Burapachaisri announced.
 - ❖ The 1-year scheme will be under the fiscal 2021 budget, while 73 universities nationwide are required to support each tambon in technical and academic areas,
 - ❖ The scheme aims to hire 60,000 ordinary people who are unemployed, new graduates or university students to work for 3,000 tambons nationwide. That means 20 people would work for each tambon.



- The Thai National Shippers' Council (TNSC) offers a more bullish view on the country's export outlook. The Council predicted Thai exports in 2020 to shrink by 8 per cent, slightly better than the previous estimate of between 8-10 per cent.
 - ❖ The optimistic figures came as a result of a gradual recovery in global demand as seen in the stronger economic indices, TNSC Chairwoman Ghanyapad Tantipipatpong said if the country fetches US\$19.5-20 billion a month in the remaining months of the year, overall exports are likely to see a contraction of 8 per cent.
 - ❖ The TNSC suggests maintaining the exchange rate at a level of 34 baht per US dollar.
- The Bank of Thailand (BoT) issued new regulations to curb interest rates on loan defaulters in a bid to ease borrowers' burdens.
 - ❖ The Central Bank's statement said it will let financial institutions charge no more than 3 per cent on top of the ceiling rate stated in the loan contract.
 - ❖ For instance, if a bank offers personal loans at 20 per cent interest, and if the borrower fails to pay the instalment, then the bank can only impose a penalty of 3 per cent, resulting in total interest rate rising to 23 per cent.
 - ❖ The central bank plans to announce the new rule in the 4th quarter of this year, and will implement it in April next year. The new regulation will apply to personal, retail and business loans.
- Seafood processing giant Thai Union Group (TU)'s subsidiary Thai Union Ingredients Co., Ltd. has invested into a new joint venture called Food and Beverage United Company Limited (FBU). The newly established for a joint investment with BevTech Plc, a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of Thai Beverage Plc, TU President and CEO Thiraphong Chansiri said.

- ❖ FBU has a registered capital of 10,000,000 baht, consisting of 1,000,000 ordinary shares with a par value of 10 baht each.
 - ❖ FBU will be engaged in product development, production and distribution of nutritious food and beverage products under brand or trademark of FBU.
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General News

- Thailand logged 10 new COVID-19 cases in state quarantine, including 7 Thai returnees from abroad, according to the Centre for Covid-19 Situation Administration (CCSA).
 - ❖ The 7 Thai infections include 2 men and 1 woman returning from Hong Kong, three hotel employees arriving from the United States and a Thai returning from Kuwait.
 - ❖ All of them entered state quarantine in Chon Buri, Samut Prakan and Bangkok, where they underwent tests which returned positive results for COVID-19.
 - ❖ The 3 other new infections are two Russians, a 51-year old office worker and a 42-year old businesswoman, and a 61-year old Kuwaiti man.
 - ❖ Cumulative infections in Thailand, to date, are 3,600, including 2,445 locally transmitted cases and 662 imported cases, with the death toll standing at 59.
- Police say 13 teachers and teaching assistants in 10 Sarasas-affiliated schools have been found to have physically abused their students and will face criminal charges.
 - ❖ Pol Lt Gen Amphol Buarapporn, commissioner of Provincial Police Region 1, which is responsible for crime suppression and prevention in some Central Plains provinces, said the 10 Sarasas schools were involved in 54 abuse allegations, affecting about 30 children.

- ❖ All 13 teachers and their assistants on Tuesday were questioned by police and later released on 8,000-baht bail by the Nonthaburi Provincial Court.
 - For all the Apple phone fans who have been waiting to get their new iPhone 12, well the global announcement for the new line-up is set for Tuesday October 13, 2020 but it may be weeks or months before it is available in Thailand (like it has been in the past).
 - ❖ <https://sg.news.yahoo.com/apple-iphone-12-october-13-161144893.html>
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Political News Headlines in Thai Media

- Professor Thongchai Winichakul, this year, released a book drawing upon his recollections, interpretations, and ruminations upon the events of October 6, 1976.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/19312/a-conversation-with-thongchai-winichakul-about-forgetting-remembering-and-october-6/>
- We are choosing to share these images with you not to shock but to serve as a reminder and a warning. On this day 44 years ago.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/19358/video-story-choose-to-remember/>
- Sutham Saengprathum was a leader of the students during the October 6 massacre. During that time he was the Secretary-General of the National Student Center of Thailand
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/19342/october-6-as-remembered-by-one-of-the-student-leaders-at-the-time/>
- “I still do not understand why they do not let the injured out. Even in war movies, the injured are allowed medical care. But somehow, when it comes to conflicting political views, opponents are no longer human and can be slaughtered.” – Thongchai Winichakul: On Remembering and Forgetting the Massacre
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/19329/remembering-october-6-in-words-and-pictures/>

- “Whoever destroys the nation, the religion, or the monarchy, such bestial types (man) are not complete persons. Thus, we must intend not to kill people but to kill the devil (Mara); this is the duty of all Thai.”
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/19326/october-6-a-buddhist-massacre/>
- The Cabinet is expected to allow local elections to be held by the end of the year, Jarungvith Phumma, secretary-general of the Election Commission (EC) said on Tuesday.
 - Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/news/30395706?utm_source=category&utm_medium=internal_referral
- At a meeting on Tuesday, new Army chief General Narongphan Jitkaewtae announced that he will continue his predecessor's reform policies and called on unit commanders to abide by the principles of protecting the nation, the religion, the King and the people.
 - Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/news/30395719?utm_source=category&utm_medium=internal_referral
- The Cabinet has agreed to earmark Bt5.57 billion for the construction of a new Interior Ministry complex covering 18-rai in Bangkok's Banglamphu area, government spokesperson Anucha Burapachaisri said on Tuesday.
 - Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/news/30395716?utm_source=category&utm_medium=internal_referral
- The country's violent history should never repeat itself, Pannika Wanich, prominent person of the Progressive Movement, said on Tuesday on the 44th anniversary of the 1976 massacre.
 - Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/news/30395703?utm_source=category&utm_medium=internal_referral
- Pro-democracy group “Free Youth” applauded the three students who were brave enough to question the idea of nationalism and the abnormal state the country is in.

- Link-
https://www.nationthailand.com/news/30395712?utm_source=category&utm_medium=internal_referral
- House Speaker Chuan Leekpai met US Ambassador Michael George DeSombre to discuss bilateral ties and the Covid-19 pandemic both countries are struggling with, said Issara Sereewatthanawut, deputy secretary-general of the Democrat Party.
- Link-
https://www.nationthailand.com/news/30395711?utm_source=category&utm_medium=internal_referral

Economic News Headlines in Thai Media

- Shares of Indorama Ventures Plc. (IVL) rose by more than 8 per cent on Tuesday, making the company's shares among the top 3 most actively traded valued shares on the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET).
- Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/19369/shares-of-ivl-rise-by-more-than-8-percent-amid-optimism-about-future-earning-prospects/>
- Long-stay visa holders will be the first group of tourists to visit Thailand since the Covid-19 pandemic that led to lockdowns worldwide.
- Link-
https://www.nationthailand.com/news/30395708?utm_source=category&utm_medium=internal_referral
- Newly appointed Finance Minister Arkhom Termpittayapaisith will take office on October 12, Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha said on Tuesday.
- Link-
https://www.nationthailand.com/business/30395704?utm_source=category&utm_medium=internal_referral
- Krungsri Bank and its business units have joined the Office of Basic Education Commission (Obec) and the Equitable Education Fund (EEF) to launch an animated series to promote financial literacy and discipline among youth in 28,000 schools nationwide.

- Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/business/30395720?utm_source=category&utm_medium=internal_referral
- A feasibility study on a light rail network for Pattaya is nearly complete and will be submitted to the city's council and the cabinet for consideration soon, the study's coordinator said.
- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/1997727/pattaya-light-railway-plans-take-shape>
- Major food operators are tapping the franchise system and opening street food stalls outside retail malls to prepare themselves for booming online delivery and to reduce the impact from the prolonged Covid-19 pandemic.
- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/1997775/franchise-system-the-main-path-for-operators>

Issues to be watched out for

- October, 2020 – The bidding for construction and operation for the 140-billion-baht Orange Line western extension linking the Thailand Cultural Centre with Bang Khun Non.
- October 2020 – The Trade Competition Commission is set to rule on CP's acquisition of Tesco Lotus's Asia business in a deal worth US\$10.6 billion.
- October, 2020 – The Thailand Grand Prix was rescheduled after being postponed due to the coronavirus outbreak.
- October 8, 2020 – Thailand is set to receive first batch of foreign tourists issued with the Special Tourist Visa (STV) scheme.
- October 12, 2020 – Deadline for applications for the RECO Young Designer Competition hosted by Indorama Ventures Plc (IVL).
- October 14, 2020 – A major anti-government rally by various groups led by the Democracy Restoration Group (DRG) at Democracy Monument. The same day marks the anniversary of the 1973 student uprising.

- October 16, 2020 – Registration for the 3-month economic stimulus package called “Khon La Khrueng” (Let’s Go Halves) will open for some 10 million Thai nationals over the age of 18 through the www.คนละครึ่ง.com website.
- October 21, 2020 – The House committee assigned to study charter amendment bills is expected to complete its study and submit its report to parliament on the next day.
- October 23 -December 31, 2020 – 14 million welfare cardholders will receive an extra monthly discount of 500 baht on their shopping under the government’s economic stimulus package.
- October 27, 2020 – The Central Bankruptcy Court is set for first hearings for Nok Airlines regarding the rehabilitation process.
- November 1, 2020 – The second batch of 120 foreign tourists issued with the Special Tourist Visa (STV) scheme from Scandinavian and Schengen countries on a Thai Airways International (THAI) flight and land at Suvarnabhumi Airport.
- November 1, 2020 – The next parliamentary session will begin.
- December 2020 – The Federation of Thai Industries (FTI)’s “Faster Payment” scheme to increase liquidity for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) during the pandemic is set to end.
- December 13, 2020 – Tentative date for local elections.

Key Data

SET Index	1,250.15	+7.16
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- Link - https://www.set.or.th/en/company/ipo/upcoming_ipo_set.html

Global Commodities

- Metal -Link <http://www.bloomberg.com/markets/commodities/futures/metals/>
- Energy -Link - <http://www.bloomberg.com/energy/>
- Baltic Dry Index (BDI)-Link - <http://www.bloomberg.com/quote/BDIY:IND>

Global Equity Market's Movements

- Link - <http://www.bloomberg.com/markets/stocks/world-indexes/asia-pacific/>

Asian Equity Markets Movement

- Link - <http://www.bloomberg.com/markets/stocks/world-indexes/>

Information on October 6, 2020

Buying, Selling or Transfer of shares by Owners/Management

Stock Code	Volume	Value	Action
AIMCG	4,000	6	Purchase
AP	50,000	6.5	Sale
BCPG	600,000	12.68	Purchase
BKER	4,400	5.55	Purchase
BOL	4,400	5.35	Sale
BOL	200,000	6	Sale
CCET	1,000,000	2.24	Purchase
CPW	300,000	2.32	Sale
CPW	100,000	2.28	Sale
ECF	297,700	0.11	Sale
EP	150,000	3.81	Purchase
MBAX	60,000	7.23	Sale
S11	3,371	6.2	Purchase
S11	4,291	6.2	Purchase
S11	4,291	6.2	Purchase
S11	3,371	6.2	Purchase
VIH	10,000	6.1	Purchase
SMT	200,000	2.6	Purchase
SMT	200,000	2.82	Purchase
SVI	40	4.06	Sale
SVI	23,100	4.14	Sale
SVI	150,000	4.2	Sale
ERW	20,000	3.14	Purchase
TSR	43,000	3.92	Sale
TSR	10,000	4.4	Purchase

TISCO	8,200	62.5	Purchase
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XD, XE or XM or other notifications

For list of Companies that have dividend payment and AGM meeting schedules click on <http://www.set.or.th/set/calendarofevents.do>

Trading Breakdown on the Stock Exchange of Thailand

Daily as of 6 Oct 2020						
Unit: M.Baht						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	8,524.86	15.08	5,536.13	9.79	2,988.73	-
Proprietary Trading	6,341.99	11.22	6,925.21	12.25	-583.22	-
Foreign Investors	18,035.03	31.91	21,504.52	38.05	-3,469.49	-
Local Individuals	23,618.48	41.79	22,554.50	39.91	1,063.97	-
Monthly Cumulative between 1 - 6 Oct 2020						
Unit: M.Baht						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	21,595.90	11.07	19,249.77	9.87	2,346.13	-
Proprietary Trading	22,898.80	11.74	23,406.61	12	-507.81	-
Foreign Investors	65,142.93	33.39	70,085.09	35.92	-4,942.16	-
Local Individuals	85,480.65	43.81	82,376.80	42.22	3,103.85	-
Yearly Cumulative since 1 Jan - 6 Oct 2020						
Unit: M.Baht						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	1,289,393.03	10.93	1,218,874.57	10.33	70,518.46	-
Proprietary Trading	1,228,032.31	10.41	1,226,228.93	10.4	1,803.38	-
Foreign Investors	4,144,249.12	35.13	4,426,865.27	37.53	-282,616.16	-
Local Individuals	5,134,553.71	43.53	4,924,259.40	41.74	210,294.31	-

Total Trading Value 56,520.36 Million Baht

Background Information –

The strength of each party in the Thai Parliament as of May 8, 2019 as per the report by the Election Commission of Thailand. Elections took place on March 24, 2019

- https://www.ect.go.th/ect_th/news_all.php?cid=24
- List of MPs - https://www.ect.go.th/ect_th/download/article/article_20190508184334.pdf

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