

May 22, 2020

Thai Enquirer Summary

Economic News

- Today the parliament is set to open to approve the 1 trillion baht and the big question is what the government is going to do with the 400 billion baht that would be used to prop the farmers and the agriculture sector.
 - ❖ The questions are being asked because there are no details whatsoever that have been revealed so far on how this 400-billion baht would be used
- The executive board of the Vayupak 1 Fund's meeting yesterday (May 21) approved the acquisition of 69 million shares in Thai Airways International Plc (THAI) or 3.17%. The Fund is said to prepare 300 million baht for the acquisition.
 - ❖ The Vayupak 1 Fund which has Krung Thai Bank as its largest shareholder in the fund is expected to purchase THAI shares an average purchase price of 4 baht per share.
- In a related development, Finance Minister Uttama Savanaya, reportedly, sought a meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Wissanu Krea-gnam along with Transport Minister Saksayam Chidchob after the Cabinet appointed Mr Wissanu to oversee legal aspects of a rehabilitation plan for THAI.

- ❖ Mr Saksayam said the meeting was about the Cabinet's resolution for THAI on May 19 which allowed the Transport Ministry to oversee the rehabilitation process for THAI. Mr Saksayam noted that the Transport Ministry may not be able to oversee the rehabilitation process if THAI is stripped of its state enterprise status, once the Finance Ministry reduces its stake in THAI to below 50%.
- Labour Minister Chatumongkol Sonakul came out to tell workers insured under the Social Security Act who have lost their jobs to brace for slow compensation payments, blaming non-online application process that requires examinations and approval endorsed by 2 signatures, believed to be his signature and the National Security Office (SSO) secretary-general, for SSO payments.
 - ❖ Chatumongkul however insisted that the SSO has sufficient funds to compensate workers in line with the law as he tried to ease workers' concerns that SSO funds could be depleted before reaching them. He said he is keeping a close watch on compensation figures. He said currently the SSO sees at least 30,000 workers seeking compensation payments on a daily basis. The Labour Minister reassured that the SSO has enough money to cover 1 million workers easily given that each worker is to be paid 20,000 baht each as he said the total payment sum will stand merely at 20 billion baht.
 - ❖ He is positive that the unemployment situation would improve after the government kicks start the economy with more businesses and shopping malls allowed to reopen.
- Tourism and Sports Minister Phiphat Ratchakitprakarn is said to focus on domestic tourism post Covid-19 lockdown. He is set to ask Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha to ease some lockdown restrictions in June to allow domestic travel, starting with areas that have no infections in 21 days.

- ❖ Mr Phiphat said the trend of single-digit increases of new infections is an encouraging sign for tourism operators, in particular, small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) operators whose liquidity will run out this month.
- The Finance Ministry plans to halt the ministry's economic growth forecast in the 1st and 2nd quarter of 2020 temporarily until the country returns to normal after COVID-19, Fiscal Policy Office director Lavaron Saengsanit, as Finance Ministry spokesman, said, adding that it is difficult to predict whether the country's economic recovery will be U-shaped.
 - ❖ In a separate issue, the ministry handed out 14.2 million out of 15 million applicants for the government's 5,000-baht cash subsidy scheme, while 230,000 received the cash yesterday (May 21) and another 400,000 will receive it today (May 22).
 - ❖ The Social Development and Human Security Ministry also plans to propose a handout to 13 million vulnerable people to the cabinet for approval next Tuesday (May 26). The vulnerable group consists of infants, the elderly and disabled.
- The Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC) Policy Committee approved a draft joint venture contract for the development of the 290-billion-baht Eastern Airport City and U-Tapao airport project.
 - ❖ The draft JV contract will be forwarded to the Cabinet for consideration. The JV contract between the Royal Thai Navy, the owner of the land, and the BBS Consortium [comprising BTS Group Holding, Bangkok Airways Pcl and Sino-Thai Engineering] is scheduled to be signed in June, EEC Policy Committee secretary-general Kanit Sangsuphan announced after the committee's meeting yesterday (May 21).

- ❖ The project is 1 of the 5 Public-Private-Partnership infrastructure projects inside the EEC.
- Commercial banks have started to cut the rates after the Bank of Thailand's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) cut the rates earlier this week.
 - ❖ Yesterday Bangkok Bank cut the rates and today Siam Commercial Bank (SCB) has cut the minimum loan rate (MLR) and the minimum overdraft rate (MOR) and deposit rate by 0.125-0.35 percentage point in response to the Bank of Thailand (BoT)'s monetary policy committee (MPC)'s decision to cut its policy rate by 25 basis points to a record low of 0.50% yesterday (May 21).
 - SCB's rate cuts will take effect from today (May 22).
 - As a result of the adjustment, MLR will decrease to 5.25% per annum, from 5.375% and MOR to 5.845%, from 6.095% and the minimum retail rate (MMR) to 5.995% to 6.345%.
- Panasonic said it plans to halt operations at its Thai-based production of refrigerators and washing machines to shift to Vietnam next year. The Japanese appliance maker said it will also lay off some 800 workers at the Thai plant.
 - ❖ The company said it will stop washing machine production in Thailand in September 2020 and refrigerator production 1 month later.
 - ❖ The move is part of Panasonic's attempt to cut costs as it is facing fiercer price competition from its rivals China and South Korea.
 - ❖ The firm, which started producing electronic equipment in Thailand in 1979, will close its research and development centre in the country by the end of March 2021. The company said it will support laid-off employees in seeking new jobs.

Political News

- After the conflict in the Phalang Pracharat party about their splits and breakups, it is now the turn of the opposition lead by the Pheu Thai party where reports are coming that there is a major split in the party and its various factions.
 - ❖ There are some interesting moves from key members of 3 factions inside the now-defunct Thai Rak Thai (TRT) Party with talks about the creation of (a) new parties, according to a source from the Pheu Thai Party.
 - ❖ The first group is led by Phumtham Wechayachai, advisor to the opposition leader, and 2 ex-deputy prime ministers Surapong Suebwonglee and Prommin Lertsuridej while another group is led by Pongsak Ruktapongpisal, a former energy minister, and possibly Pol Capt. Chalerm Yubamrung.
 - ❖ It is still unclear whether these 2 groups will join forces while it is believed that both will recruit new members from Pheu Thai. The reason for the possible departure is because they are frustrated with current management in Pheu Thai.
 - ❖ Pheu Thai Party member and former energy minister Pichai Nariphaphan admitted that he has been in talk but not into details yet. He said that several groups are forming different groups and formation of a new party is to bring hope to the people, especially on the economic aspect.
 - He admitted that there are 2-3 groups that are looking to form parties.

- Surapong denied that there were plans to set up a party but admitted that there needs to be reforms in the Pheu Thai party.

- ❖ Mr Pichai said he approved of the idea of having a new party as he sees a continuous decline of popularity ratings of existing parties like Pheu Thai, Phalang Pracharat, Kao Klai, and Bhumjai Thai and Democrat parties due to internal conflicts.

- ❖ Mr Phumtham's faction is said to plan to use the BBD Building on Rama 4 as a temporary office. This building was used by Pheu Thai as its head office when the party was first set up. The building belongs to Bannapot Damapong, the brother of Khunying Potjaman na Pombejra.

- ❖ There is also a report that Chaturon Chaisang, a former member of the dissolved Thai Raksa Chart (TRC) Party, is recruiting former TRT members and MP candidates to form a new party as well.

- Today (May 22) marks the 6th anniversary of the May 22, 2014 coup that ousted the government of Pheu Thai party that was lead by Yingluck Shinawatra.
 - ❖ Army Chief General Apirat Kongsompong came out to downplay concerns over possible violence after various groups staged symbolic activities against the government amid lockdown restrictions. He said there appeared to be no laws the movement might have violated.
 - The army chief said people have the right to freedom of expression as long as they respect the rule of law.

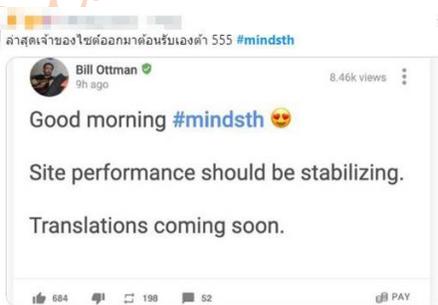
 - ❖ As for the Progressive Movement's defiant stance against the government by projecting laser messages on government buildings including the Defence Ministry building, Gen Apirat said he had looked into the matter and no damage was done.

- ❖ At the army headquarters, former army chief General Chetta Thanajaro took a more aggressive stance when asked about the 6th anniversary of the May 22, 2014 coup. Gen Chetta voiced little concern over the army's role in politics. He said the army had to keep its role in politics in order to prevent turmoil. However, he said the army must render its role once turmoil ends.
- The National Security Council (NSC) has decided to extend the state of emergency by yet another month citing the need to keep the 'State of Emergency' avoid any 2nd wave outbreak.
 - ❖ The security body will again ask the government today (May 22) to extend the state of emergency for another month until June 30th to effectively curb COVID-19 pandemic. The security body agreed at a meeting yesterday to
 - Extend the state of emergency which will be due on May 31st for another month. NSC secretary-general Gen Somsak Rungsita said the measure is necessary to prevent a second wave of outbreak in Thailand.
 - He said to prevent a 2nd wave of COVID-19 outbreak, the 3rd and 4th phase of easing lockdown restrictions in June will better curb the pandemic.
 - ❖ The recommendation of the emergency law's extension will be decided at the Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA)'s meeting chaired by Prime Minister General Prayut Chan o-cha today (May 22) before forwarding to the cabinet for approval next Tuesday (May 26).
 - ❖ However, the NSC's recommendation for the extension of the emergency law already came under fire from the opposition parties.

- Pheu Thai key member Watana Muangsook slammed the NSC's recommendation for an emergency law extension, perceiving it as a political tool to allow Gen Prayut to suppress the public from taking to the streets for their frustration over the government's lack of swift action to revive the economy.
 - Mr Watana voiced grave concerns over a severe gross domestic product (GDP) contraction, high unemployment of 7-10 million had the state of emergency been extended further.
- Kao Klai Party [Move Forward] Secretary-General Chaitawat Tulathon said the time for the emergency law is up. He called for the government to scrap this security law and to focus on relief measures a range of measures to provide relief for laid-off workers and business operators hard hit by the pandemic.



- Twitter users are seeking alternative social media platforms in search of a safe environment for freedom of expression following the creation of Twitter’s official Thailand account.
 - ❖ The twitter hashtag #ทวิตเตอร์แอปซีหรือวันเจ๋ง started trending in the last 24 hours as users shared an alternative to Twitter: Minds.
 - ❖ The social media platform recently posted to their Twitter page that they were receiving heavy traffic from Thailand.
 - ❖ The Twitter hashtag #ไม่เอาทวิตเตอร์ไทยแลนด์, or ‘We don’t want Twitter Thailand’ began trending immediately after the account’s creation.
 - ❖ The negative sentiments towards the new Twitter page stem from the fear that this will further hinder people’s right to freedom of expression.
 - ❖ To find out more information about this article, readers can go to <https://www.thaienquirer.com/13354/thai-netizens-flock-to-alternative-social-media-platform-following-the-creation-of-twitters-official-thailand-account/>



- The Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) reported 3 new COVID-19 cases and no new deaths, bringing its tally to 3,037 cases with the death toll remaining at 56.
 - ❖ The 3 new cases are a 42-year-old German man who visited his wife in a northern province of Chaiyaphum and 2 Thai nationals; a 72-year-old man who had history visiting a hospital and a barbershop and a 25-year-old Thai woman who returned from the Philippines, CCSA spokesman Taweetilp Wissanuyothin said.
- The global numbers continue to rise with the numbers now at just about 5.2 million with death rate now at about 335,000.

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| # | Country, Other | Total Cases | New Cases | Total Deaths | New Deaths | Total Recovered | Active Cases | Serious, Critical | Tot Cases/ 1M pop | Deaths/ 1M pop | Total Tests | Tests/ 1M pop | Population |
|----|----------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| | World | 5,190,496 | +107,085 | 334,173 | +4,934 | 2,079,017 | 2,777,306 | 45,620 | 666 | 42.9 | | | |
| 1 | USA | 1,620,902 | +28,179 | 96,354 | +1,418 | 382,169 | 1,142,379 | 17,902 | 4,900 | 291 | 13,439,114 | 40,627 | 330,790,544 |
| 2 | Russia | 317,554 | +8,849 | 3,099 | +127 | 92,681 | 221,774 | 2,300 | 2,176 | 21 | 7,840,880 | 53,731 | 145,927,804 |
| 3 | Brazil | 310,921 | +17,564 | 20,082 | +1,188 | 125,960 | 164,879 | 8,318 | 1,464 | 95 | 735,224 | 3,462 | 212,393,298 |
| 4 | Spain | 280,117 | +593 | 27,940 | +52 | 196,958 | 55,219 | 1,152 | 5,991 | 598 | 3,037,840 | 64,977 | 46,752,851 |
| 5 | UK | 250,908 | +2,615 | 36,042 | +338 | N/A | N/A | 1,559 | 3,698 | 531 | 3,090,566 | 45,552 | 67,847,158 |
| 6 | Italy | 228,006 | +642 | 32,486 | +156 | 134,560 | 60,960 | 640 | 3,770 | 537 | 3,243,398 | 53,635 | 60,471,198 |
| 7 | France | 181,826 | +251 | 28,215 | +83 | 63,858 | 89,753 | 1,745 | 2,786 | 432 | 1,384,633 | 21,218 | 65,258,007 |
| 8 | Germany | 179,021 | +490 | 8,309 | +39 | 158,000 | 12,712 | 1,016 | 2,137 | 99 | 3,595,059 | 42,923 | 83,755,045 |
| 9 | Turkey | 153,548 | +961 | 4,249 | +27 | 114,990 | 34,309 | 820 | 1,823 | 50 | 1,729,988 | 20,537 | 84,237,509 |
| 10 | Iran | 129,341 | +2,392 | 7,249 | +66 | 100,564 | 21,528 | 2,655 | 1,542 | 86 | 746,045 | 8,895 | 83,871,454 |
| 11 | India | 118,226 | +6,198 | 3,584 | +150 | 48,553 | 66,089 | | 86 | 3 | 2,615,920 | 1,898 | 1,378,492,893 |
| 12 | Peru | 108,769 | +4,749 | 3,148 | +124 | 43,587 | 62,034 | 886 | 3,304 | 96 | 736,500 | 22,373 | 32,919,665 |
| 13 | China | 82,967 | +2 | 4,634 | | 78,249 | 84 | 8 | 58 | 3 | | | 1,439,323,776 |
| 14 | Canada | 81,324 | +1,182 | 6,152 | +121 | 41,715 | 33,457 | 502 | 2,157 | 163 | 1,377,146 | 36,524 | 37,705,478 |
| 15 | Saudi Arabia | 65,077 | +2,532 | 351 | +12 | 36,040 | 28,686 | 281 | 1,873 | 10 | 651,158 | 18,737 | 34,751,777 |
| 16 | Chile | 57,581 | +3,964 | 589 | +45 | 23,992 | 33,000 | 943 | 3,015 | 31 | 426,003 | 22,306 | 19,098,031 |
| 17 | Mexico | 56,594 | +2,248 | 6,090 | +424 | 38,876 | 11,628 | 378 | 439 | 47 | 185,755 | 1,442 | 128,781,349 |
| 18 | Belgium | 56,235 | +252 | 9,186 | +36 | 14,988 | 32,061 | 277 | 4,854 | 793 | 739,146 | 63,807 | 11,584,152 |
| 19 | Pakistan | 48,091 | +2,193 | 1,017 | +32 | 14,155 | 32,919 | 111 | 218 | 5 | 429,600 | 1,949 | 220,392,002 |
| 20 | Netherlands | 44,700 | +253 | 5,775 | +27 | N/A | N/A | 255 | 2,609 | 337 | 302,395 | 17,652 | 17,130,802 |
| 21 | Qatar | 38,651 | +1,554 | 17 | +1 | 7,288 | 31,346 | 171 | 13,442 | 6 | 175,482 | 61,028 | 2,875,446 |
| 22 | Ecuador | 35,306 | +452 | 2,939 | +51 | 3,557 | 28,810 | 191 | 2,005 | 167 | 101,580 | 5,768 | 17,612,428 |
| 23 | Belarus | 33,371 | +945 | 185 | +6 | 12,057 | 21,129 | 92 | 3,531 | 20 | 403,236 | 42,672 | 9,449,653 |
| 24 | Sweden | 32,172 | +649 | 3,871 | +40 | 4,971 | 23,330 | 352 | 3,188 | 384 | 209,900 | 20,798 | 10,092,371 |
| 25 | Switzerland | 30,694 | +36 | 1,898 | +6 | 27,900 | 896 | 55 | 3,549 | 219 | 361,692 | 41,825 | 8,647,657 |
| 26 | Portugal | 29,912 | +252 | 1,277 | +14 | 6,452 | 22,183 | 93 | 2,933 | 125 | 674,000 | 66,080 | 10,199,821 |
| 27 | Singapore | 29,812 | +448 | 23 | +1 | 12,117 | 17,672 | 10 | 5,100 | 4 | 294,414 | 50,368 | 5,845,265 |
| 28 | Bangladesh | 28,511 | +1,773 | 408 | +22 | 5,602 | 22,501 | 1 | 173 | 2 | 214,114 | 1,302 | 164,506,480 |
| 29 | UAE | 26,898 | +894 | 237 | +4 | 12,755 | 13,906 | 1 | 2,723 | 24 | 1,600,923 | 162,087 | 9,876,944 |
| 30 | Ireland | 24,391 | +76 | 1,583 | +12 | 21,060 | 1,748 | 54 | 4,946 | 321 | 295,626 | 59,945 | 4,931,601 |
| 31 | Indonesia | 20,162 | +973 | 1,278 | +36 | 4,838 | 14,046 | | 74 | 5 | 219,975 | 805 | 273,200,237 |
| 32 | Poland | 20,143 | +404 | 972 | +10 | 8,452 | 10,719 | 160 | 532 | 26 | 697,230 | 18,420 | 37,850,989 |
| 33 | Ukraine | 19,706 | +476 | 579 | +15 | 6,227 | 12,900 | 249 | 450 | 13 | 257,890 | 5,893 | 43,760,843 |
| 34 | South Africa | 19,137 | +1,134 | 369 | +30 | 8,950 | 9,818 | 119 | 323 | 6 | 525,433 | 8,872 | 59,224,262 |
| 35 | Kuwait | 18,609 | +1,041 | 129 | +5 | 5,205 | 13,275 | 181 | 4,365 | 30 | 261,071 | 61,236 | 4,263,365 |
| 36 | Colombia | 18,330 | +643 | 652 | +22 | 4,431 | 13,247 | 136 | 361 | 13 | 214,536 | 4,221 | 50,822,230 |
| 37 | Romania | 17,585 | +198 | 1,156 | +9 | 10,581 | 5,848 | 203 | 913 | 60 | 342,466 | 17,790 | 19,250,875 |
| 38 | Israel | 16,683 | +16 | 279 | | 13,724 | 2,680 | 47 | 1,931 | 32 | 524,584 | 60,716 | 8,640,028 |
| 39 | Japan | 16,424 | +39 | 777 | +6 | 12,672 | 2,975 | 195 | 130 | 6 | 261,572 | 2,067 | 126,516,956 |
| 40 | Austria | 16,404 | +51 | 633 | | 14,951 | 820 | 32 | 1,823 | 70 | 385,637 | 42,845 | 9,000,787 |

Political News Headlines in Thai Media

- May 22nd, 2014. Regular programming on television was cut. A panel of generals appeared, and army commander General Prayut Chan-o-cha began speaking. By the time his announcement was over, the Pheu Thai administration was no more. The military had seized power.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/13403/opinion-the-utopian-coup/>
- Six years ago, today, Thailand's army launched its 12th coup. Once again toppling a democratically elected government, the Royal Thai Army under the leadership of General Prayut Chan-ocha said that they had to take power to restore peace and stability to the kingdom.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/13394/a-brief-oral-history-of-the-2014-military-coup/>
- Thailand has had 13 successful coups (and many more coup attempts) since the start of the 20th century. More than enough for multiple lifetimes.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/13406/grading-thailands-13-successful-coups/>
- Thai Twitter users are flocking to alternative social media platforms in search of a safe environment for freedom of expression following the creation of Twitter's official Thailand account.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/13354/thai-netizens-flock-to-alternative-social-media-platform-following-the-creation-of-twitters-official-thailand-account/>
- The government said on Thursday that apart from local and state quarantine, an alternative quarantine option will be made available to people returning from abroad.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/13367/hotels-and-hospitals-to-offer-an-alternative-to-state-quarantine/>
- The National Security Council (NSC) proposed on Thursday an extension of the State of Emergency (SOE) until the end of June to mitigate the spread of Covid-19.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/13334/nsc-to-propose-an-extension-to-the-soe/>
- The Thai government said on Thursday that it had discovered 3 new coronavirus cases in the last 24 hours.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/13330/three-new-coronavirus-cases-discovered-in-the-past-24-hours/>

- A leadership battle is simmering in the core coalition Palang Pracharath Party, with its influential chief strategist General Prawit Wongsuwan being pushed by his supporters in the party to replace current leader Uttama Savanayana.
 - Link- <https://www.thaipbsworld.com/balancing-act-for-prayut-as-storm-over-party-leadership-looms/>
- Some "successes" in governments connected to military coups spell danger for a country where many have grown immune to putsches and look to them for a quick fix to national problems, argues Chaiwat Satha-Anand, a professor of politics and government at Thammasat University.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/1922360/quick-fix-coups-and-the-unfortunate-legacy-of-2014>
- The government is bracing for a tough road ahead as political tension builds post-Covid-19 although it looks likely to survive the onslaught to complete its term in office, according to academics. The prediction comes as Friday marks the 6th anniversary of the May 22, 2014 coup.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/1922256/protest-pressure-builds-as-govt-enters-new-phase>

Economic News Headlines in Thai Media

- The cabinet, this week, approved the government's use of its central budget to pay for the cost of state quarantine.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/13361/central-budget-to-be-used-for-cost-of-state-quarantine/>
- Panasonic Corporation will shut down its factory in Thailand and move it to a newer and larger one in Vietnam as part of its consolidation plan, a company official told Thai Enquirer on Thursday.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/13327/panasonic-to-close-two-facilities-in-thailand-and-move-them-to-vietnam/>
- The court-ordered administrators of the rehabilitation plan for Thai Airways International (THAI) will likely be appointed in no more than three months, according to Deputy Prime Minister Wissanu Krea-ngam.

- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/1922188/rehab-chiefs-to-be-named-this-year>
- The government needs to manage the local currency to become more competitive and ensure political stability, two key tools to help reboot the virus-hit economy, says Boonsithi Chokwatana, chairman of consumer goods conglomerate Saha Group.
- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/1922224/baht-stability-key-to-recovery>
- The navy will sign a contract next month with BBS Joint Venture to build the 290-billion-baht Eastern Airport City Project at U-tapao airport which is one of five megaprojects under the government's infrastructure development in the Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC).
- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/1922124/navy-to-finalise-u-tapao-deal>
- The Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF) is helping SMEs expand into manufacturing aircraft parts for the maintenance and repair industry in a new venture.
- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/1922160/local-smes-set-to-make-aircraft-parts>
- The Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) granted licences Wednesday to two subsidiaries of Gulf Energy Plc, Thailand's top private power producer by capacity, to operate liquefied natural gas (LNG) shipping businesses in Thailand.
- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/1922280/gulf-arms-get-lng-shipping-licences-b-grimm-may-follow>
- Four commercial banks -- Kasikornbank (KBank), Siam Commercial Bank (SCB), Krungthai Bank (KTB) and Bank of Ayudhya (BAY) -- followed in the footsteps of Bangkok Bank (BBL), passing on some or more than the central bank's 25-basis-point rate cut for their prime lending rates.
- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/1922296/four-banks-trim-prime-lending-rates>
- The Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) is set to extend the revised equity short-selling regulations to Sept 30 from June 30 as stock market volatility remains high in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.

- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/1922064/set-to-extend-revised-short-selling-rules>
 - Dhanin Chearavanont has advised the government to lure those rich persons and investors to invest in technologies after the Covid-19 is resolved.
 - Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/news/30388277?utm_source=category&utm_medium=internal_referral
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Issues to be watched out for

- May 14-20, 2020 – The government’s “Rao Mai Thing Kun” bond sale will be made available to people aged 60 and over.
- May 21-27, 2020 – The government’s “Rao Mai Thing Kun” bond sale will be made available to retail investors.
- May 28-June 10, 2020 – The government’s “Rao Mai Thing Kun” bond sale will be made available to the general public and non-profit entities.
- May 22, 2020 – The House is set to reconvene.
- May 26, 2020 – Prosecutors has delayed a decision on charges against Piyabutr Saengkanokkul, former secretary-general of the now-defunct Future Forward Party, for alleged contempt of court after he criticized the Constitutional Court’s decision to dissolve the Thai Raksa Chart Party.
- May 27-28, 2020 – The House is set to deliberate on government-sponsored executive decrees on borrowing.
- May 29, 2020 - The deadline for those who missed out on the government’s 5,000-baht cash handout scheme who wish to appeal their case to the Finance Ministry.
- May 31, 2020 – The government is expected to lift lockdown restrictions imposed under the emergency decree.
- June 2020 – The Royal Thai Navy and the BBS Consortium [comprising BTS Group Holding, Bangkok Airways Pcl and Sino-Thai Engineering] is scheduled to sign a joint

venture contract for the development of the 290-billion-baht Eastern Airport City and U-Tapao airport project.

- June, 2020 - The Phalang Pracharat Party (PPRP) is set to hold a general assembly to select a new executive board after the House's reading on 3 executive decrees on borrowing to fight COVID-19.
- June 30, 2020 – The Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT) is expected to lift ban on incoming flights.
- July 2020 – The Expressway of Thailand (EXAT)'s planned opening schedule of the new Motorway Route 7 Section from Pattaya to Map Ta Phut.
- July 15, 2020 – The House is set to deliberate on the draft budget bill for the 2021 fiscal year.
- 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 Thailand Grand Prix was rescheduled after being postponed due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Key Data

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| SET Index | 1,320.69 | -1.51 |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|

- 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 May 21, 2020

Buying, Selling or Transfer of shares by Owners/Management

| Stock Code | Volume | Value | Action |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| ASEFA | 20,000 | 3.12 | Purchase |
| ASEFA | 10,000 | 3.14 | Purchase |
| ASEFA | 4,700 | 3.24 | Purchase |
| AS | 3,700 | 1.49 | Sale |
| BM | 1,555,200 | 0.1 | Sale |
| BANPU | 200,000 | 7.5 | Sale |
| ECL | 1,000,000 | 0.14 | Sale |
| MCS | 5,000 | 10.6 | Sale |
| MJD | 6,000,000 | 1.7 | Purchase |
| MJD | 6,000,000 | 1.7 | Sale |
| MJD | 90,000 | 1.78 | Sale |
| MJD | 30,000 | 1.79 | Sale |
| MODERN | 50,000 | 2.36 | Purchase |
| MTI | 17,000 | 89.21 | Purchase |
| OSP | 1,000,000 | 41.95 | Sale |
| PR9 | 20,000 | 6.7 | Sale |
| PTTEP | 30,000 | 88.75 | Sale |
| RBF | 350,000 | 6.05 | Sale |
| RBF | 500,000 | 5.5 | Sale |

| | | | |
|--------|-----------|-------|----------|
| RBF | 1,000,000 | 6 | Sale |
| SPC | 112,471 | 55.75 | Purchase |
| SPC | 295,005 | 55.5 | Purchase |
| GLOBAL | 56,000 | 14.9 | Sale |
| SMART | 50,000 | 1.03 | Purchase |
| SMART | 50,000 | 1.04 | Purchase |
| SMART | 1,600 | 0.23 | Sale |
| TWPC | 100,000 | 3.38 | Purchase |
| TWPC | 200,000 | - | Sale |
| TWPC | 200,000 | - | Purchase |
| THG | 50,000 | 20.1 | Purchase |
| TPBI | 5,000 | 3.16 | Purchase |
| UAC | 200,000 | 0.05 | Sale |
| UAC | 760,000 | 0.06 | Sale |
| KUN | 42,300 | 0.87 | Purchase |

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 21 May 2020 | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------|-----------|------|---------------------|---|
| Investor Type | Buy | | Sell | | Unit: M.Baht Net | |
| | Value | % | Value | % | Value | % |
| Local Institutions | 7,309.33 | 10.41 | 6,259.98 | 8.92 | 1,049.35 | - |
| Proprietary Trading | 5,934.20 | 8.45 | 5,810.89 | 8.28 | 123.31 | - |
| Foreign Investors | 21,297.75 | 30.33 | 24,647.40 | 35.1 | -3,349.65 | - |

| | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|----------|--------------|----------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Local Individuals | 35,671.09 | 50.8 | 33,494.10 | 47.7 | 2,177.00 | - |
| Monthly Cumulative between 1 - 21 May 2020 | | | | | | |
| Investor Type | Buy | | Sell | | Unit: M.Baht Net | |
| | Value | % | Value | % | Value | % |
| Local Institutions | 80,912.51 | 11.56 | 68,795.62 | 9.83 | 12,116.89 | - |
| Proprietary Trading | 59,027.16 | 8.43 | 58,768.57 | 8.39 | 258.59 | - |
| Foreign Investors | 225,724.65 | 32.24 | 256,817.63 | 36.68 | -31,092.98 | - |
| Local Individuals | 334,465.01 | 47.77 | 315,747.52 | 45.1 | 18,717.49 | - |
| Yearly Cumulative since 1 Jan - 21 May 2020 | | | | | | |
| Investor Type | Buy | | Sell | | Unit: M.Baht Net | |
| | Value | % | Value | % | Value | % |
| Local Institutions | 763,098.07 | 12.11 | 701,233.10 | 11.13 | 61,864.97 | - |
| Proprietary Trading | 650,874.11 | 10.33 | 653,453.16 | 10.37 | -2,579.04 | - |
| Foreign Investors | 2,257,557.44 | 35.84 | 2,450,981.19 | 38.91 | - | - |
| Local Individuals | 2,627,568.49 | 41.71 | 2,493,430.67 | 39.58 | 193,423.75 | 134,137.82 |

Total Trading Value 70,212.37 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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