

July 27, 2021

## Thai Enquirer Summary

### COVID-19 News

- Thailand continues to see a daily rise in COVID-19 infections.

❖ Today's numbers are as follows:



- Total New Infections = 14,150
  - ✓ Community Infection = 13,905
  - ✓ Prison Infection = 245
- Total New Death = 118
- Total New Recovery = 9,168

❖ Month on month comparison between June & July

- For the 1<sup>st</sup> 27 days of June infection @ = 84,655 people
- For the 1<sup>st</sup> 27 days of July infection @ = 267,527 people
- For the 1<sup>st</sup> 27 days of June death @ = 881 people
- For the 1<sup>st</sup> 27 days of July death @ = 2,241 people

- Thailand's COVID-19 cases have breached the 500,000 mark after 14,150 new daily infections were reported today, taking the total infections to 526,828 with 4,264 total deaths.

- While the infection continues unabated and people are dying on the streets and in their houses, politics is taking centre stage.

❖ Bangsue station, which has inoculated nearly 1 million people so far, is set to be closed (so says the rumors).

❖ Rumors that Bangsue station vaccination centre may be closed due to the high number of people turning up and due to political issues.

❖ But media is putting a different spin, as Matichon Daily ran the story as their front page lead saying that it was a struggle to get the credit for the higher inoculation at this centre.

- The media named Phalang Pracharat Party (PPRP) that is the party which is the core of the current coalition, and Bhumjai Thai party (another member of the current coalition), as the 2 parties that are struggling to take credit for this centre.

- Bhumjai Thai party controls the Ministry of Public Health

❖ Apart from this people from neighbouring provinces such as those from Lopburi, Suphanburi, Singhburi etc are driving to Bangsue station to get their vaccines despite the travel restrictions in place.



- Today is the last day for the 1-month closure of the 604 worker camps made by Centre for Covid-19 Situation Administration (CCSA)'s, but Bangkok Metropolitan Administration has made the call to close it until August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2021.

❖ Minister of Labour – Suchart Chomklin, has come out to say that in the past 1-month only about 200 out of the 604 labour camps have been inoculated.

- In a televised interview Suchart said that only 200+ camps have been inoculated.
- Overall we have inoculated 20,000 people so far out of the 83,000 workers in the camps.
- I believe that not all camps would be able to open up but those that are inoculated should be able to go back to work.

| แคมป์คนงานก่อสร้าง...ใน กทม. |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| จำนวนแคมป์                   | 575 แคมป์ |
| จำนวนคนงาน                   | 83,375 คน |
| จำนวนคนงานไทย                | 34,549 คน |
| จำนวนคนงานต่างชาติ           | 48,826 คน |

- Inoculation numbers continue to remain low as it was holiday and many provinces are reporting that they are running out of vaccines, therefore postponing the planned inoculations.

❖ Maharaj hospital in Nakorn Ratchisima has come out to say that it has to stop vaccination process as the hospital has run out of vaccines.

- To make matters worse, the virus has spread out of Bangkok into the provinces and as of yesterday about 59% of the new cases were found to be from outside Bangkok region.

❖ Although nearly 50% of the death (40 out of 87 deaths reported yesterday) were in Bangkok.

❖ This comes as those in intensive care unit (ICU) and on ventilators has continued to rise.



- ❖ A total of 4,289 people were in ICU
- ❖ A total of 967 people were on life support (ventilators).
- This comes as provinces such as Chonburi start to report new high infection numbers



- This comes as inoculation numbers continues to remain relatively irrelevant

| อาทิตย์     | จันทร์      | อังคาร      | พุธ         | พฤหัสบดี    | ศุกร์       | เสาร์       |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|             |             |             |             | 1 ▲         | 2 ▲         | 3 ▼         |
|             |             |             |             | 299,485 โดส | 345,109 โดส | 98,605 โดส  |
| 4 ▲         | 5 ▲         | 6 ▼         | 7 ▲         | 8 ▲         | 9 ▲         | 10 ▼        |
| 106,851 โดส | 280,642 โดส | 269,653 โดส | 291,575 โดส | 356,378 โดส | 399,908 โดส | 93,284 โดส  |
| 11 ▲        | 12 ▲        | 13 ▼        | 14 ▼        | 15 ▼        | 16 ▲        | 17 ▼        |
| 100,025 โดส | 338,980 โดส | 322,488 โดส | 303,036 โดส | 289,998 โดส | 307,134 โดส | 93,273 โดส  |
| 18 ▼        | 19 ▲        | 20 ▲        | 21 ▲        | 22 ▲        | 23 ▲        | 24 ▼        |
| 74,834 โดส  | 248,648 โดส | 257,876 โดส | 279,576 โดส | 304,243 โดส | 352,879 โดส | 128,026 โดส |
| 25 ▼        | 26          | 27          | 28          | 29          | 30          | 31          |
| 90,934 โดส  |             |             |             |             |             |             |

➤ Data of inoculation of each day of July

- Total inoculation remains low and the plans to inoculating 100 million doses by December 31<sup>st</sup> 2021 is a dream that Prayut & Anutin can dream while smoking their only success ‘pot’.



- ❖ A total of 528,549 doses/day is required to achieve the 100 million dose target.

- There continues to be a huge surge in the number of people seeking help from volunteers
  - ❖ <https://www.jitasa.care/>
    - Click on the link to see where all are the calls for help by the various foundations helping out.
- People continue to commit suicide be it taxi driver, be it people in the provinces or in Bangkok.
  - ❖ Apart from this people are also dying on the streets or being left by the hospitals on the streets.
- As Thailand is days away from receiving Pfizer vaccine in the next 2-days, an issue has risen as people are set to petition today to the US Embassy on who it wants to be inoculated with the vaccines that they are going to donate today (1.5 million doses with nearly \$30 million).
- All this is likely to delay the planned opening of the country's borders by the date set by Prayut in a televised address to the country on June 16<sup>th</sup> 2021 that he would open the country's borders within 120-days from that day.



- As Thailand's number continues to remain high, the numbers could see more cases after the CCSA said it may look at including the antigen tests.



- ❖ The antigen test are likely to be included in the numbers by this week. The antigen test are included in the current numbers being declared each day by the CCSA.



➤ Infection data from July 1 until July 26<sup>th</sup>

- Assoc Prof Thira Woratanarat, of Chulalongkorn University's Faculty of Medicine, has come out to advise the government to impose a full nationwide lockdown for 4 weeks after Thailand ranked number 9<sup>th</sup> in the world by numbers of confirmed coronavirus cases. It is difficult for Thailand to pin hopes on vaccines to yield results right now, Dr Teerawat said, adding that it takes several months for vaccines to work.

- ❖ The associate professor voiced his concern about a rapid surge in domestic COVID-19 cases in the country in the past 4 weeks as he recorded a rise in new cases from 38,550 → 53,099 → 66,892 → 93,818, representing a surge in percentages as 37.74%, 25.97% and 40.25%, respectively.
  - ❖ Based on this pattern, there are more than 50 new infections on a daily basis per province across the country. This month alone, the country saw > 100 new cases per day in “red zone” provinces and between 51-100 new cases per day in “orange zone” provinces. Red and orange zones cover 57% of 77 provinces in Thailand, accounting for 74% or three-fourths of the country.
  - ❖ He said there is no other way but a full national lockdown for 4 weeks, followed by the full proactive COVID-19 screening campaign. He advised the government to prepare support and relief measures.
  - The Centre for Covid-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) mulls plans to ease restrictions on eateries in shopping malls and department stores to allow them to provide take-away and delivery services.
    - ❖ The CCSA’s operations centre has instructed the Ministry of Public Health to develop a set of guidelines for eateries, located in malls and department stores, in case they are allowed to resume business for take-away and delivery customers, to ease the hardships caused by the CCSA’s lockdown measures in the 13 “Dark Red” provinces including Bangkok.
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### **Political News**

- A highly placed source with security agencies have come out to dismiss reports of a “royally bestowed” prime minister that went viral on Twitter.



- ❖ It is reported that the hashtag “#No to royally-endorsed prime minister” is the most trending Twitter post yesterday, followed by critics’ comments that there is a chance that Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha may be removed and replaced by a royally endorsed prime minister amid the ongoing outbreak crisis.
- ❖ The source also confirmed that there is a slim chance for Gen Prayut will resign or dissolve the House of Representatives within 1 and a half years as he has done no wrong, especially it is not possible for a general election to be called and election campaigns to run amidst the ongoing outbreak.
- ❖ Moreover, Gen Prayut has the spirit of a soldier. He is someone who will not leave the country and the people to face problems on their own, the source said, admitting that Gen Prayut is at an all-time low due to the outbreak crisis amid his 7 years rule in tenure.
- Meanwhile, former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who declared himself as “Tony Woodsome” on chatroom App Clubhouse, told the public that he plans to return to Thailand.
  - ❖ The opposition Pheu Thai Party yesterday organised celebrations in several venues to mark Thaksin’s 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday anniversary on July 26.
  - ❖ Pheu Thai and opposition leader Sompong Amornwiwat held a merit making ceremony at Wat Rong Tham Samakkhi Temple in San Kamphaeng, Chiang Mai to mark the 72th birthday anniversary for Thaksin.
  - ❖ During the ceremony, Thaksin made a video call to his supporters from the United Arab Emirates. He received blessings from the abbot of Wat Rong Tham Samakkhi Temple. Sompong offered his well wishes by asking Thaksin to return to the country soon because a large number of Thai people who love him are waiting for his return to run the country and help revive the economy.

- The opposition Pheu Thai Party will today petition the Anti-Money Laundering Office (Amlo) to trace financial records of Ruangkrai Leekitwattana, who serves as a member of the committee vetting the 2021 budget bill under the Pheu Thai Party quota, following reports that Ruangkrai has been rewarded 5 million baht by a senior government figure to pay for a Mercedes-Benz S560 class, Yutthapong Charasathien, Pheu Thai Party deputy leader and MP for Maha Sarakham, revealed.
  - ❖ Yutthapong said he suspected that Ruangkrai may have breached the 3,000-baht limit gift-giving rule capped for cabinet ministers and senior officers, raising the question of whether the money awarded to Ruangkrai is transparent.
  - ❖ Ruangkrai himself lodged a petition with the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) asking it to probe into Yutthapong's asset declaration list after the latter converted Pheu Thai MPs' coordination centre in Payakphumisai district, Mahasarakham into a field hospital.
  - ❖ Yutthapong claimed that the building and land belongs to his mother. Moreover, Yutthapong announced that he plans to sell a 100-rai plot to Charoen Sirivadhanabhakdi, President of Thai Beverage Plc (ThaiBev), for 600 million baht to raise fund to assist those who are affected by the COVID-19 outbreak in his constituency. Yutthapong also challenged Ruangkrai to meet him in front of ThaiBev company on August 5.
- On his Facebook, Sombat Boonngam-anong, a red shirt and activist, announced plans to stage a "car mob" on August 1 to beep car horns to topple Prime Minister Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha to resign.
  - ❖ Sombat invited supporters to join him at Vibhavadi Rangsit Rd between 13.00 hrs to 16.00 hrs.

- ❖ He urged other provinces including Pathum Thani, Nonthaburi, Samut Prakan, Nakhon Pathom and Ayutthaya to organize car mob activities to join him on Vibhavadi Rangsit Rd.



- Reports have come out that about 15% of the 1 billion baht + has been withdrawn for the parking spot of the submarines has been awarded and taken out of the budget.
  - ❖ This is for just 1 alone. For every submarine there needs to be spot for each one of them.
  - ❖ Although the plans to purchase 2 more submarines have been put on hold, the construction for their parking continues to be work in progress.

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### **Economic News**

- The Federation of Thai Industries (FTI) has ruled that the government's plan to fully reopen the country within 120 days is implausible.
  - ❖ FTI chairman Supant Mongkolsuthree said he will seek a meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Public Health Minister Anutin Charnvirakul on July 19 to seek clarity about the ministry's public health plan to address the outbreak crisis.

Prior to this scheduled meeting, the FTI will conduct a questionnaire among its members to survey opinions of members about the outbreak situation and will hold a press conference about relief measures to be presented to the government to assist Thai people affected by the severity of the outbreak.

- ❖ Supant said he feared that the slow vaccine distribution process may hinder the reopening plan. He said currently the government managed to inoculate only 500,000-600,000 out of 1 million workers insured under Section 33 of the social security system and merely 10% of the population with one shots. Such slow progress will cause the public to lose their trust in the government and affect the government's reopening country plan.
- Thai Chamber of Commerce (TCC) chairman Sanan Angubolkul is pushing for the government to adopt “bubble and seal” measures to control Covid-19 infections among factory workers after COVID-19 infections continue to wreak havoc on economic activities after COVID-19 numbers showed no signs of abatement.
  - ❖ Sanan said it is possible that despite lockdown measures imposed on businesses will continue until August 2 after lockdown imposition for 14 days yield no results.
  - ❖ He said the bubble and seal measure is a more practical strategy as it allows businesses to operate, better than complete shutdowns. Under the bubble and seal measure, businesses can keep going while workers are waiting for vaccines, with big cleaning being organised for 1-2 days.
  - ❖ Chaichan Chareonsuk, president of the Thai National Shippers' Council (TNSC), revealed that 43 factories have been affected by the outbreak following reports of infections among workers. Currently, they have stopped operations temporarily. Most of these factories are food, textile, electronic products, auto parts, etc. Chaichan said he feared that lockdown measures are likely to be imposed until the

end of the year if the government cannot distribute jobs efficiently. This will send severe impacts across business sectors.

- Thai tourism this year is likely to be at an all-time low as international arrivals may reach just 1 million, while domestic tourism could plunge to 50-60 million trips if the worsening Covid-19 situation demands lockdown last for up to three months, according to the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT).
  - ❖ Despite reopening for vaccinated international tourists via the Phuket sandbox scheme and Samui Plus Model, Thailand may receive just 1 million international tourists this year, down 82% compared to 6.7 million last year when the country was able to receive a large number of foreign travellers during the two months prior to the outbreak of the pandemic in March.
  - ❖ TAT governor Yuthasak Supasorn said even though the agency has maintained its target of 3 million international visitors, there is a likelihood it could be just one third of the goal with revenue of 85 billion baht, down 74% from 2020. Domestic tourism will also experience regression as the base number of local trips this year is set at 100 million trips.
  - ❖ However, due to the severe outbreak which prompted a lockdown and rigid travel restrictions in many key destinations, including the epicentre of pandemic, Bangkok, local trips may be lower than the forecast, particularly with the scenario that Thailand needs three months of lockdown to curb record high Covid-19 infections.
- Coronavirus has caused severe impacts on mail package delivery delays.
  - ❖ Komsan Lee, CEO of Flash Express, has come out to announce via the company's Facebook page that the company will suspend services temporarily.



- ❖ The company has ordered its warehouse in Wang Noi branch since July 20 after a large number of workers have contracted COVID-19, causing delays in delivery services. The company said it will only accept parcels but suspend services from now on, causing many parcels being left there undelivered.



- Twenty large overseas online platform operators plan to register as value-added tax (VAT) payers in Thailand, according to Director-General of the Revenue Department Ekniti Nitithanprapas.
  - ❖ The move comes in response to enforcement of the e-service tax law from September 1, when overseas businesses providing online services in Thailand will be required to register for 7% VAT liability if their annual income exceeds 1.8 million baht.
  - ❖ E-service businesses liable for VAT payments include those offering download services for movies, games, stickers, brokerage services and advertisements. He said the department already developed an online channel for operators to register for VAT and make payments.

- ❖ The department expects tax revenue collection from the upcoming e-service levy to total more than 5 billion baht per year as the pandemic has moved traffic to online platforms, he said.
  - ❖ The department is pushing for the enactment of organic laws in e-service tax law. The details of the organic bills have been approved by the cabinet and are being scrutinised by the Council of State.
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### **Holidays**

**Yesterday** – July 26<sup>th</sup> was a holiday as a substitution for Asarha Bucha day (which was on Saturday July 24<sup>th</sup>)

**Tomorrow** – July 28<sup>th</sup> is also a holiday to mark the birthday of HM the King.

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### **General News**

- Thailand's Tokyo Olympic hero – Panipak Wongpattanakit (nickname Tennis) has arrived back in Thailand and is at Phuket Sandbox.
- ❖ The Taekwondo gold medallist arrived and went on her knees to 'wai' her father.



- Meanwhile UNESCO's World Heritage Committee (WHC) agreed to list Thailand's Kaeng Krachan forest complex as a world natural heritage site during its 44<sup>th</sup> session, held online between July 16<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> in China's Fuzhou city. The successful listing of the forest represents the culmination of ten years of effort by various Thai governments to push for its listing. It is Thailand's third natural heritage site to be endorsed by the WHC.
  - ❖ Kaeng Krachan forest complex is Thailand's largest national park, covering 464,000 hectares spanning Phetchaburi, Prachuap Khiri Khan and Ratchaburi provinces. The forest is rich in over 490 wildlife species, several of them rare, such as tigers, tapirs and fresh-water crocodiles.
- Hong Kong Customs officers seized 61 kilograms of suspected heroin, with an estimated market value of about \$65 million, from a seaborne consignment that arrived from Thailand on July 22. Hong Kong Customs finds 61kg of suspected heroin in snacks consignment from Thailand. The drugs were found concealed in instant rice vermicelli seasoning packets, in the consignment declared as snacks, HK Customs said.
  - ❖ Two men and a woman, aged between 31 and 42, were arrested in the Kwai Chung area on July 23. The arrested persons are charged with one count of attempting to traffic a dangerous drug. They appeared at the Tuen Mun Magistrates' Courts on Monday.

- ❖ A series of anti-narcotics operations from July 12-24 led to seizure of drugs worth a total of above \$230 million, Hong Kong Customs said. The raids were conducted in various districts and at the Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA).



### Political News Headlines in Thai Media

- Prayut's announcement on June 16 that he would reopen the country within 120 days was subjected to much ridicule and skepticism.
  - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/30353/opinion-is-thailands-new-political-awakening-coming-too-late/>
- Thailand is facing an unprecedented health crisis with thousands dead and hundreds of thousands infected with Covid-19. Thousands more are being infected daily. This has placed Thailand's healthcare system under tremendous strain.
  - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/30363/opinion-the-armed-forces-has-the-logistics-and-knowhow-to-help-with-the-pandemic-where-are-they/>
- Photo Essay: "Talu Fah Village" chases out the Government
  - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/30372/photo-essay-talu-fah-village-chases-out-the-government/>

- The main opposition Pheu Thai Party expects to submit a no-confidence motion against the government before the second and third readings of the 2022 budget bill so that the planned censure debate can take place in the third week of August.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2155167/pheu-thai-poised-to-submit-censure-bid>
- An 18-year-old Songkhla resident filed a police complaint against Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha for wrongful conduct and dereliction of duty causing suffering among citizens.
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/40003663>
- Thai academics and mass media workers on Monday issued a statement demanding that the government reveal details of its Covid-19 vaccine management and distribution, under open standards for data.
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/40003779>
- In a move to explain why Thailand did not join the Covid-19 Vaccines Global Access (Covax) alliance initially, Public Health Minister said the government had made the right decision.
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/40003771>
- Once a darling of the anti-establishment movement, Nutta "Bow" Mahattana is now being denounced as a traitor to the cause – though the human rights activist insists she is just being herself.
  - Link- <https://www.thaipbsworld.com/nuttaa-mahattana-the-democracy-icon-who-turned-on-the-anti-govt-movement/>
- Thailand's supply of medical oxygen is adequate for the current demand and people should not worry about shortages, Industry Minister Suriya Juangroongruangkit said on Monday.
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/40003775>
- Field hospitals have been or are being opened at army-run hospitals to care for Covid-19 patients whose number has been steadily rising in recent weeks, said the army.



- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2155087/army-run-hospitals-adding-3-600-beds>
  - The province's police chief, Rutthaphol Naowarat, on Monday clarified reports that 11 of its officers were given AstraZeneca jabs as a booster shot, saying the officers were in charge of transporting Covid-19 patients and were considered frontline workers.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2155083/buri-ram-police-defend-booster-shots-for-officers>
  - The Supreme Administrative Court has ruled against Pol Gen Sereepisuth Temeeyaves, leader and list-MP of the Seri Ruam Thai party, ordering him to dismantle a structure at his house which it says encroaches on the Kwai Noi River in Kanchanaburi.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2154539/court-rejects-sereepisuths-land-petition>
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### **Economic News Headlines in Thai Media**

- Thailand's baht is the worst performing currency in 2021, according to Japan's Mizuho Bank in a note to its clients.
- Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/30456/thai-baht-worst-performing-currency-in-2021/>
- “The Chinese people will never allow foreign forces to bully, oppress or enslave us. Whoever nurses delusions of doing that will crack their heads and spill blood on the Great Wall of steel built from the flesh and blood of 1.4 billion Chinese people.” – Xi Jinping's speech at CCP's 100th anniversary
- Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/30426/opinion-exploring-the-close-ties-between-thailands-cp-group-and-the-chinese-communist-party/>
- Shares of BTS Group Holdings, operator of Bangkok's mass transit system, fell by more than 4 per cent on Friday after the company reported an 80-per-cent decline in passenger numbers from pre-pandemic levels.

- Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/30396/bts-share-price-hit-by-plummet-in-passenger-numbers/>
- There are 375,680 deaf individuals in Thailand according to the 2018 report by the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. On average, 94.79 percent of differently-abled people in Thailand had completed primary education, while only 2 percent further go on to complete secondary education.
- Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/30357/deaf-and-differently-abled-people-in-thailand-face-tough-barriers-to-education-and-employment/>
- The Public Health Ministry is considering allowing restaurants located inside department stores to sell food online, deputy government spokesperson Traisulee Traisoranakul said on Monday.
- Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/40003769>
- Bangkok Airways resumed flights between Phuket and Samui Island in Surat Thani province, while Nok Air resumed its flights between Phuket and U-Tapao airport in Chonburi.
- Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/40003708>
- Thailand's exports in June hit their highest levels in 11 years, the Commerce Ministry reported.
- Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/business/40003739>
- The Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) Index closed at 1,545.10 on Friday, down 7.26 points or 0.47 per cent. Transactions totalled THB59.50 billion with an index high of 1,553.25 and a low of 1,540.35.
- Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/business/40003682>
- A special train scheduled to take Covid-19 patients home from Bangkok to the Northeast on Monday was cancelled, with the State Railway of Thailand saying there were too few passengers.
- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2154959/covid-19-train-cancelled>

- Covid-19 testing continued on workers at a chicken processing plant in Bung Sam Phan district of this northern province on Saturday, with 3,117 testing positive for the virus so far.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2154431/over-3-000-infected-at-phetchabun-chicken-plant>
- The state waste-to-energy (WTE) scheme is expected to lead to heated competition among SET-listed companies interested in joining a new auction round next year.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2154671/waste-based-auction-draws-whiff-of-interest>
- SET-listed Jasmine Telecom Systems (JTS), a subsidiary of telecom operator Jasmine International (JAS), is making a foray into the Bitcoin mining business to catch the wave of cryptocurrency investment.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2154703/jts-proclaims-lofty-bitcoin-ambitions>
- National Telecom (NT) needs to partner with SET-listed satellite service provider Thaicom, allowing it to operate the Thaicom 4 and 6 satellites after the firm's 30-year concession ends in September, says Digital Economy and Society (DES) Minister Chaiwut Thanakamanusorn.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2154747/nt-thaicom-pact-promoted>
- Around 20 large overseas online platform operators plan to register as value-added tax (VAT) payers in Thailand, says Ekniti Nitithanprapas, director-general of the Revenue Department.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2154735/foreign-websites-to-pay-vat>
- Thailand is at risk of being fined by the organiser of the World Expo if it fails to pay an additional expense of 12.4 million baht incurred from a one-year delay of the world's biggest international exhibition by the deadline at the end of this month, says the Digital Economy Promotion Agency (Depa).
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2155339/funds-still-sought-to-cover-thai-pavilions-extra-expenses>

- Japanese food and raw material suppliers remain keen on exploring opportunities to expand their products in the Thai market even though Thailand's domestic restaurant business is reeling from the pandemic.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2155215/food-prospects-still-positive>
- Thailand remains an important strategic market for global financial service provider American Express, said Marlin Brown, vice-president and country manager at American Express in Thailand, in an interview with the Bangkok Post.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2155439/american-express-retains-commitment>
- Analysts recommend investing in low-risk stocks expected to see continuous growth in profits in the second quarter with little impact from the pandemic and good dividends while economists begin to cut Thailand's 2021 economic growth forecasts to 0-1% from 2-2.8%.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2155379/analysts-tout-promising-low-risk-stocks>

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#### **Issues to be watched out for**

- June-September, 2021 – Thailand plans to administer 1st doses of AstraZeneca vaccine to 36 million people, according to the Public Health Ministry.
- June 30, 2021-year-end – The Bank of Thailand (BoT) extended its targeted debt moratorium measures for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).
- July, 2021 – TMB-Thanachart Bank (TMB-TBank) expects to complete the integration of the 2 financial entities.
- July 27, 2021 – The Criminal Court for Corruption and Misconduct Cases scheduled for a hearing in a lawsuit filed by BTS Group Holdings against the governor of the Mass Rapid Transit Authority of Thailand (MRTA) for illegally amending the bidding terms and cancelling bidding for the construction of the western extension of the Orange Line.
- July 29, 2021 – The Finance Ministry is reassessing its economic projection in light of the recent lockdown, and will announce an adjusted number.

- August, 2021 – A 3.1-trillion-baht budget spending bill for the fiscal year 2022 will be tabled for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3rd readings.
- August 28, 2021 – The National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) has rescheduled the auction of four satellite orbital slot packages.
- September 1, 2021 – The government will collect value-added tax from Netflix, Youtube, Google, Facebook as well as other e-commerce services.
- September 18, 2021 – Parliament goes into recess.
- October, 2021 – Bangkok governor election is set to be held.
- October – December, 2021 – The 2nd doses of AstraZeneca would be administered.
- October 1, 2021 – Hua Hin's reopening to vaccinated foreign visitors.
- October 1, 2021 – The quarantine measure will be lifted in Krabi, Phang Nga, Pattaya and Chiang Mai.

#### **Key Data**

|                  |                 |              |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| <b>SET Index</b> | <b>1,545.10</b> | <b>-7.26</b> |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|

- Link - [https://www.set.or.th/en/company/ipo/upcoming\\_ipo\\_set.html](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 July 24, 2021

#### Buying, Selling or Transfer of shares by Owners/Management

| Stock Code | Volume    | Value | Action   |
|------------|-----------|-------|----------|
| AIMIRT     | 22,000    | 12.1  | Purchase |
| AIMIRT     | 39,100    | 12.1  | Purchase |
| DIMET      | 100,000   | 0.42  | Purchase |
| DIMET      | 100,000   | 0.15  | Purchase |
| DIMET      | 100,000   | 0.63  | Purchase |
| DIMET      | 200,000   | 0.19  | Purchase |
| DIMET      | 200,000   | 0.2   | Purchase |
| GUNKUL     | 5,000,000 | 4.68  | Purchase |
| GUNKUL     | 5,000,000 | 4.76  | Sale     |
| GUNKUL     | 4,000,000 | 4.84  | Purchase |
| GUNKUL     | 6,000,000 | 4.78  | Purchase |
| GUNKUL     | 6,000,000 | 4.89  | Sale     |
| GUNKUL     | 4,000,000 | 5     | Sale     |
| MVP        | 665,000   | 3.46  | Sale     |
| SUSCO      | 100,000   | 3.1   | Purchase |
| UTP        | 1,000     | 19.8  | Purchase |
| WAVE       | 359,600   | 0.55  | Sale     |

#### 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 23 Jul 2021 |           |       |            |       |           | Unit: M.Baht |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------|------------|-------|-----------|--------------|
| Investor Type           | Buy Value | %     | Sell Value | %     | Net Value |              |
| Local Institutions      | 3,944.87  | 6.63  | 2,790.29   | 4.69  | 1,154.58  | -            |
| Proprietary Trading     | 5,214.66  | 8.76  | 5,519.29   | 9.27  | -304.63   | -            |
| Foreign Investors       | 21,733.70 | 36.52 | 23,953.37  | 40.25 | -2,219.68 | -            |

| Local Individuals                                  | 28,614.92    | 48.09 | 27,245.19    | 45.78 | 1,369.73   | -                   |
|--|--------------|-------|--------------|-------|------------|---------------------|
| <b>Monthly Cumulative between 1 - 23 Jul 2021</b>  |              |       |              |       |            |                     |
|  |              |       |              |       |            | <b>Unit: M.Baht</b> |
| Investor Type                                      | Buy          |       | Sell         |       | Net        |                     |
|  | Value        | %     | Value        | %     | Value      | %                   |
| Local Institutions                                 | 89,751.43    | 6.81  | 94,697.13    | 7.18  | -4,945.70  | -                   |
| Proprietary Trading                                | 126,502.67   | 9.6   | 124,225.87   | 9.42  | 2,276.80   | -                   |
| Foreign Investors                                  | 520,606.17   | 39.49 | 534,784.51   | 40.57 | -14,178.34 | -                   |
| Local Individuals                                  | 581,318.28   | 44.1  | 564,471.03   | 42.82 | 16,847.25  | -                   |
| <b>Yearly Cumulative since 1 Jan - 23 Jul 2021</b> |              |       |              |       |            |                     |
|  |              |       |              |       |            | <b>Unit: M.Baht</b> |
| Investor Type                                      | Buy          |       | Sell         |       | Net        |                     |
|  | Value        | %     | Value        | %     | Value      | %                   |
| Local Institutions                                 | 877,158.08   | 7.09  | 922,895.52   | 7.45  | -45,737.44 | -                   |
| Proprietary Trading                                | 1,232,870.24 | 9.96  | 1,224,044.63 | 9.89  | 8,825.61   | -                   |
| Foreign Investors                                  | 4,552,065.92 | 36.77 | 4,642,506.44 | 37.5  | -90,440.53 | -                   |
| Local Individuals                                  | 5,718,359.84 | 46.19 | 5,591,007.49 | 45.16 | 127,352.35 | -                   |

**Total Trading Value 59,508.14 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](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](https://www.ect.go.th/ect_th/download/article/article_20190508184334.pdf)

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