

May 30, 2022

Thai Enquirer Summary

Political News

- Most opposition parties have expressed their stance to disapprove the 2023 annual appropriation which will be discussed in the parliament from May 31 to June 2.
 - ❖ Today the opposition parties will meet to finalize their moves during the annual appropriation discussion.
 - ❖ Yutthapong Charasathian, deputy leader of the Pheu Thai Party, said that the opposition parties intend to disapprove the 2023 annual appropriation as the government has already reached a maximum loan, leaving no budget for country development, and causing citizens to starve.
 - ❖ Despite claims to the contrary, the government continues to purchase military weapons, such as the two F35 warplanes valued at 2,700 million baht that the Air Force plans to purchase for eight planes but do not even come with weapons. He demands an answer from Prime Minister and Minister of Defense General Prayut-Chan-ocha on the necessity of the planes.

- ❖ Regarding the motion of no confidence against each minister under article 151 of the constitution, Yuthapong stated that the Phue Thai Party met on May 24 and agreed to file the motion of no confidence against Chuan Leekpai, speaker of parliament, and begin the motion from July 18-21 and vote from July 20-22.
- ❖ He also said that the MRT Pink Line that operates from Khae Rai to Minburi district is constructed by Northern Bangkok Monorail Company Limited with the BTS company as a major shareholder. The train initially does not reach Muang Thong Thani, but the cabinet suddenly permitted the connection between the Si Rat Station to the Impact Muang Thong Thani Stadium, a nearly 3-kilometer additional distance.
- ❖ Muang Thong Thani is owned by a renowned family, so the land's price is skyrocketing. They also intend to avoid a land tax by planting banana trees, so Yuthapong will raise this issue in the motion of no confidence to General Prayut Chan-o-cha.
- Opposition Move Forward Party (MFP) leader Pita Limjaroenrat, meanwhile, said his party could never approve this budget as it stands due to a lack of focus on supporting economic recovery in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - ❖ He likened the bill to a seriously ill elephant and claimed the majority of the provisions merely address existing needs, while only 30% of the budget has been set aside for future management of the country. The government should better plan its budget to bring about the recovery of the country's economy and raise public hope.
- Meanwhile Niroth Soonthornlekha, MP from the Palang Pracharath Party (PPRP), still believes that the internal dispute within the Thai Economic will not affect the annual appropriation vote because Thammanat Prompao, secretary of the Thai Economic, is a good legislator.
 - ❖ Most of all, the government parties are still harmonious and strong, so Niroth believes that the annual appropriation will be approved. In the last appropriation, the government also followed the opposition party's opinion to withdraw the budget from the submarine project. Those who intend to vote against the appropriation are not good legislators.
 - ❖ He believes the opposition party will send a representative to the appropriation committee to discuss it. If not, they should just resign or stop being pretentious.
- All eyes are on the Election Commission (ECT) meeting today, May 30, to consider the results of the Bangkok governor and council elections and to endorse the positions. The

winner of the Bangkok governor election is Chadchart Sittipunt, number eight independent candidate, who won by 1,386,215 votes.

- ❖ As of now, there are 24 complaints against the governor and council candidates. Chadchart himself receives two including:
 - The first complaint against Chadchart came from political activist Srisuwan Janya, who alleged that his campaign banners amounted to vote-buying as voters could recycle them into bags and aprons.
 - A separate complaint alleges that Chadchart insulted the government system by saying its complicated steps would affect his operations as Bangkok governor
- ❖ Meanwhile, netizens are constantly criticizing Chadchart's two complaints and discussing his fieldworks around Bangkok areas on Twitter using the hashtag #BangkokGovernor.
- The Ratsadon group hosted a political activity, yesterday, May 29, named the “Radsadon’s Market” led by Panupong Jadnok or Mike Rayong at the Suan-Kru Angoon on Soi Thonglor Third in order to hold an auction of the Radsadon leader’s merchandises. Unexpectedly, Chadchart Sittipunt, Bangkok governor-elect, also attended the event and gave a speech.
 - ❖ Rung Panassaya, one of the Radsadon prominent leaders, questioned Chadchart about the repeal of the lese majesties or article 112, to which he replied the Bangkok governor had nothing to do with the law, but he agreed that it should not be weaponized politically. He has been putting up with it for eight years. He admitted that it was not easy to revoke the law.
 - ❖ This discussion later became controversial on social media as some say it may endanger Chadchart.
 - ❖ According to the latest report, Rung Panassaya posted on her Facebook and Twitter that she does not expect anything nor want to endanger him. The question is merely out of her curiosity.



- Yesterday an independent convoy of people arranged a political movement at the Democracy Monument to call out that there are still political prisoners who have not received bail and to demand the repeal of the lèse-majesté or article 112.
 - ❖ The convoy stopped for the night at Wat Ruela Khang in the Nakhon Luang district of Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya province and will keep going until they travel to all provinces.



Economic News

- Today The Oil Fuel Fund Committee, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Energy Supattanapong Punmeechaow, will meet to discuss the weekly diesel price, which

has been fixed at 31.94 baht/liter. Due to global consistently rising prices such as Brent, West Texas, and Dubai, which have already exceeded 100-115 USD/barrel, it is likely that the price will increase by 1 baht under the freeze price of 35 baht/liter.

- ❖ In addition, it is necessary to disburden the Oil Fuel Fund that is currently subsidizing 6.54 baht/liter compared to 5.37 baht/liter on May 22. If the freeze price continues further, the fund may suffer 100 billion baht loss because the bank liquidity via a loan of 20 billion baht is still incomplete. The fund's remaining liquidity is 12 billion baht, or the equivalent of a one-month subsidy.
- Somchai Phornratanacharoen, president of the Thai Wholesale and Retail Association, said that the wholesalers had notified the association that Suntory PepsiCo Beverage (Thailand), Pepsi and other beverages manufacturer, will increase the price of all beverages by 1-2 baht after June 1 due to the rising packaging materials.
 - ❖ It is expected that other beverage company will follow suit as well. Pepsi, in fact, already increased the price at the start of this year by 10 baht per a dozen. This will lead to the rise of many products' prices such as soaps or laundry detergent.
- Suntory PepsiCo Beverage (Thailand) explained the decision to raise the price of Pepsi was made after the cost of plastic bottles and aluminium cans rose. The price hike officially becomes effective from June 1 but will hit shops in July.
 - ❖ The company said the price of a small Pepsi bottle or can will rise by 1 baht, from 10-15 baht to 11-16 baht per item. Meanwhile the retail price of a large bottle will go up by 2 baht, while the wholesale price will increase by 20-24 baht per pack. The price of its other soft-drink brands, including 7-Up and Mirinda, would remain the same.
 - ❖ It said it will offer discounts so retailers could maintain the price of Pepsi throughout June before the hike hits shops in July.
- Manpong Senanarong, Deputy Manager and Head of the Issuer Division of the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET), revealed that 764 listed companies, accounting for 97.4% of 784 companies, submitted operational results in the Q1/2022, revealing that these companies made 4,011,949 million baht in revenue, a 37.5% increase compared to in the Q1/2021. The capital is 3,108,281 million baht or a 42.2% increase.
 - ❖ However, the listed companies still achieved a core profit of 478,793 million, or a 27.6% increase. The contributor to the rising capital is the crude oil price, commodity, and insurance businesses with COVID-19 claims, resulting in 246,852 million baht or 1.7% profit loss.

- ❖ If excluding the insurance businesses, the total revenue of these listed companies will be 275,474 million baht, or a 11.1% increase.

COVID-19 News



Infection data for today are as follows

Total New PCR Infections = 3,854

Total positive cases (ATK/Antigen) = 3,894

Total New Death = 26

Total New Recovery = 6,031

Total Infection including PCR & ATK = 7,748

Total infections so far since outbreak = 4,446,502

Total deaths so far since outbreak = 29,998

Total in Intensive Care Unit (ICU) = 882

Total number on life support (ventilator) = 425

The government's data on 'Positive testing' numbers as a percentage of the tests it undertakes stands @ 10.62% as of May 29.

Details of data for each day can be found @ <https://ddc.moph.go.th/covid19-dashboard/> (All information is in Thai language)

- The Department of Disease Control (DDC) has stopped reporting Covid-19 infections using rapid antigen test kits (ATK) and plans to report only cases that require hospitalisation.
 - ❖ Dr Sumanee Wacharasint, assistant spokeswoman for the Centre for Covid-19 Situation Administration (CCSA), said the change is being proposed to reflect the current situation where most Covid-19 patients have no or mild symptoms and choose home treatment. She discussed the proposed change to the way Covid-19 infections will be reported after positive Covid-19 cases using ATKs were dropped from the DDC's dashboard.
 - ❖ The revised reporting will not affect the Public Health Ministry's monitoring of Covid-19, adding the DDC wants to focus on patients who require hospitalisation. The ministry's case reporting has already been revised to the two-week average, but the CCSA still gives an update of the infections on a daily basis. Changes are being introduced to Covid-19 reporting and, after June 1.

Political News Headlines in Thai Media

- It would be an understatement to say that Senator Wanchai Sornsiri's latest social media commentary is shameless. He took to Facebook to talk about the senate's power to vote for a premier and how easily it was, in his opinion, to curb the senate's power if elected officials decided to leave their interests on the side.

- Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/40484/opinion-appointed-senators-should-look-in-the-mirror-to-see-why-democracy-is-failing-in-thailand/>
- Since pro-democracy protests began in 2019, the current administration have arrested and detained hundreds of youth-led activists on a variety of charges including lese majeste and sedition.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/40475/list-of-detainees-still-in-government-custody-for-protesting-and-assembly/>
- Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha is ready to defend the government's 3.18-trillion-baht 2023 budget bill in the three-day House debate starting on Tuesday, said deputy government spokeswoman Rachada Dhnadirek on Sunday.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2317786/pm-set-to-back-b3tn-budget>
- The Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF) will not back down on its request to purchase US-made F-35 fighter jets, even after the opposition party announced it would use the issue to vote down the 2023 budget bill during an upcoming House debate.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2317774/f-35-purchase-plan-in-peril>
- A large majority of people are not surprised by Chadchart Sittipunt's election as Bangkok governor, with some saying it may diminish the government's popularity, according to the result of an opinion survey by the National Institute of Development Administration, or Nida Poll.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2317674/majority-not-surprised-by-chadcharts-victory-poll>
- In the event the 2023 budget bill is voted down in the coming three-day House debate, the government will likely dissolve the House, which will inevitably result in the deliberation of the two draft laws required for a new general election being suspended, said Deputy Prime Minister Wissanu Krea-ngam.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2317458/minnows-deny-plot-to-kill-budget-bill>

- Change was what the people wanted when they cast their ballots in the May 22 Bangkok governor election, according to an opinion poll by Suan Dusit Rajabhat University, or Suan Dusit Poll.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2317370/poll-bangkok-people-voted-for-change>
- Bangkok governor-elect Chadchart Sittipunt said on Sunday he had no worries over two complaints filed about his election campaign.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/40016075>
- Bangkok governor-elect Chadchart Sittipunt on Friday revealed two members of the team who will help him administer the capital city.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2317174/chadchart-shows-off-two-new-recruits>
- Deputy Prime Minister Prawit Wongsuwon on Friday sidestepped questions about whether Thamanat Prompow's Setthakij Thai Party will support the Prayut Chan-o-cha government during the next censure debate.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2317006/prawit-refuses-to-be-drawn-on-thamanat>

Economic News Headlines in Thai Media

- Steel companies listed on the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) saw shares gain on Friday after Japan's biggest steelmaker warned of higher prices to sustain its profit margins.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/40489/steel-stocks-rise-as-japan-steel-titan-hints-price-hike/>
- Thailand's exports in April shrank to a three-month low, with a jump of 9.9 per cent from a year earlier, the Ministry of Commerce reported on Friday.

- Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/40471/aprils-exports-drop-to-3-month-low-as-war-in-ukraine-rages-on/>
- Thai workers who were sacked last year from a factory supplying global lingerie brands including Victoria's Secret will receive 285.2 million baht (US\$8.36 million), in what labour activists say is the biggest settlement of its kind in the global garment industry.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2317354/victorias-secret-to-pay-8-3m-settlement-to-laid-off-workers>
- The price of Pepsi in shops is set to rise by up to 2 baht per bottle/can due to increasing packaging costs, the manufacturer said on Sunday.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/business/40016078>
- The Oil Fuel Fund Office is asking the government to inject money into the fund from its central budget to increase its liquidity as it continues to subsidise the price of diesel, says office director Wisak Watanasap.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2317258/oil-fuel-fund-asks-for-liquidity-boost>
- The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) is planning to launch a bidding process to secure private investment in the Grey Line monorail project within the next two years, with an investment budget of 27 billion baht.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2317234/private-funds-sought-for-grey-line>
- Thailand's economic activity showed signs of slowing in the second quarter as a result of the higher cost of living, says World Bank Thailand.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2317262/higher-living-costs-slow-local-economy>
- Thailand and Vietnam are looking into the possibility of working together to raise rice prices to increase their bargaining power in the global market, government spokesman Thanakorn Wangboonkongchana said.

- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2317150/prayut-eyes-rice-hike-plan-with-vietnam>
- The Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT) on Saturday issued airlines with a special Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) on the country's latest entry policy, reflecting cancellation of the Thailand Pass system for returning Thai nationals from Wednesday, June 1.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/40016049>
- Fares to cross the Chao Phraya by ferry will go up by 0.5 baht per trip from Wednesday (June 1) due to the rising price of diesel fuel, the Thai Boats Association (TBA) announced on Saturday.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/40016047>
- The Cabinet will still have the last say in the new Bangkok governor's decision over the dispute with Green Line operator Bangkok Mass Transit System (BTSC), Deputy PM Wissanu Krea-ngam said on Saturday.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/40016045>
- Over 150 motorcycle delivery riders rode to Energy Ministry headquarters in Chatuchak district on Friday to demand the government fixes the price of gasohol at 38 baht per litre.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/40016037>
- Scrapping the Test & Go scheme has been a blessing for the Thai tourism industry, with some 20,000 foreigners landing in the country daily.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/40016081>
- The Finance Ministry is considering the private sector's proposal to delay and reduce collection of the land and building tax because businesses are struggling with the double whammy of the impact of the pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine war, says minister Arkhom Termpittayapaisith.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2317954/ministry-to-mull-delay-of-land-and-building-tax-collection>

Issues to be watched out for

- March 1-May 21, 2022 – The parliament is set to go into recess.
- May, 2022 – Ordinary parliamentary sessions resume.
- May 17, 2022 – The National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC) is set to announce its forecast for 1st quarter GDP growth.
- May 21, 2022 – The date for by-election in Ratchaburi's Constituency 3 to fill in a seat left vacant by former Palang Pracharat Party MP Pareena Kraikupt who was disqualified by the Supreme Court's ruling over her use of forest land.
- May 22, 2022 – The new parliamentary session is set to begin.
- May 22, 2022 – Tentative date for Bangkok governor and Pattaya Mayor City elections
- May 31–June 2, 2022 – The budget bill for the 2022 fiscal year is scheduled to be debated in the House of Representatives.
- June 6, 2022 – Trade Policy and Strategy Office makes its monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for the month of May 2022.
- June 16, 2022 – The D-Day for the government's selling of lottery tickets at 80 baht apiece via the Pao Tang App.
- July, 2022 – The wage committee is set to meet to calculate the new minimum wage rate.
- June 8, 2022 – The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) makes the decision on the policy rate.
- July 5, 2022 – Trade Policy and Strategy Office makes its monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for the month of June 2022.
- August 5, 2022 – Trade Policy and Strategy Office makes its monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for the month of July 2022.
- August 10, 2022 – The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) makes the decision on the policy rate.

- August 24, 2022 – The last day as per the current constitution for Prayut to be the Prime Minister under the 2016 constitution Article 158 which forbids a person to be in Prime Minister’s position for more than 8-years continuously or with breaks.
- September 5, 2022 – Trade Policy and Strategy Office makes its monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for the month of August 2022.
- September 28, 2022- The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) makes the decision on the policy rate.
- October 5, 2022 – Trade Policy and Strategy Office makes its monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for the month of August 2022.
- November, 2022 – The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit is to be held.
- November 5, 2022 – Trade Policy and Strategy Office makes its monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for the month of October 2022.
- November 30, 2022 – The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) makes the decision on the policy rate.
- December 6, 2022 – Trade Policy and Strategy Office makes its monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for the month of November 2022.
- January, 2023 – The hike in the daily minimum wage is set to become official.

Key Data

SET Index	1,638.75	+5.02
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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 May 27, 2022

Buying, Selling or Transfer of shares by Owners/Management

Stock Code	Volume	Value	Action
AIMCG	46,800	5.17	Sale
BGRIM	31,000	33.25	Purchase
BRI	30,000	11.3	Sale
COM7	4,500,000	-	Acceptance of Transfer
COM7	4,500,000	-	Acceptance of Transfer
COM7	4,500,000	-	Transfer
JMART	886,100	58.92	Purchase
JP	300,000	6.05	Purchase
MEGA	149,091,446 Revoked by Reporter	53.5	Purchase
MEGA	149,091,446 Revoked by Reporter	53.5	Purchase

MEGA	2,786,756	53.5	Purchase
NDR	539,200	0.51	Sale
PRINC	200,000	5.83	Sale
PRINC	100,000	5.91	Sale
PPS	16,800	0.69	Sale
PPS	383,200	0.68	Sale
SHR	100,000	4.64	Sale
	Revoked by Reporter		
SHR	300,000	2.62	Sale
	Revoked by Reporter		
SHR	100,000	4.66	Sale
	Revoked by Reporter		
SHR	100,000	4.66	Sale

SHR	60,000	2.64	Sale
	Revoked by Reporter		
SHR	60,000	4.64	Sale
SHR	60,000	4.64	Sale
	Revoked by Reporter		
SHR	300,000	4.62	Sale
SHR	100,000	4.64	Sale
SPC	22,100	69	Sale
SMD	1,200,000	-	Transfer
SMD	448,000	13	Sale
SR	3,000,000	1.69	Sale
SR	900,000	1.75	Sale
TMILL	100,000	4.02	Sale
TEAMG	70,000	9.15	Purchase
TIGER	1,411,400	2.05	Sale
DTAC	444,300	44.25	Purchase
VGI	200,000	4.7	Purchase



XD, XE or XM or other notifications

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

Trading Breakdown on the Stock Exchange of Thailand

Daily as of 27 May 2022						
						Unit: M.Baht
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	5,181.09	7.85	4,581.75	6.94	599.34	-
Proprietary Trading	5,903.10	8.94	5,655.72	8.57	247.38	-
Foreign Investor	32,511.80	49.26	31,403.99	47.58	1,107.81	-
Local Individuals	22,404.13	33.95	24,358.67	36.91	-1,954.54	-
Monthly Cumulative between 1-27 May 2022						
						Unit: M.Baht
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	100,130.28	8.16	95,770.55	7.80	4,359.73	-
Proprietary Trading	106,511.75	8.68	104,335.88	8.50	2,175.87	-
Foreign Investors	615,822.86	50.17	605,019.49	49.29	10,803.38	-
Local Individuals	405,053.28	33.00	422,392.26	34.41	-17,338.98	-
Yearly Cumulative since 1 Jan -27 May 2022						
						Unit: M.Baht
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	580,544.89	7.27	671,503.58	8.41	-90,958.69	-
Proprietary Trading	695,137.70	8.70	693,260.19	8.68	1,877.51	-
Foreign Investors	3,742,124.72	46.85	3,609,588.00	45.19	132,536.72	-
Local Individuals	2,969,876.94	37.18	3,013,332.48	37.72	-43,455.53	-

Total Trading Value 66,000.12 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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