

August 26, 2022

## Thai Enquirer News Summary

### Political News

- Embattled suspended Prime Minister Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha, has switched to a work-from-home mode.
  - ❖ Yesterday the 2014 coup leader who ousted an elected government in May 2014 to assume Prime Minister's role, failed to appear at the Ministry of Defence, as hundreds of reporters flocked to the Ministry of Defense to see Gen. Prayut come to work.
  - ❖ Gen. Prayut, who was temporarily suspended from duty pending the court's ruling on his tenure by the Constitutional Court, did not turn up to work and opted to undertake video call from home.
- Meanwhile Deputy PM Gen Prawit Wongsuwan, who was also a caretaker PM, asked Deputy PM Wissanu Krea-ngam to inform the press that he would start working from his home in the Five Provinces Bordering Forest Preservation Foundation from now on.
  - ❖ He did not turn up at the Government House to act as acting Prime Minister.
- Army Chief Gen Narongpan Jitkaewtae revealed to the press that a meeting to discuss the transfers of general-level military officials will take place soon.

- ❖ When asked if there would be a shift in the army chief or not, Gen Narongpan replied, “Don’t believe in rumors. Instead of spreading the rumors, I want you to report something that will benefit citizens to help improve the country.”
- ❖ The general then began to praise Gen Prayut, “Everyone should take Gen Prayut as an example because he is the leader who always obeys the Constitution, a respectful military official who abides by the laws.”
- Meanwhile, Paiboon Nititawan, Deputy leader of the Palang Pracharath Party (PPRP), gave away the freshly published book called “Big Brother Pom (Prawit’s nickname), the Lovely Brother” to the press saying it was a biography of Gen Prawit Wongsuwan.
  - ❖ Paiboon also said, “Gen Prawit is the most suitable man to be an acting PM because he has run this position many times.”



- The Thai Move Institute released survey results on who should be the next prime minister based on a nationwide sample size of 5,000 people over the age of 18, which were collected from August 15-19. The top five figures are as follows:
  - ❖ Paetongtarn Shinawatra, head of the Pheu Thai Family, scooped 33.88%.
  - ❖ Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha received 29.16%.
  - ❖ Pita Limjaroenrat, leader of the Move Forward Party, received 17.02%.
  - ❖ Jurin Laksanawisit, leader of the Democrat, received 7.28%.
  - ❖ Anutin Charnvirakul, leader of the Bhumjai Thai, received 6.34%.



❖ The results on which party should run the country are as follows:

- The Pheu Thai Party scooped 33.46%
- Palang Pracharath 28.30%
- Move Forward 17.30%
- Democrat 8.02%
- Bhumjai Thai 6.72%.



- Rawee Maschamadol, the leader of the New Palang Dharma Party, filed a joint petition with House Speaker Chuan Leekpai yesterday to the Constitutional Court seeking a ruling on the party-list MP calculation method before the PM forwarded it to the King.

❖ Rawee sought 2 rulings:

- Whether dividing the party-list votes with 100 seats violates the constitution or not
- Whether the law-drafting process is legal or not.

- ❖ There are 106 lawmakers (80 MPs and 26 senators) who signed in this petition mostly from the Bhumjai Thai Party.
  - ❖ Other famous MPs such as Niroth Soonthornka, government chief whip, Weerakorn Khamprakob, MP of the Palang Pracharath, Sarunwut Sarunket, MP of the Pheu Chart, and Chatchawan Kong-udom, MP of the Thai Local Power Party, also joined in this petition.
  - ❖ The senators who signed in the petition were Gen. Aknit Muensawat, Thawil Pliensri, Gen Thawatchai Samut Sakhon, and Gen Somjate Boonthanom, for example.
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### **Economic News**

- SCBX Plc (SCB), formerly called Siam Commercial Bank Plc, shares surged to being the most actively traded on the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) after SCBX announced that it was ‘terminating’ its planned acquisition of 51% stake in the crypto asset firm – Bitkub.
  - ❖ “The Board of Directors’ Meeting No. 15/2022 of SCBS passed a resolution approving SCBS to terminate the Transaction, effective 25 August 2022,” Arthid Nanthawithaya, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) told in a statement to the SET.
  - ❖ He said that after the due diligence exercise did not reveal any significant abnormal issues which are irremediable, ‘Bitkub is currently in the process of resolving various issues as per the recommendations and orders of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Thailand, which are uncertain in terms of timeframe in resolving those issues.’
  - ❖ The SCB stock hovered at 110.50 Baht as of yesterday or a 6-Baht increase (+5.74%) while the KUB coin, a Thai-based cryptocurrency created by Bitkub Online Co, slumped to 62.60 Baht (-15.47%) from its all-time high of 580 Baht on December 28, 2021.
- Thai household debt has exceeded 500,000 baht this year, fuelled by the higher cost of living, according to results of a survey by the University of the Thai Chamber of Commerce’s Centre for Economic and Business Forecasting.
  - ❖ Assoc Prof Thanavath Phonvichai, the university’s president and the centre’s chief adviser, said that Thailand’s household debt on average stood at 501,711 baht this

year, a 3.7% increase from last year. The debt per household was the highest since the centre began its annual survey on Thai household debt 13 years ago.

- ❖ He blamed the increase on higher prices of food and consumer products caused by higher fuel prices, as the country’s economy is yet to fully recover from the Covid-19 pandemic.



- The Ministry of Commerce has finally allowed three instant noodle brands including Mama, Wai Wai, and Yum Yum, to raise their prices by 1 Baht from 6 to 7 Baht, starting from August 25, 2022. In response to the hike, many retail stores adjusted their instant noodle prices to 7 Baht, but most convenient stores and supermarkets still maintained the old price and launched a promotion such as buying a pack of 10 for 55 Baht instead.
  - ❖ However, some concerned citizens urged the ministry to decrease the palm oil prices, which are currently sold at 58-60 Baht and once leaped to over 70, even though the fresh palm prices have gradually dropped to 34.50-35.25 Baht already.
  - ❖ The current fresh palm prices only reflect around 50 Baht for a bottle of palm oil, according to reports.
- Yupapin Wangviwat, the chief financial officer of Gulf Energy Development Plc (GULF), revealed that GULF would likely see an 80% growth increase this year compared to last year’s revenue of 49.98 billion Baht. This year’s exact revenue was still withheld due to the fact that GULF had not been able to complete the merger deal yet.
  - ❖ She also stated that GULF intended to participate in the bidding for renewable energy electricity generation projects in Thailand, which the government planned to open in 2-3 months.

- The number of digital lotteries for the draw on September 16 will be increased to 11.45 million tickets, according to Lawan Sangsnit, chairman of the Government Lottery Office, and will be available for sale on September 2 at the same price of 80 Baht.
  - ❖ Records revealed that there are around 2.8 million people who bought digital lotteries since the first to sixth draw. 500,000 people are regular buyers or around 17%.
  - ❖ The least number of tickets that one person buys is 2-5 tickets or 50%, 63 people buy more than 1,000 tickets. There are those who buy over 3,000 tickets per one draw as well.

### General News

- This has been spending as much as 7-hours and 4 minutes each day online on internet.
  - ❖ Electronic Transaction Development Agency (ETDA) has come out with details of age group and time spent by each age group.

ผลสำรวจพฤติกรรม ผู้ใช้อินเทอร์เน็ตในไทย ปี 65 คนไทยใช้อินเทอร์เน็ต เฉลี่ยต่อวัน 7 ชั่วโมง 4 นาที	
กลุ่มเจนวาย (อายุ 22-41 ปี)	8 ชั่วโมง 55 นาที
กลุ่มเจนซี (อายุน้อยกว่า 22 ปี)	8 ชั่วโมง 24 นาที
กลุ่มเจนเอ็กซ์ (อายุ 42-57 ปี)	5 ชั่วโมง 52 นาที
กลุ่มเบบี้บูมเมอร์ (อายุ 58 ปีขึ้นไป)	3 ชั่วโมง 21 นาที

- Age group below 21-year 8 hours 24 minutes/day
- Age group 21-41 years spent 8 hours 55 minutes/day
- Age group 42-57 years 5 hours 52 minutes/day
- Age group above 58 years 3 hours 21 minutes/day



## COVID-19 News

วันที่: 8/26/2022 7:29:27 AM



Infection data for today are as follows

Total New PCR Infections = 1,749

Total New Death = 28

Total New Recovery = 1,601

Total infections so far since outbreak = 4,643,012

Total deaths so far since outbreak = 32,166

Total in Intensive Care Unit (ICU) = 766

Total number on life support (ventilator) = 377

The government's data on 'Positive testing' numbers as a percentage of the tests it undertakes stands at 6.68%.

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

## **Political News Headlines in Thai Media**

- In probably the biggest political news in Thailand in a long time, 2014 coup leader and incumbent Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha was suspended by the Constitutional Court to undertake duties as Premier until the court delivers a ruling on his 8-year tenure.
  - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/43340/four-takeaways-from-prime-minister-prayuts-suspension-by-the-constitutional-court/>
- Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha, temporarily suspended from prime ministerial duties, is adjusting to working from home and anywhere outside government offices, say sources.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2377003/prayut-in-work-from-anywhere-mode>
- Court of Appeal upholds the Criminal Court ruling that sentenced to death former deputy commerce minister Banyin Tangpakorn for the murder of a billionaire.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2376983/banyins-death-sentence-upheld>
- Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha opted to take part in a Defence Council meeting via video teleconference instead of physically attending the meeting at the Defence Ministry in Bangkok's Phra Nakhon district on Thursday.
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/politics/40019355>
- Caretaker Prime Minister Prawit Wongsuwan cannot dissolve Parliament or appoint any new minister, as both those decisions need royal approval, a law professor said on Thursday.
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/politics/40019351>
- A host of tasks are awaiting Caretaker Prime Minister Prawit Wongsuwan on Thursday and Friday, according to the Royal Thai Government website.
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/politics/40019337>
- The Secretariat of the Senate has assigned an ethics committee to probe whether a senator had abused his power to help his alleged mistress, a police corporal accused of abusing her maid, get a state job.



- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2377106/senate-panel-to-investigate-abuse-claim>
  - Gen Prawit Wongsuwon is expected to seize the opportunity while serving as acting prime minister to consolidate his ruling party ahead of the next election.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2377086/prawit-offers-pprp-window-of-opportunity>
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### **Economic News Headlines in Thai Media**

- Nearly all participated households with a combined income of 50,000 Baht per month are carrying an average debt of over 500,000 Baht per household, the highest average on record, according to a survey that was released by the University of the Thai Chamber of Commerce (UTCC) on Thursday.
  - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/43385/thais-have-record-high-household-debts-66-admit-to-missing-at-least-1-installment-payment-as-economy-slows/>
- The rice subsidy scheme by the government of General Prayut Chan-o-cha is being misused by politicians and it is hampering the development of the rice farming industry, the Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI) said.
  - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/43368/govt-s-rice-scheme-is-hampering-development-as-politicians-use-it-to-gain-popularity-says-tdri/>
- The Federation of Thai Industries (FTI) announced that it will be decreasing the country's vehicle production targets for 2022 to 1,75 million from 1.8 million it has anticipated earlier.
  - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/43364/thailand-slashes-vehicle-production-targets-for-2022-cites-geopolitical-factors-and-semiconductor-shortages/>
- SCBX Plc (SCB), formerly called Siam Commercial Bank Plc, has just announced that it was 'terminating' its planned acquisition of 51% stake in the crypto asset firm – Bitkub.
  - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/43357/scb-abandons-plans-to-acquire-51-of-bitkub/>

- A missing section of reinforcing rods is believed to have caused the collapse of a concrete beam that fell onto three passing vehicles on Rama II Road on July 31, killing two people and injuring two others, a fact-finding committee has concluded.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2376975/repairs-may-have-caused-rama-ii-beam-collapse>
- Thailand's sovereign credit rating has been retained at “A-” with a “stable outlook” by Japan’s Rating and Investment Information Inc (R&I), according to a senior Thai official.
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/business/econ/40019363>
- The national flag carrier, Thai Airways International, has managed to sell five Airbus A340 series planes that had been parked unused for over 13 years for 350 million baht.
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/business/corporate/40019354>
- Thailand's retail e-commerce market is expected to reach 4 trillion baht in 2025, up from 817 billion this year.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2377256/retail-e-commerce-to-hit-b4tn-in-2025>
- The tripartite committee considering minimum daily wage hikes is expected to reach its final decision today amid concern that too much of a raise could be detrimental to workers and businesses.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2377091/wage-hikes-likely-fixed-by-friday>
- SET-listed digital solutions provider Turnkey Communication Services (TKC) is pivoting towards six major smart solution sectors to capitalise on the megatrend of digital transformation, which currently has an annual market size of 10 billion baht.
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2377251/tkc-pivots-to-b10bn-digital-transformation-market>
- SET-listed TPI Polene Power Plc (TPIPP), Thailand's largest waste-to-energy power plant developer and operator by capacity, is allocating capital spending worth almost 10 billion baht between the second half of this year and 2023 to develop two new facilities and use more refuse-derived fuel to replace coal, which is still used at some of its power plants.

- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2377286/tpipp-sets-aside-b10bn-for-capex>

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

- August 24, 2022 – Gen. Prayut Chan-o-cha's 8th anniversary as a Prime Minister.
- August 24-26, 2022 – The House of Representatives discusses the 2nd reading and 3rd reading of the 2023 annual budget bill.
- August 29-30, 2022 – The Senate discusses the 2023 annual budget bill
- September 5, 2022 – Trade Policy and Strategy Office makes its monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for the month of August 2022.
- September 18, 2022 – Prorogation of a 1/2022 session.
- 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 1, 2022 – Opening of a 2/2022 session.
- November 5, 2022 – Trade Policy and Strategy Office makes its monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for the month of October 2022.
- November 18-19, 2022 – APEC Thailand 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.
- February 28, 2023 – Prorogation of a 2/2022 session.

- March 24, 2022 – The current House of Representatives' expiration of the time of office, the Constitution particularizes the new election of the House of Representatives within 45 days.

### **Key Data**

<b>SET Index</b>	<b>1,643.52</b>	<b>+11.97</b>
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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 August 25 ,2022**

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

<b>Stock Code</b>	<b>Volume</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Action</b>
BGT	50,000	3.4	Sale
BIS	5,000	9.5	Purchase
CRANE	30,952,377	1	Sale

	Revoked by Reporter		
CRANE	30,952,377	1	Sale
CPI	150,000	3.37	Purchase
JR	265,000	7.05	Purchase
MINT	56	33.75	Sale
PG	5,000	7.21	Purchase
PRG	50,000	13.3	Sale
PRINC	120,000,000	6.98	Sale
PRINC	80,000,000	6.98	Sale
PROEN	15,000	6.65	Purchase
PPS	500,000	0.62	Sale
SAK	50,000	7.55	Sale
SA	104,000	8.84	Purchase
SA	50,000	8.95	Purchase
SIMAT	60,500	2.5	Purchase
SPALI	100,000	19.5	Purchase
SPALI	100,000	19.5	Purchase
TRU	20,000	7	Sale
TSR	20,000	5.35	Purchase
UVAN	100,000	7.38	Purchase
KUN	13,200,000	2.6	Sale
KUN	13,200,000	2.6	Purchase
KUN	13,200,000	2.6	Purchase
KUN	13,200,000	2.6	Sale
W	94,900	0.04	Sale
W	17,432,900	0.03	Sale

### **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 25 August 2022						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
<b>Unit: M.Baht</b>						

Local Institutions	6,541.91	9.00	6,146.29	8.46	395.62	-
Proprietary Trading	7,348.32	10.11	6,952.54	9.57	395.78	-
Foreign Investor	30,935.67	42.58	29,063.21	40.00	1,872.46	-
Local Individuals	27,823.30	38.30	30,487.15	41.96	-2,663.85	-
<b>Monthly Cumulative between 1-25 August 2022</b>						
Unit: M.Baht						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	108,227.13	8.68	120,377.67	9.65	-12,150.53	-
Proprietary Trading	110,252.35	8.84	113,587.17	9.11	-3,334.82	-
Foreign Investors	601,376.18	48.23	548,596.86	43.99	52,779.32	-
Local Individuals	427,117.63	34.25	464,411.60	37.24	-37,293.96	-
<b>Yearly Cumulative since 1 Jan -25 August 2022</b>						
Unit: M.Baht						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	894,257.35	7.54	1,005,220.23	8.48	-110,962.88	-
Proprietary Trading	1,021,764.42	8.62	1,024,076.55	8.64	-2,312.13	-
Foreign Investors	5,661,484.44	47.75	5,491,354.32	46.32	170,130.11	-
Local Individuals	4,278,879.42	36.09	4,335,734.52	36.57	-56,855.10	-

**Total Trading Value 72,649.19 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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