



August 29, 2022

Thai Enquirer News Summary

Political News

- Sanhaphot Suksrimuang, Nakhon Si Thammarat MP of the Palang Pracharath Party (PPRP), revealed that there should be a Cabinet reshuffle to allow the PPRP members to become a minister and oversee the Southern region in preparation for the next election.
 - ❖ He added that the Democrat and Bhumjai Thai ministers are dominating the Southern region and that the PPRP might not have anything to combat against them.
 - ❖ Meanwhile, Thanakorn Wangboonkongchana, party-list MP of the Palang Pracharath Party, said that the PPRP MPs in the South are preparing to visit Nakhon Si Thammarat province on September 4 to promote Gen Prayut Chan-ocha and Gen Prawit Wongsuwan.
- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Health Anutin Charnvirakul and his Bhumjai Thai Party members hit a rally at Hat Yai district in Songkhla province to debut its 7 constituency MP candidates and 2 party-list candidates with over 6,000 people attending.
 - ❖ Anutin said that his party did not aim for a landslide victory but rather a more realistic one. He added that he wanted to seize at least 8 constituency seats from Songkhla province as he already had one.

- ❖ “We have the policy to launch a 3-year debt moratorium for those affected by the Coronavirus to allow people to get back on track. Only a foolish government demands citizens to pay debts in a time of crisis,” Anutin stated.



- Khana Lom Luam Prachachon’s co-leaders, Jatuporn Prompan and Nitithorn Lumlue held a demonstration at Lan Khon Muang, Bangkok, yesterday to announce that they would stage more protests around Bangkok’s surrounding provinces before returning to Bangkok next week to stage a massive protest against the government.
 - ❖ Nitithorn said that Prayut was trying to play dirty regarding the Constitutional Court’s ruling on his 8-year tenure in a premiership, citing that one judge who voted to suspend Prayut from duty will reach his retirement on October 21. As a result, there will be only eight judges left, raising the possibility of a tie in the ruling and the need for re-ruling.
- Former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra is set to hold his bi-weekly talk tomorrow
 - ❖ It is expected that he will talk about the issue related to the suspension of embattled 2014 coup leader Prayut Chan-o-cha and his suspension from duty.



- Most people in Thailand are not worried that the battle over the PM’s tenure will bring protesters to the streets and spark widespread political unrest, a recent survey showed.
 - ❖ A majority of Constitutional Court judges on Wednesday voted to accept the opposition’s petition seeking a verdict on General Prayut Chan-o-cha’s tenure as prime minister. Upon accepting the case, the court suspended Prayut from duty until a verdict is issued. Taking advantage of this, pro-democracy protesters are getting ready to launch rallies to demand Prayut’s resignation.
 - ❖ Meanwhile, a nationwide survey was conducted on August 24-26 by the National Institute of Development Administration (Nida). The survey was on 1,312 respondents aged 18 and above from different backgrounds.



- Defense Ministry will hold the “Defense & Security 2022” exhibition at IMPACT Arena, Exhibition and Convention Center, Muang Thong Thani today with Defense Minister and the army chiefs attending.
 - ❖ Usually, Deputy PM Prawit Wongsowan who is now the caretaker PM would attend the event, but this year suspended embattled Prime Minister who has seen his duties been suspended - Prayut Chan-o-cha who is still an active Defense Minister is expected to attend the event himself.
 - ❖ Meanwhile, Caretaker PM Prawit will preside over a meeting of the Police Commission and the National Police Policy Commission at the Royal Thai Police Office to discuss the appointment of a new national police chief.
 - ❖ Initially, sources say that Pol. Gen. Damrongsak Kittiprapha, Deputy police chief, is set to become the new national police chief as ordered by Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha.
 - ❖ As for the Cabinet meeting on August 30, caretaker PM Prawit will chair the meeting for the very first time, and it is still unclear whether Prayut will appear or not.
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Economic News

- The Federation of Thai Industries' chairman, Kriengkrai Thiennukul, stated that the private sector recognized the importance of raising the daily minimum wage, but he was also concerned about rising costs for the private sector, such as the 0.25% policy rate, higher labour wages, electricity bills, transportation costs, and import expenses.
 - ❖ Therefore, he urged that the government should aid the private sector as well by gradually raising fuel or electricity prices, for example.
 - ❖ Worawut Kanjanakul, president of The Home Building Association (HBA), revealed that the rising daily minimum wage has a direct impact on the real estate business as the business is currently facing a labor shortage of over 3,000 people. The new wage will cause the construction costs of a house to go up by 25% to 30% and the house price by 3%.
 - ❖ The HBA, however, will not raise the prices immediately, according to Worawut, as he still wanted to assess the situation.

- ❖ The 2022 daily minimum wage is set to be increased by 5.02%, tentatively from October 1st, pending final deliberation by the cabinet. This would raise the average to 337 baht, according to Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Labour Boonchob Suttamanaswong.
- ❖ The daily minimum wage varies by province. With adjustments, the highest minimum daily wage of 354 baht will apply in Chonburi, Rayong and Phuket. The lowest, of 328 baht, will apply in Yala, Pattani, Narathiwat, Nan and Udon Thani, with 353 baht in Bangkok, Nonthaburi, Nakhon Pathom, Pathum Thani, Samut Prakan and Samut Sakhon.
- ❖ The outcome of the meeting will be submitted to the cabinet for approval, with October 1st, 2022 slated as the implementation date.



- Bangkok governor Chadchart Sittipunt said that he planned to revise the city planning of Bangkok, which has remained unchanged for over 10 years.
- ❖ The new city plan proposed in 2021 must also be reviewed, Chadchart said, because the environment and the usage of lands in Bangkok have changed drastically. The governor would also enforce a land tax to fix traffic and flooding problems as well as arrange a green zone to adequately satisfy the citizens' needs.

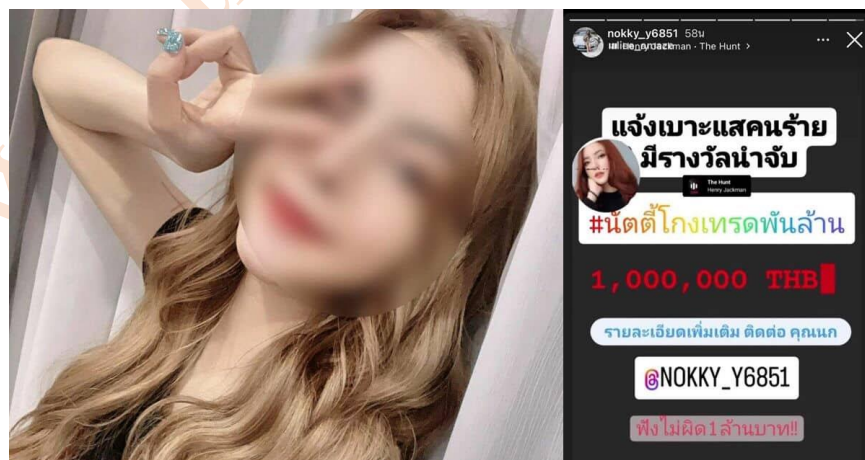


❖ The new city plan is expected to take effect in 2023.

- Famous lawyer Paisan Ruangrit accompanied 30 fraud victims to press legal action against Natthamon Khongchak or “Natty”, a well-known Youtuber who allegedly defrauded over 2 billion Baht in a forex scam from reportedly 6,000 victims.

❖ Natty is currently on a hunt list worth one million Baht, according to an Instagram account namely nokky_y6851.

❖ The alleged victim who offered one million Baht as a prize for Natty’s information reasoned that her case is not progressing as there has not been an arrest warrant on her yet. Some alleged victims have their houses and cars reclaimed as they lost all the money for Natty. The victim said they had 1% hope to retrieve their money.



COVID-19 News



Infection data for today are as follows

Total New PCR Infections = 1,273

Total New Death = 26

Total New Recovery = 2,198

Total infections so far since outbreak = 4,647,685

Total deaths so far since outbreak = 32,248

Total in Intensive Care Unit (ICU) = 760

Total number on life support (ventilator) = 371

The government's data on 'Positive testing' numbers as a percentage of the tests it undertakes stands at 6.25%.

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

- General Prayut Chan-o-cha's legal team will cite two sections of the 2017 Constitution to support their argument that he has not reached his eight-year term limit as prime minister.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/politics/40019452>
- A majority of people do not worry that protests against Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha over his 8-year tenure in the premiership might send the country into chaos, and believe the protests will not force him to resign or dissolve the House of Representatives, 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/2378693/majority-not-worried-by-anti-prayut-protests-over-8-year-tenure-poll>
- The sixth and last suspect in a high-profile robbery 11 years ago that led to former transport permanent secretary Supoj Saplom being found guilty of being unusually wealthy has been caught.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2378415/last-supoj-burglary-suspect-caught-in-laos>
- A deputy government spokeswoman has denied speculation about a cabinet reshuffle or House dissolution after the Constitutional Court suspended Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha as prime minister pending its ruling on his tenure in office.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2378385/no-dissolution-and-no-reshuffle-insists-govt>
- Organisers of the anti-government protests have insisted they need to keep the movement going as they shift their focus from seeking the ouster of prime minister Prayut Chan-o-cha to rooting out the clique they claim holds the regime together.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2378405/jatuporn-protests-must-go-on>
- A probe by the Internal Security Operations Command (Isoc)'s Region 4 Forward Command has found a police corporal, accused of abusing her maid, had been assigned a temporary role at the agency despite there being no record of her actually performing any duties.

- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2378425/no-record-of-maid-abuser-working-for-isoc>
 - The Supreme Court yesterday suspended Deputy Education Minister Kanokwan Vilawan from performing her duties after accepting a petition accusing her of serious ethical misconduct in a land encroachment case.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2378045/kanokwan-suspended-over-land>
 - The Sang Anakhot Thai (Building Thailand's Future) Party will unveil its candidate for prime minister once the bill on the election of MPs is enacted into law.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2378881/sang-anakhot-thai-poised-to-reveal-pm-choice>
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Economic News Headlines in Thai Media

- Thailand's exports expanded by 4.3% in July and 11.5% for the first 7 months of 2022, thanks to weak Baht, the Ministry of Commerce said on Friday.
- Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/43438/thailands-exports-expanded-by-11-5-during-the-first-7-months-of-2022/>
- Thailand's household debt reached 14.65 trillion Baht or 89.2% of the gross domestic product (GDP) as of the 1st quarter of 2022, up 3.6% from quarter-to-quarter, the National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC) said on Friday.
- Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/43422/thailands-household-debt-rises-by-3-6-in-q1-reaches-14-65-trillion-baht-as-npls-rise-says-nesdc/>
- The number of unemployed people in Thailand has dropped to 550,000 during the 2nd quarter from 607,000 during the 1st quarter of 2022, thanks to economic recovery, the National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC) said.
- Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/43419/thailand-sees-unemployment-numbers-decline-in-q2-as-economy-starts-to-recovery-says-nesdc/>

- The National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) on Friday released “5 Facts on the merger of True Corporation Plc (TRUE) and Total Access Communication Plc (DTAC) to counter “fake news” about the deal.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/43412/nbtc-delays-planned-merger-of-dtac-true-for-another-month-clears-the-air-for-fake-news/>
- The Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs has advised job seekers to exercise great caution when responding to online offers of highly paid jobs in Cambodia, Myanmar or the Philippines, saying that they may end up being victimised and paying a large ransom for their safe return to Thailand.
 - Link- <https://www.thaipbsworld.com/thai-job-seekers-warned-about-offers-of-highly-paid-work-in-myanmar-cambodia-and-the-philippines/>
- The Kratom Plant Act has been promulgated with legal terms clearly specified concerning the exploitation of its medicinal property and its use being off-limits to the weak and vulnerable.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2378483/kratom-plant-act-takes-effect>
- SET-listed Energy Absolute (EA), a renewable energy and electric vehicle (EV) developer and operator, expects to enjoy revenue growth of 20% for the fourth consecutive year in 2022 thanks mainly to its growing commercial EV businesses.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2378210/ea-expects-revenue-to-rise-20-again-this-year>
- Avaada Group, the Indian equity partner of Thai energy firm PTT Group, has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to inject US\$5 billion into a green ammonia plant with the Rajasthan state government’s Department of Industries and Commerce.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2378196/avaada-signs-5bn-green-ammonia-mou>
- Dr Boon Vanasin, the founder and chairman of Thonburi Healthcare Group (THG), is resigning from the company’s board as he faces a market ban in connection with claims he made last year about the purchase of Pfizer coronavirus vaccines.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2377928/thonburi-healthcare-chairman-resigns-after-market-ban>

- The daily minimum wage, frozen since January 2020, will rise by an average of 5% from Oct 1 to help workers cope with inflation that is near a 14-year high.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2377840/daily-minimum-wage-to-rise-by-5-from-oct-1>
 - Thailand's e-commerce is on course for fivefold growth over the next three years, according to new Thai e-Commerce Association (Theca) president Kulthirath Pakawachkrilers.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/business/corporate/40019409>
 - Construction of the high-speed railway between Bangkok and Nong Khai is on schedule, said a government progress report on Sunday.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/in-focus/national/40019450>
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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

SET Index	1,644.78	+1.26
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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 August 26 ,2022

Buying, Selling or Transfer of shares by Owners/Management

Stock Code	Volume	Value	Action
BLA	300,000	36.42	Purchase
BIS	5,000	10	Sale
DMT	250,000	10.5	Purchase
DMT	25,000	10.5	Purchase
LEO	50,000	13.2	Purchase
MINT	20	33.75	Sale
MINT	41	33.75	Sale
PG	2,000	7.2	Purchase
PROSPECT	3,000	9.45	Purchase
PSG	500,000	1.45	Sale
SAK	200,000	7.7	Sale
SA	50,000	8.85	Purchase
STA	43,000	21.2	Purchase
TMILL	6,000	3.82	Purchase
TMW	520,000	32	Sale
TSTE	1,400	7	Purchase
TKC	4,000	22.2	Purchase
UTP	61,600	17.4	Purchase
UVAN	70,000	7.36	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 26 August 2022						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
	Unit: M.Baht					
Local Institutions	4,581.90	6.67	5,339.98	7.77	-758.08	-
Proprietary Trading	7,729.67	11.25	7,751.62	11.28	-21.96	-
Foreign Investor	30,577.03	44.49	31,243.57	45.46	-666.54	-
Local Individuals	25,844.52	37.60	24,397.95	35.50	1,446.58	-
Monthly Cumulative between 1-26 August 2022						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
	Unit: M.Baht					
Local Institutions	112,809.04	8.57	125,717.64	9.56	-12,908.61	-
Proprietary Trading	117,982.01	8.97	121,338.79	9.22	-3,356.78	-
Foreign Investors	631,953.21	48.03	579,840.43	44.07	52,112.77	-
Local Individuals	452,962.16	34.43	488,809.54	37.15	-35,847.39	-
Yearly Cumulative since 1 Jan -26 August 2022						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
	Unit: M.Baht					
Local Institutions	898,839.25	7.54	1,010,560.21	8.47	-111,720.96	-
Proprietary Trading	1,029,494.09	8.63	1,031,828.18	8.65	-2,334.09	-
Foreign Investors	5,692,061.46	47.73	5,522,597.89	46.31	169,463.57	-
Local Individuals	4,304,723.94	36.10	4,360,132.47	36.56	-55,408.52	-

Total Trading Value 68,733.12 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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