



January 27, 2023

Thai Enquirer News Summary

Political New

- The Sang Anakot Thai Party, which previously planned to merge with the Thai Sang Thai Party, decided to change course and will now merge with the ruling pro-military Palang Pracharath Party (PPRP) instead.
 - ❖ Key members of the two parties met yesterday and agreed that they would let Sang Anakot Thai spearhead the PPRP's economic campaign, a source said.
 - ❖ The two sides will meet today at 14:00.



- ❖ The merger is possibly the idea of the PPRP's strategic committee, as most founders of Sang Anakot Thai were once in the PPRP and they defected to Sang Anakot Thai with Former Deputy Prime Minister Somkid Jatusripitak.
- PPRP members will meet at 10:00 today to discuss its new regulations, such as limiting the number of its executive committee to 30 and the abolition of the party director position.
 - ❖ Paiboon Nititawan, PPRP party-list MP, said that his party might consider announcing its prime ministerial candidate after the meeting.
 - ❖ A source reported that Gen Wit Devahastin na Ayudhya has regained as a leader of the Ruam Phaen Din Party and is prepared to re-join the Palang Pracharath Party as chief adviser to Gen Prawit Wongsuwan, the party leader.
 - ❖ As for the Ruam Phaen Din Party, the party deputy leader, Chatchai Pattarnavic, will take the leader position.
 - ❖ Meanwhile, it is reported that Gen Wit already sorted things out with Thamanat Prompow, MP for Setthakij Thai Party. The source added that Thamanat will remain in Setthakij Thai and will not attend today's PPRP assembly.
- Arnon Sannan, founder of the Red Shirt Village, along with other former presidents of the Red Shirt Village signed up for membership of the Ruam Thai Sang Chart Party (RTSC) yesterday.
 - ❖ Arnon revealed that 28,850 former members of the Red Shirt Village would soon join the RTSC to support its MP candidates in each province. He added that these candidates would become MPs who would raise their hands for Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha as the next premier.
- Yesterday, the House of Representatives meeting abruptly adjourned again. Only 151 MPs were present in the chamber, 60 short of the required quorum.
 - ❖ Deputy House Speaker Supachai Phosu chaired the morning session, during which ten questions were submitted by opposition MPs to relevant ministers but only two were responded to.
 - ❖ One of the question was addressed to Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha regarding Chinese mafia businesses in Thailand. The prime minister assigned Deputy Defence Minister Chaicharn Changmongkol to respond on his behalf, but the latter was not available either.

- ❖ Pheu Thai MP for Lop Buri, Ubolsak Bualuang-ngam, demanded a head count of MPs in the chamber.
- ❖ Supachai waited for an hour before leaving the chair which was then taken by another House Deputy Speaker, Suchart Tancharoen.
- ❖ The meeting required 215 MPs to meet quorum but only 151 were present after the head count. Suchart decided to end the meeting around 13.15.
- Another 7 MPs resigned, reducing the number of MPs to 429.
 - ❖ The seven MPs were: Karoon Hosakul of the Pheu Thai Party, Chavalit Wichayasut of Pheu Thai, Apicha Lertpatchara of the Bhumjaithai Party, Srisamorn Rassameererkset and Issara Sereewatthanawut of the Democrat Party, Niyom Wiwatthanadidkoon of the Thai Economic Party and Benya Nandakwang of the Action Coalition (Ruam Palang) Party.
- Supachai Jaisamut, party-list MP for the Bhumjai Thai Party, said Saksayam Chidchob, Minister of Transport, submitted a letter against the opposition parties over the opposition's complaint against him.
 - ❖ The opposition previously submitted a petition to House Speaker Chuan Leekpai regarding Saksayam's alleged nepotism for a construction company in which he held nominee shares and awarded the company with a government construction contracts.
- Yesterday, pro-democracy protest group Thalufah ended its 112 hours stand-still demonstration at Bangkok Art and Culture Center around 17:00 before moving Pathumwan Intersection Skywalk to unite with key activists, such as Jatupat "Pai Dao Din" Boonpattaraksa, Arnon Nampa, and Patsaravalee Tanakitvibulpon.
 - ❖ The group urged for the release of political detainees "Tawan" and "Bam" by petitioning via change.org. The plan is to collect 5,000 signatures before handing the petition to the Supreme Court.



Economic News

- Kasikornbank (KBank) said it divested 49% of its stake in Kasikorn Asset Management Company Limited (KAsset) to Amundi Group.
 - ❖ This came after Amundi Group's previous negotiations with Siam Commercial Bank (SCB) to invest in SCB Asset Management Company Limited (SCBAM) fell through due to SCB's insistence to divest its 100% stake in SCBAM.
 - ❖ Analysts said Kbank will earn a profit of 20-23 billion Baht after taxes from this sale.
 - ❖ At the end of 2022, Kbank restructured its internal organization and appointed Adisorn Sermchaiwong, former managing director of Eastspring Asset Management (Thailand), as the new chairman of the management board.
 - ❖ Kbank is expected to introduce Adisorn and its business plan to the public on February 16.



- The central bank's latest policy rate hike by 25 basis points to %1.5 on January 25 prompted several commercial banks to adjust their loan interest rates.
 - ❖ Chatchai Sirilai, managing director of the Government Housing Bank (GHB), stated that state-owned banks will have to gradually increase loan interest rates, starting this month. He added that GHB has not its hiked interest rates for 2 years and 9 months since May .2020
 - ❖ Meanwhile, the Export-Import Bank of Thailand (Exim Bank) said it will increased its loan interest rate from %5.57per year to %6.00 on February .1
 - ❖ The Small and Medium Enterprise Development Bank (SME D Bank) also announced an increase in its minimum lending rate (MLR) from %0.25to %7.00 per year, effective January .25
 - ❖ Lastly, Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives (BAAC) announced a hike in its loan interest rate from %0.125to %0.25, effective February .1



- The National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) issued an urgent notice on January 25 that bans the advertising or presentation of content related to government lottery and online lottery in all television and radio programs.
- ❖ Operators that fail to comply with this notice will be subject to legal action.



General News

- Bangkok will experience at least two more days of unsafe levels of PM2.5 – fine particles of dust in the air – this month: on Friday and next Wednesday, an advisor to Bangkok’s governor said on Thursday.
- ❖ Pornprom Wikitset, who advises Governor Chadchart Sittipunt, made the announcement while speaking to reporters after a high-level meeting on air pollution in the capital. Representatives from the Health Department, the Pollution Control Department and senior officials of the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) attended the meeting.
- ❖ Pornprom said air quality deteriorated in Bangkok during the cool season when high pressure systems caused fine particles of dust to accumulate and exceed the government’s safety level of 50 micrograms per cubic metre of air.

Political News Headlines in Thai Media

- Thai Enquirer's best photos of the week from the Chinese New Year in Yaowarat where politicians were looking for votes, to the pro-democracy protests at the Bangkok Art & Culture Centre.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/47615/our-best-photos-of-the-week/>
- A Taiwanese actress made the news in Thailand this week after she claimed that she was forced to pay a bribe by Thai police during her visits to Bangkok at the beginning of January.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/47645/taiwanese-actress-accuses-thai-police-of-corruption-extortion/>
- Thailand's House of Representatives meeting collapsed again (Thursday), as only 151 MPs were present in the chamber, which is 60 short of the required quorum.
 - Link- <https://www.thaipbsworld.com/house-meeting-collapses-yet-again-on-thursday-due-to-lack-of-a-quorum/>
- Prime Minister General Prayut Chan-o-cha has vowed not to dissolve the House of Representatives to escape a showdown with the opposition, a top official said on Thursday.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/politics/40024357>
- An ex-Democrat MP and legal expert taunted fugitive former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra on Thursday, declaring he could fly anywhere in the world but would land in jail if he returns to Thailand.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/politics/40024355>
- A court in Chiang Rai has sentenced a man to 28 years in prison for insulting the monarchy in online posts, his lawyer said on Thursday.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2492154/chiang-rai-man-given-28-years-for-royal-defamation>
- Gen Wit Devahastin na Ayudhya has resigned as leader of the Ruam Phaen Din Party and is prepared to return to the Palang Pracharath Party (PPRP) as chief adviser to the party's leader, Gen Prawit Wongsuwon.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2492120/gen-wit-resigns-as-ruam-phaen-din-leader>

- Parties may propose a bill seeking to grant amnesty to convicts in politically related cases, but talks on the matter can only take place after the formation of a new parliament.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2492304/amnesty-bill-bids-must-wait>
 - Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha is expected to use a general debate to showcase the government's achievements, according to government spokesman Anucha Burapachaisri.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2492259/prayut-sees-debate-as-pr-opportunity>
 - The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) yesterday called on Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha to affirm the government's intention to enforce the Prevention and Suppression of Torture and Enforced Disappearance Act as initially planned.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2492279/nhrc-urges-pm-to-enforce-act>
-

Economic News Headlines in Thai Media

- The board of the State Railway of Thailand (SRT) remains undecided over how to proceed with the controversial project to change the name sign on Bang Sue Grand Station to Krung Thep Aphiwat Central Terminal, which is estimated to cost about 33 million baht.
 - Link- <https://www.thaipbsworld.com/srt-board-still-undecided-on-bang-sue-stations-sign-issue/>
- The owner of controversy-hit online lottery platform Kong Salak Plus sent his lawyer to the Department of Special Investigation (DSI) to answer questions about 39 payments worth 1.09 billion baht on Thursday.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/general/40024371>

- The Food and Drug Administration has recalled 3,040 instant noodle cups imported from South Korea to test whether they are contaminated with a herbicide, it announced on Thursday.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/general/40024369>
- SET-listed Siam Cement Group (SCG), Thailand's largest cement maker and industrial conglomerate, expects its revenue in 2023 to grow by 10% as it aims to gain more income from a petrochemical business in Vietnam and improving economic conditions.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2492449/scg-anticipates-10-revenue-growth>
- Siam Commercial Bank (SCB)'s research arm predicts the Bank of Thailand will raise the policy rate twice by 0.25 points to 2% this year.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/economy/40024356>
- Bangkok Bank said on Thursday it would raise deposit rates by a maximum of 0.25 percentage points and increase loan rates by between 0.15 and 0.20 points.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2492170/bangkok-bank-raises-loan-and-deposit-rates>
- The Cabinet has approved in principle a draft Royal Decree on Cybercrime Prevention and Suppression, the Minister of Digital Economy and Society (DES) Chaiwut Thanakamanusorn said on Thursday.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/general/40024364>
- Minor Hotels is collaborating with the European NH Hotel Group as part of a strategy to attract more guests from western countries, which could boost the hotel chain's growth by 20 per cent.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/business/corporate/40024370>
- PTG Energy has launched its new service enhancement program by assigning "PT Service Masters" - experts in petrol station services - to provide 7-star services at selected PT stations nationwide, being the first brand in Thailand to do so.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/business/corporate/40024361>

- Thailand and the European Union (EU) have agreed to restart negotiations over a free trade agreement, officials said on Thursday, nearly a decade after talks were stalled by a military coup in the Southeast Asian country.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2492024/thailand-eu-look-to-resume-free-trade-talks-by-march>
 - A hotel tycoon is disappointed with the government's tight control over Covid vaccinations, suggesting more tourists coming to Thailand aren't comfortable visiting public healthcare centres.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2492394/heinecke-uneasy-about-vaccines-offered-to-visitors>
 - SET-listed developer Singha Estate has paused new condo development and will launch only low-rise houses in high-priced segments, with five new projects worth a combined 10 billion baht planned for this year.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2492409/singha-estate-to-focus-on-pricier-homes>
 - The government is expected to spend between 1.8 billion and 2 billion baht per year on higher contributions to National Savings Fund (NSF) members, says Finance Minister Arkhom Termittayapaisith.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2492589/state-nsf-offerings-to-rise-by-b2bn>
-

Issues to be watched out for

- January 2023 – The hike in the daily minimum wage is set to become official.
- January 31st, 2023 – The Ministry of Finance announced its own GDP data
- February 15-16 – The possible date for the general debate without voting against the government of Prayut Chan-o-cha by the opposition.

- February 20, 2023 – The National Economic & Social Development Council (NESDC) set to announce the Q4 2022 and Fiscal Year 2022 GDP data

❖ <https://www.nesdc.go.th/download/forthcoming.pdf>

- February 28, 2023 – Prorogation of a 2/2022 session.
- February 28, 2023 – Possible date for the dissolution of the parliament by 2014 coup leader Prayut Chan-o-cha to hold elections.
- 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.
- April 28th, 2023 – The Ministry of Finance announced its own GDP data
- April 29th 2023 – The possible date for elections if parliament is dissolved by February 28th 2023 (by law elections has to be held within 60-days after house dissolution).
- May 7th, 2023 - Election Commission says elections must be held by this date if the government completed its term (which falls on March 23, 2023)
- July 31st, 2023 – The Ministry of Finance announced its own GDP data
- October 31st, 2023 – The Ministry of Finance announced its own GDP data

Key Data

SET Index	1,671.34	-10.77
------------------	-----------------	---------------

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 January 26 ,2023

Buying, Selling or Transfer of shares by Owners/Management

Stock Code	Volume	Value	Action
AIMCG	20,000	5.25	Sale
BRI	907,200	11.22	Purchase
DIMET	500,000	0.5	Sale
MTW	2,389,200	5.24	Sale
ORI	300,000	11.9	Purchase
ORI	600,000	11.9	Purchase
ORI	1,531,400	11.75	Purchase
PROEN	100,000	6.4	Purchase
PROEN	450,000	6.4	Purchase
PROEN	550,000	6.25	Purchase
PROEN	500,000	6.4	Purchase
PROEN	500,000	6.25	Purchase
PROEN	500,000	6.4	Purchase
SAF	100,000	2.62	Sale
SVT	220,200	3.44	Sale
SVT	508,070	3.4	Sale
SVT	96,800	3.4	Sale
SVT	409,500	3.4	Sale
TSTE	19,400	7.76	Purchase

XD, XE or XM or other notifications

For list of Companies that have dividend payment and AGM meeting schedules click on

Trading Breakdown on the Stock Exchange of Thailand

Daily as of 26 January 2023						
Unit: M.Baht						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	5,121.24	7.07	8,002.75	11.05	-2,881.52	-
Proprietary Trading	5,258.95	7.26	5,438.37	7.51	-179.42	-
Foreign Investor	35,465.81	48.98	34,270.19	47.33	1,195.62	-
Local Individuals	26,559.67	36.68	24,694.35	34.11	1,865.32	-
Monthly Cumulative between 1-26 January 2023						
Unit: M.Baht						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	111,415.15	9.01	136,516.66	11.04	-25,101.51	-
Proprietary Trading	93,229.48	7.54	88,449.08	7.15	4,780.40	-
Foreign Investors	609,998.16	49.32	590,560.69	47.75	19,437.47	-
Local Individuals	422,121.94	34.13	421,238.30	34.06	883.64	-
Yearly Cumulative since 1 Jan -26 January 2023						
Unit: M.Baht						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	111,415.15	9.01	136,516.66	11.04	-25,101.51	-
Proprietary Trading	93,229.48	7.54	88,449.08	7.15	4,780.40	-
Foreign Investors	609,998.16	49.32	590,560.69	47.75	19,437.47	-
Local Individuals	422,121.94	34.13	421,238.30	34.06	883.64	-

Total Trading Value 72,411.18 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

Information provided here is copyright of ThaiNews Corp and no part maybe reproduced in any form without the prior written permission. The opinions expressed are only those of the writer's and is analysed based on the situation.