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August 7, 2023

Thai Enquirer News Summary

Political News

- The most trending news on social media today (since last night) is the return of Vacharaesorn Vivacharawongse, one of the sons of His Majesty the King Vajiralongkorn.
 - ❖ The return of Vacharaesorn (who does not have any royal titles) was shared heavily on social media prompting Twitter (now called X) witnessing the hashtag that was the most trending overnight.



- Meanwhile Pheu Thai party's deputy leader - Phumtham Wechayachai, has come out to state that talks about the party not talking to all parties is incorrect and that all options were on the table.
 - ❖ He said that the current government formation is unique due to the country's economic crisis and social conflicts.
 - ❖ He said his party will address the rewriting of the current charter as soon as possible after taking office.
 - ❖ Regarding the scenario where both Ruam Thai Sang Chart or Palang Pracharath Parties voted for Pheu Thai, Phumtham said it was not unacceptable.



- ❖ At the same time, Anusorn Iamsa-ard, Pheu Thai Party's party list MP, insisted that the new Pheu Thai-led coalition will not include Ruam Thai Sang Chart or Palang Pracharath.
- Rumors are that the drug smuggling convict - Thammanat Prompao from Palang Pracharat party (PPRP) and 25 MPs of the party are breaking away to support Pheu Thai party's government formation.
 - ❖ This was denied by the borrower of multi-million-dollar watches from dead friends – oops forgot his name – Prawit Wongsuwon, who said that if Pheu Thai wants then they will have to take the entire 40 MPs of the PPRP not just 25 in the drug dealer's faction.
- Ruam Thai Saang Chart party, the party that had the 2014 coup leader as one of its Prime Minister candidate for 2023 elections, has also reportedly seen a faction of their MPs break away to support Pheu Thai party.
 - ❖ Suchart Chomklin's faction of 10 MPs in Ruam Thai Saang Chart party also are rumoured to be breaking up to support Pheu Thai party.
 - ❖ Ruam Thai Saang Chart party has 36 MPs in total.

- The combination of the possible government coalition parties stands at



- The possibility of Thai Saang Thai party's 6 MPs moving to support Pheu Thai government seems to have ticked off a few of the old comrades of the Thai Saang Thai party that had been sacked out of Pheu Thai party before they formed Thai Saang Thai party in 2021.

- ❖ Sita Divari, the key man of the Thai Saang Thai party and the righthand man of the party's leader – Sudarat Keyuraphan, has come out to say that he would quit the party if it joined the Pheu Thai party coalition.

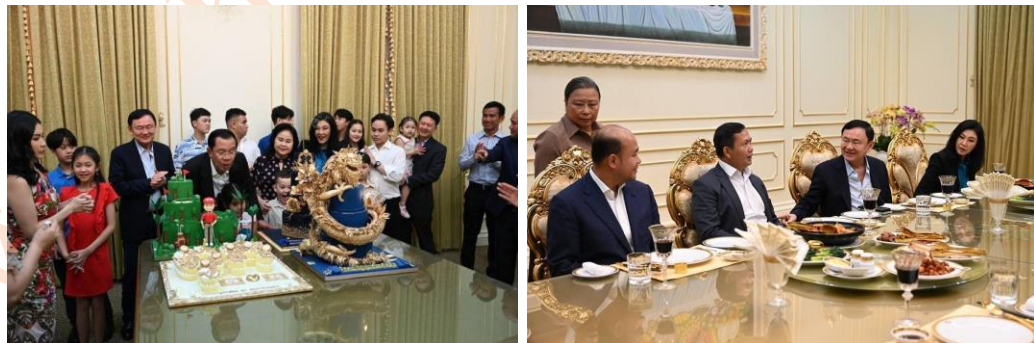


- Fugitive former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra who was ousted in a 2006 military coup, posted on his Twitter account on Saturday morning, August 5, he will postpone his arrival to Thailand by about 2-weeks “and will inform” the public again about the exact date as “the doctor summoned him for a health checkup”.

- ❖ Thaksin now postponed his return 20 times throughout his 17 years of self-imposed exile.

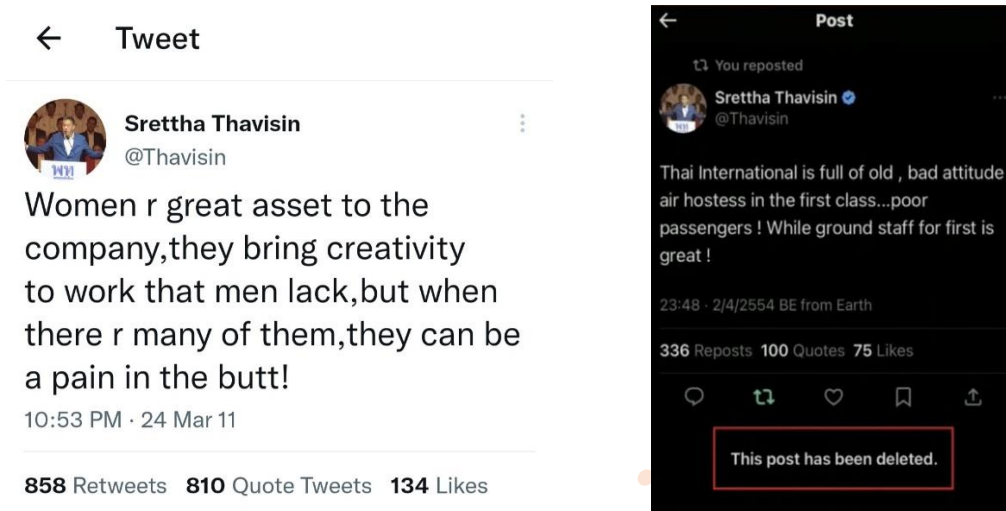


- Meanwhile on August 5 Thaksin and Yingluck Shinawatra attended the birthday celebrations of Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen. The festive occasion marked Hun Sen's 72nd birthday.
 - ❖ Local media outlet Fresh News shared several pictures of the siblings mingling with Hun Sen's extended family, including the Prime Minister-in-waiting, Hun Manet. The gathering was held at Hun Sen's residence in Takhmao town.
 - ❖ Hun Sen disclosed to Fresh News that Thaksin and Yingluck stayed for 1-night at his residence and had breakfast together on the morning of August 6, before flying out of Cambodia.
 - ❖ The relationship between Hun Sen and Thaksin dates back to 1992 when they became God brothers. They have maintained a close connection ever since, even though Thaksin and his sister Yingluck were both ousted from power through coups. The unexpected attendance of the Shinawatras at Hun Sen's birthday adds a new chapter to this intriguing political relationship.



- Pheu Thai party's Prime Minister candidate – Srettha Thavsin, is in more hot water.
 - ❖ Over the weekend he said that his Twitter account was hacked, and Tweets were amended only to be bombarded with experts in Twitter who said that the amendments of the Tweets were only allowed for Tweets that were on that particular day and within 1-hour after tweeting, not for tweets that were 10-years ago.

- ❖ Srettha's Twitter were picked up from the past such as the ones he criticized Thai Airways International staff (their 1st class service on the aircraft) and about how having too many women in the workplace can be a 'pain in the butt'.



Tweeted on March 24, 2011

Tweeted on April 2, 2010

- Pheu Thai PM candidate Srettha also revealed that he is having his lawyer file a lawsuit against whistleblower Chuwit Kamolvisit for accusing him of avoiding taxes while he was running his company.



- ❖ Chuwit on the other hand said that he will disclose additional land transaction information involving Srettha today, which he will present to relevant agencies for further investigation.
- Democrat party once again delayed and postponed their selection of a new leader due to lack of quorum.
 - ❖ No date has been set for the next meeting yet.
 - ❖ Yesterday's meeting followed a previous failed attempt on July 9.
 - ❖ However, when the meeting was about to begin, only 210 out of the required 250 party members were present, causing a delay of over an hour. Ultimately, only

223 members attended, leading to a lack of quorum and thus the meeting was put off again.

- ❖ A source from Democrat stated that the absent 27 members included members from the party's northeastern branch, who had been taken on a trip to Laos. Some of them were former MPs and past party ministers.



- Chalermchai Sri-on, the former Secretary of the Democrat Party, along with 21 MPs under his leadership, launched an attack on Democrat by blaming its recent failed meeting to elect a new leader due to a lack of quorum on certain party members.
 - ❖ They claimed that these members coerced other party members not to attend the meeting and instead went on a trip to Laos, deeming this behavior reprehensible.
 - ❖ They urged those involved to reconsider their actions and help Democrat move forward by stopping playing political games to satisfy personal interests.
 - ❖ Chalermchai said, "'Each party's general meeting costs around 3-4 million Baht, money that the public intends for our party to engage in meaningful political activities, not to be squandered. For the next meeting, we might have to set up tents to host the meeting as the party won't have funds left."
 - ❖ Chalermchai is planning to have a meal with Democrat former leader Apisit Vejajiva to discuss the meeting of the new party leader. However, a specific date and time have not yet been specified.



- The Facebook page “Uncle Pom FC” shared a video on August 5, featuring Gen Prawit Wongsuwan, the leader of the Palang Pracharath Party, participating in an event with students from the Armed Forces Academies Preparatory School and the Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy.
- ❖ The event took place at the Royal Thai Army Golf Course, along with an advance birthday celebration for Gen Prawit, whose birthday falls on August 11 and marks his 78th year. The event included a banner with the message "มีลุง มีเรา (Uncle Pom, We Stand Together)."



Economic News

- Wisit Limluecha, vice chairman of the Thai Chamber of Commerce, commented on the postponed parliamentary vote for the Prime Minister due to awaiting the Constitutional Court's decision on the rejected re-nomination of Pita Limjaroenrat.
- ❖ He said that the private sector needs to know a clear voting date within August. While the private sector is accepting of the postponement, political parties must be confident in their Prime Ministerial candidate to maintain the investors' trust.
- ❖ Regarding street protests, Wisit acknowledged that it was normal that people wanted to express their opinions, but he also stressed the importance of avoiding violence among the protestors.

- Kornphat Worachet, Director of Research and Investment Services at Krungsri Capital Securities, stated that Thailand's current political uncertainty might lead to short-term underperformance in stocks linked to the domestic economy, such as banks, telecoms, and retail, due to risk reduction selling. He advised a strategic wait-and-see approach until political clarity emerges.
 - ❖ Additionally, Kornphat recommended investors to accumulate the stocks of GULF, THCOM, CRC, CPAXT, ADVANC, and STEC, citing that they are strengthening their foundations.
- In the past week, the stock of Advanced Info Service Plc (ADVANC) has seen significant trading activity. From July 27 to August 3, 2023, the average daily trading value was over 1.5 billion Baht, compared to an average of 500 million Baht in the previous period. This surge in trading is due to investors aiming to profit from the company's upcoming second quarter performance announcement on August 7.
 - ❖ According to analysts, ADVANC has a notable upward trend and strong growth potential, with an estimated dividend payout of at least 4 Baht per share for the first half of the year. Refinitiv Consensus gathered analyses from 18 brokers, projecting a net profit of 7.29 billion Baht and total revenue of 46.57 billion Baht for ADVANC. For the entire 2023, the estimated net profit is 30.12 billion Baht, with total revenue of 197.37 billion Baht.
 - ❖ The projected dividend payment is expected to be 4.08 Baht per share for the first half of the year and 4.27 Baht per share for the second half, totaling 8.35 Baht per share for the full year. The target stock price is set at 242 baht.
- Sapon Pornchokchai, President of the Agency for Real Estate Affairs, revealed that despite the economic downturn, land prices along the new electric railway lines have increased by an average of 4% this year. The top 5 locations with the highest price adjustments are as follows:
 - Siam Square, Chidlom, Ploenchit: Prices have risen by 2.9%, reaching 3.6 million Baht per square wah.
 - Wireless Road: Prices have increased by 2.4%, reaching 2.95 million Baht per square meter.
 - Sukhumvit - Times Square: Prices have gone up by 2.6%, reaching 2.8 million Baht per square meter.
 - Sukhumvit Soi 21 - Asoke: Prices have risen by 2.8%, reaching 2.6 million Baht per square meter.

- Silom: Prices have increased by 2%, reaching 2.55 million Baht per square meter.

1. สยามสแควร์ ตารางวาละ 3.5 ล้านบาท หรือ ไร่ละ 1,400 ล้านบาท
2. ซิดลม ราคาตารางวาละ 3.3 ล้านบาท หรือไร่ละ 1,320 ล้านบาท
3. เฟลันจิต ราคาตารางวาละ 3.3 ล้านบาท หรือ ไร่ละ 1,320 ล้านบาท
4. นานา ราคาตารางวาละ 3.3 ล้านบาท หรือ ไร่ละ 1,320 ล้านบาท
5. แยกอโคก ราคาตารางวาละ 2.9 ล้านบาท หรือ ไร่ละ 1,160 ล้านบาท
6. วิทย์ ราคาตารางวาละ 2.9 ล้านบาท หรือ ไร่ละ 1,160 ล้านบาท
7. พรหมพงษ์ ราคาตารางวาละ 2.6 ล้านบาท หรือ ไร่ละ 1,040 ล้านบาท
8. ซอยสุขุมวิท 21 ราคาตารางวาละ 2.53 ล้านบาท หรือไร่ละ 1,012 ล้านบาท
9. สีลม ราคาตารางวาละ 2.5 ล้านบาท หรือ ไร่ละ 1,000 ล้านบาท
10. สาทร ราคาตารางวาละ 2.2 ล้านบาท หรือ ไร่ละ 880 ล้านบาท

- The negative news about Sansiri Plc (SIRI) has put pressure on the shares of the company and over the past week the shares have dipped by as much as 10.18% to trade at 1.82 Baht a share.



- Meanwhile the SET Index has also remained in the wait & see mode with the overall index remaining at current levels although foreign investors have been selling.



General News

- A car exploded about one minute after its driver abandoned it at an intersection in Narathiwat's Sungai Kolok district on Saturday night. No one was injured in the powerful blast. The blast destroyed the vehicle and scattered its pieces over a 100-metre area.
- ❖ Sungai Kolok Police Station commander Colonel Praty Baiteh said footage from a security camera showed two men arriving at the intersection: One in the car and another on a motorcycle. The driver of the car was filmed quickly leaving the vehicle and hopping on the motorcycle, which raced away.



- ❖ Meanwhile a 15kg gas cylinder, stuffed with explosives, was found placed against the fence near Yala's Mueang district police station, where several seized cars and motorcycles are being kept, prompting an a team of explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) officers to rush to the site.

Political News Headlines in Thai Media

- On July 10, the Democrat MP for Nakhon Sri Thammarat, Chaichana Dechdecho, wrote a story on his Facebook page. In this story, a family was divided between the choice of a new car. The nephew wanted an electric vehicle, while the uncle wanted to continue using a regular gasoline car.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/50386/the-end-of-a-political-institution/>
- The political landscape of Thailand has always been tumultuous but it has taken a tragic turn in the past 48 hours. The Pheu Thai Party, long touted by its supporters as politically savvy, finds itself caught in a tumultuous predicament, one of its own making.
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/50380/opinion-pheu-thais-faustian-folly/>
- Former Democrat party leader Chuan Leekpai said that the party must adopt a resolution, in accordance with the party's regulations, if it wants to join the coalition led by the Pheu Thai party.
 - Link- <https://www.thaipbsworld.com/chuan-says-democrats-need-a-resolution-to-join-pheu-thai-coalition/>
- The Democrat Party yet again failed to hold a party caucus to elect a new leader and executive board, in what appears to be a clear sign of a serious rift.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/politics/40029988>
- A joint sitting of parliament is expected to convene on either August 18th or 19th, after the Constitutional Court rules on whether it will consider a petition regarding the renomination of Move Forward leader for prime minister and whether to order the suspension of the process to select a prime minister.
 - Link- <https://www.thaipbsworld.com/next-vote-on-new-thai-pm-could-be-on-august-18th-or-19th/>
- Political whistleblower Chuwit Kamolvisit took another swipe at fugitive former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra after he once again postponed his return to Thailand.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/politics/40029970>

- With Thailand in a political quagmire once again, The Nation spoke to Varawut Silpa-archa, the leader of the Chart Thai Pattana Party, and Amorn Wanichwiwatana, a political scientist at Chulalongkorn University, about what lies ahead.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/politics/40029967>
- Chuwit Kamolvisit, a massage parlour tycoon turned anti-corruption crusader, has revealed that he has Stage 3 liver cancer and is undergoing chemotherapy.
 - Link- <https://www.thaipbsworld.com/self-styled-graft-buster-chuvit-diagnosed-with-advanced-liver-cancer/>
- Parliament president Wan Muhamad Noor Matha yesterday adjourned a joint sitting after lawmakers began debating his decision to reject a motion on Pita Limjaroenrat's failed bid to become prime minister.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2623787/motion-call-leads-to-end-of-joint-sitting>
- Pita slams 'backward democracy' at uni.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2623759/pita-slams-backward-democracy-at-uni>
- Car bomb explodes in Narathiwat, no casualties.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2624406/car-bomb-explodes-in-narathiwat-no-casualties>

Economic News Headlines in Thai Media

- Foreign investors were net sellers of Thai stocks in the first seven months of this year, offloading 127 billion baht worth of stocks.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/business/trading-investment/40029978>
- Chinese investors are providing a welcome boost to the Thai economy by seeking opportunities to relocate their investments to Thailand.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/business/trading-investment/40029936>

- Brokers upbeat on Pheu Thai's role in new government.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/general/2623815/brokers-upbeat-on-pheu-thais-role-in-new-government>
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Issues to be watched out for

- August 7, 2023 - July Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- August 16, 2023 - The Constitutional Court will hold a meeting to accept or reject the petition to put forward the name of Move Forward party's leader – Pita Limjaorenrat, for another reading in the parliament to be a possible candidate for Prime Minister.
- August 17, 2023 - Parliament is set to hold a meeting to elect a new Prime Minister with possible name of Srettha Thavasin likely to be proposed by Pheu Thai party.
- August 24, 2023 - Expected date of arrival of self-exiled former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra (although it could be delayed until after the selection of the Prime Minister).
- August 31, 2023 - The members of the new government will pledge their allegiance to HM the King.
- September 5, 2023 - August Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- September 27, 2023 - Monetary Policy Committee holds its meeting
- October 5, 2023 - September Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- October 31, 2023 - The Ministry of Finance will announce its own GDP data.
- November 6, 2023 - October Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- November 29, 2023 - Monetary Policy Committee holds its meeting

- December 6, 2023 - November Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- January 5, 2023 - December & Fiscal Year 2023 Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- For information on Opportunity Day of various companies click on the link –

<https://www.set.or.th/streaming/oppdayCalendar>

Key Data

SET Index	1,530.46	+1.45
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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 4, 2023

Buying, Selling or Transfer of shares by Owners/Management

Stock Code	Volume	Value	Action
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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 4 August 2023						
						Unit: M.Baht
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	4,003.20	8.99	3,585.21	8.05	417.99	-
Proprietary Trading	4,094.68	9.20	3,656.69	8.22	437.99	-
Foreign Investor	23,359.27	52.48	25,935.41	58.27	-2,576.13	-
Local Individuals	13,053.12	29.33	11,332.97	25.46	1,720.15	-
Monthly Cumulative between 1 Aug-4 August 2023						
						Unit: M.Baht
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	10,965.21	7.27	11,816.47	7.84	-851.26	-
Proprietary Trading	14,260.54	9.46	13,417.30	8.90	843.24	-
Foreign Investors	75,722.17	50.22	83,729.57	55.53	-8,007.40	-
Local Individuals	49,829.38	33.05	41,813.95	27.73	8,015.42	-
Yearly Cumulative since 1 Jan -4 August 2023						
						Unit: M.Baht

Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	677,523.78	8.70	632,722.16	8.13	44,801.63	-
Proprietary Trading	585,489.43	7.52	589,238.92	7.57	-3,749.49	-
Foreign Investors	4,002,471.59	51.41	4,130,227.52	53.06	-127,755.93	-
Local Individuals	2,519,243.86	32.36	2,432,540.06	31.25	86,703.80	-

Total Trading Value 44,514.02 Million Baht

Background Information –

According to the report by the Election Commission of Thailand as of May 8, 2019, the strength of each party in the Thai Parliament following the elections 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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