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• **October 31, 2023**

Thai Enquirer News Summary

Economic News

- Once again, the 10,000 Baht Digital Wallet is facing flipflopping and this time it is coming from the ‘Adviser’ to Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin.
 - ❖ According to Pichai Chunchavajira, an adviser to Prime Minister Srettha, the launch of the 10,000-Baht handout policy might face a delay until September due to the 2024 fiscal budget disbursement lag.
 - ❖ He also mentioned a potential reduction in eligible recipients from 56 million people to approximately 40 million, excluding high-income individuals. The budget set aside for this policy is not expected to surpass 500 billion Baht.
 - ❖ May not get the money all at once but may be distributed in many allotments.

- ❖ Additionally, the 4-kilometer spending radius may be reassessed, possibly expanding to cover an entire district to boost public spending.
- ❖ The disbursement could also be done using the “Pao Tang” application, rather than developing a new app, to save time. He says 90% sure that ‘Pao Tang’ application would be used.



- Minister of Commerce Phumtham Wechayachai called for an urgent meeting of the Central Committee on the Prices of Goods and Services (CCPGS) after the Office of the Cane and Sugar Board raised the factory price of sugar by 4 Baht per kilogram.
 - ❖ Phumtham stated that the CCPGS meeting had passed a resolution to classify sugar as a controlled commodity under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce. This resolution will be submitted to the Cabinet today and is expected to be announced no later than Wednesday.
 - ❖ Initially, there are 3 proposals to tackle the rising price of sugar:
 - Control the factory price of white sugar to not exceed 19 Baht per kilogram and the factory price of refined white sugar to not exceed 20 Baht per kilogram.
 - Control the retail price of refined white sugar within the Bangkok metropolitan area and its vicinity to not exceed 24 Baht per kilogram and the refined white sugar to not exceed 25 Baht per kilogram.
 - Control sugar exports for sales exceeding one ton.

กกร.ขึ้นบัญชี 'น้ำตาลทราย' เป็นสินค้าควบคุม		
	กำหนดราคา จำหน่ายหน้าโรงงาน	ควบคุมราคา จำหน่ายปลีก
• น้ำตาลทรายขาว	19 บาท/กก.	24 บาท/กก.
• น้ำตาลทรายขาวบริสุทธิ์	20 บาท/กก.	25 บาท/กก.

*ควบคุมการส่งออก ตั้งแต่ 1 ตัน หรือ 1,000 กก. ขึ้นไป ต้องขออนุญาต

- Following the rise in sugar prices, the Association of Sugarcane Farmers in the Northeastern Region and the Thai Sugarcane Farmers Federation have issued a statement calling for an increase in the price of sugarcane.
 - ❖ They said the sugarcane and sugar industry contributes an annual revenue of 200 billion Baht to the country and provides income for 2 million farmers.
 - ❖ However, sugarcane farmers' costs have increased significantly due to the rising prices of fertilizers, which are now 3 times higher, as well as labor and fuel costs. In contrast, factory owners and beverage industry manufacturers still benefit from low sugar prices and make substantial profits, while sugarcane farmers are struggling.
 - ❖ If the Ministry of Commerce refuses to approve the price hike for sugarcane, the farmers said they will stage a major movement.
- All eyes are on today's Cabinet meeting, which will consider a reduction in the prices of gasoline and gasohol 91 by 2.50 Baht per liter.
 - ❖ Previously, the proposal had already been approved in principle by Minister of Energy Pirapan Salirathavibhaga.
 - ❖ To support the reduction, the government plans to implement tax reduction measures on gasoline, totaling over 1 billion Baht. The prices will be capped for three months, similar to diesel.
 - ❖ On another note, PTT Station and Bangchak announced an increase in retail prices for all types of gasoline and gasoline by 0.30 Baht per liter early this morning.
- Yesterday Thailand's Supreme Administrative Court reversed the ruling of the Central Administrative Court, rejecting the suit filed by the Foundation for Consumers, demanding the revocation of a resolution of the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) acknowledging the merger between True Corporation Plc and Total Access Communication Plc (DTAC).
 - ❖ As a result of the ruling, the Central Administrative Court will have to accept the foundation's suit.
 - ❖ The Supreme Administrative Court reasoned that the foundation's objective is to protect the rights of consumers, who are mostly users of the mobile phone services provided by DTAC Trinet Company, a subsidiary of Total Access Communication Public Company and, therefore, are directly affected by the planned merger.

- ❖ The court also ruled that the Central Administrative Court is empowered to accept the foundation's suit, even though it was submitted after the expiry of the deadline for such submissions, because the planned merger may affect free and fair competition, having widespread impacts on consumers.

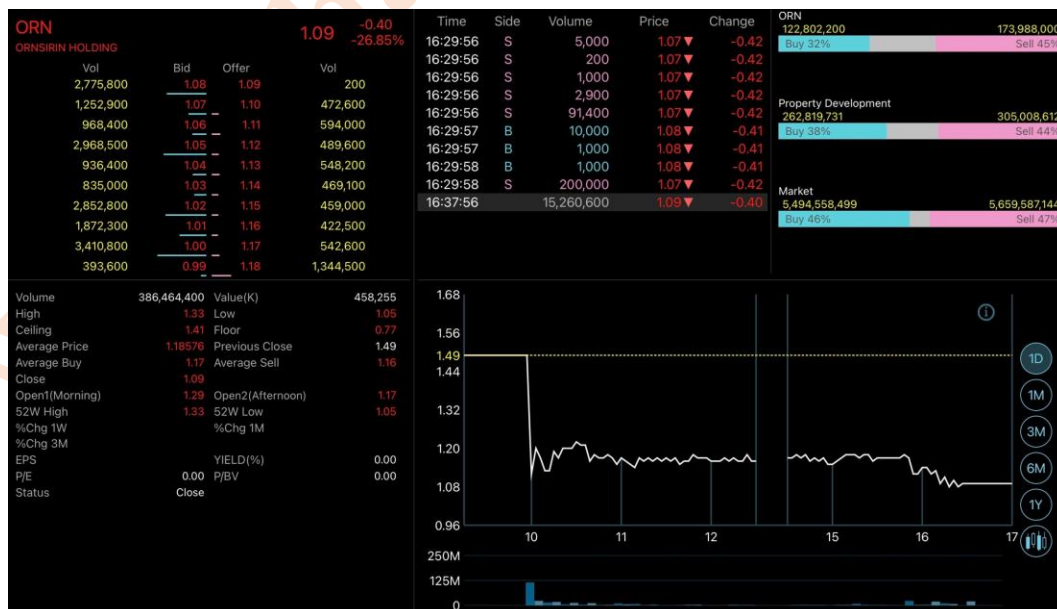


- The Stock Exchange of Thailand index (SET) concluded yesterday's trading session at 1,395.85 points, up 7.62 points or 0.55%. The trading value was 36.75 billion Baht.
 - ❖ Brokers stated that the stock market fluctuated, as it started trading lower in the morning and gradually recovered. This was influenced by DELTA stocks, which adjusted upwards by more than 5%, pushing the entire index higher. However, the trading volume remained light, indicating that the market is still unstable.
 - ❖ Overall, investors are in a wait-and-see mode, closely monitoring the Federal Reserve meeting, the announcement of third-quarter corporate results, employment figures, and the evolving situation in the Middle East.

Impact Gain	Trade	Change	%Chg	Impact
DELTA	81.25	+5.00	6.56	+5.000
CPALL	56.00	+1.00	1.82	+0.720
ITC	19.00↓	+2.10	12.43	+0.504
ADVANC	219.00	+2.00	0.92	+0.480
CPN	62.75↑	+1.25	2.03	+0.450
HMPRO	12.00	+0.40	3.45	+0.424
BDMS	26.50↓	+0.25	0.95	+0.320
AOT	67.25	+0.25	0.37	+0.287
TLI	11.00	+0.30	2.80	+0.276
LH	7.60↑	+0.25	3.40	+0.240

- Somchai Lertsutiwong, the CEO of Advanced Info Services Plc. (ADVANC), disclosed the company's financial results for the 3rd quarter of 2023.
 - ❖ The company achieved a total revenue of 46.06 billion Baht, a slight decrease of 0.4% compared to the previous year. However, there was a growth of 2.9% from the preceding quarter.

- ❖ The net profit reached 8.14 billion Baht, showing a remarkable increase of 35% from the previous year and 13% from the previous quarter. The EBITDA stood at 23.67 billion Baht, representing a 7.2% growth from the same period in the previous year.
- ❖ For the past 9 months, ADVANC earned a total revenue of 137.55 billion Baht, indicating a 0.6% increase compared to the previous year. The net profit experienced a significant growth of 18% to 22.08 billion Baht.
- ❖ It is noteworthy that ADVANC's officially reported profit figures exceeded the market estimate of 7.36 billion baht from 17 brokers, who also set an average target stock price of 250.62 baht for ADVANC.
- Shares of newly listed firm - Ornsirin Holding Plc (ORN), tanked by nearly 30% on its debut on the stock market yesterday. ORN was listed in the 'Real Estate and Construction' sector, under the category of Property Development and Construction. It closed down 26.85% from its IPO price.
 - ❖ ORN had undertaken and IPO at 1.49 Baht a share and it opened the day below the IPO price and never made it beyond the opening price yesterday.
 - ❖ ORN recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Dusit Thani Plc (DUSIT), to jointly develop a low-rise condominium and hotel project on a 15-rai plot of land in the heart of Phuket. Construction is anticipated to commence in late 2024, and the development will be divided into three phases, with each phase requiring an investment of nearly 2 billion Baht.



Political News

- The sub-committee for the charter rewrite referendum aims to conclude its task by mid-December.
 - ❖ Nikorn Chamnong, the chairman of the sub-committees said he will talk with the Senate soon as their votes impact the outcome. He added discussions with the main opposition Move Forward Party will also take place. The findings will be submitted by mid-December, with the summary forwarded to the government in early 2024.



- Defence Minister Sutin Klungsang told a House committee that the government will lift the emergency decree imposed in the insurgency-hit southern border provinces by 2027. He gave the pledge while speaking to the House panel on national security, border affairs, strategies and reforms.
 - ❖ The panel summoned the defence minister and armed forces chiefs and called on the government to lift the emergency decree.
 - ❖ Sutin replied that the armed forces still needed the decree to maintain security in the restive region, where more than 7,000 have been killed in insurgency related violence since 2004. However, the defence minister promised to consider relaxing the decree gradually until it is lifted across all of Yala, Pattani, Narathiwat and four districts of Songkhla by 2027.
 - ❖ Sutin also promised to end compulsory conscription to the armed forces soon but said the policy was still needed for national security. The Navy would need at least another 1 billion baht to buy the frigate after the submarine deal sank over China's inability to provide a German-made engine.

- ❖ He also promised to open direct lines of communication for urgent matters between the panel and armed forces' chiefs.
- Panpree Pahitasnukorn, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, revealed his mission per the Prime Minister's order to visit Qatar and the Arab Republic of Egypt from October 31 to November 2, 2023.
 - ❖ The purpose of the visit is to meet with government leaders and foreign ministers of both countries to discuss providing assistance to Thai nationals detained by Hamas during the ongoing conflict in Israel.
 - ❖ Thailand's urgent mission is to facilitate their release as soon as possible, though the whereabouts of all detainees remain unknown, whether inside or outside Gaza, Panpree said.
- Pranpree heads to Qatar and Egypt to negotiate the release of the hostages.
 - ❖ As of now there are 22 hostages still held captive with 32 Thai nationals having lost their lives and 19 injured.

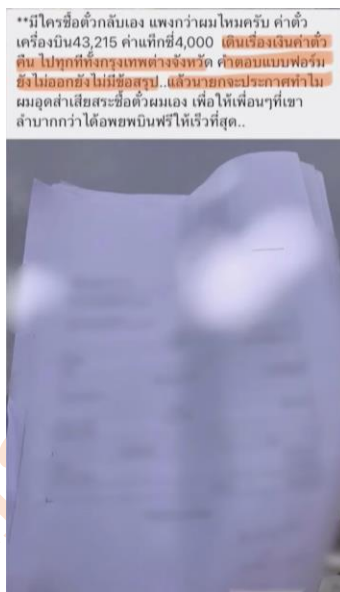


- ❖ As for the Thai citizens who have opted to return, only about 8,478 have registered to return and about 7,449 have already been flown back. Estimates of Thais working in Israel was in excess of 50,000.



- Workers who are returning without using the usual government provided transport are now complaining that they are not being reimbursed for the expenses that they have undertaken to return to Thailand.

- ❖ Some people have spent 40-50,000 Baht to get back to Thailand, but the Ministry of Labour are saying that there are no such forms or have not been contacted by the Prime Minister to reimburse the expenses.
- ❖ These people have started to gather and have warned that they will form a group and then head to the Government House to demand their reimbursements.
- ❖ Labour Minister – Phipat Ratchakitprakarn, comes out to say that the plans to reimburse remains in there. The Ministry of Labour has held discussions with Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
 - The provincial labour department would collect the information and then send it to the central labour department for consideration.
 - It should take no more than a month or so to get the money.



General News

- Talks are heating up to disband the ‘Internal Security Operations Command’ (ISOC) with social media buzzing with this issue after Move Forward party came out to call for its disbandment.
 - ❖ The ISOC uses close to 8 billion Baht of budget annually and has not been as effective in its working.
 - ❖ ISOC and the government has not said a word on this issue yet though.

งบประมาณรายจ่ายประจำปีงบประมาณ 2566
 กองอำนวยการรักษาความมั่นคงภายในราชอาณาจักร
 (กอ.รมน.) **7,772,273,500 บาท**

รายละเอียด หน่วย : บาท

งบประมาณรายจ่าย	แผนงานแก้ไขปัญหายุทธศาสตร์ชาติ	แผนงานบูรณาการป้องกันปราบปราม และบำบัดรักษาผู้ติดยาเสพติด	รายจ่ายบุคลากร
5,434,977,100 แบ่งเป็น <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ความมั่นคง 144,056,800 • รักษาความสงบในประเทศ 44,589,600 • ป้องกันและแก้ไขปัญหามลกระทบความมั่นคง 4,832,032,800 • บริหารความมั่นคงแบบองค์รวม 414,297,900 	1,404,987,500	145,707,100	786,601,800

กลุ่มงานพัฒนาทรัพยากรสารสนเทศ สำนักวิชาการ
 สำนักงานเลขาธิการสภาผู้แทนราษฎร

พระราชบัญญัติ
 งบประมาณรายจ่าย
 ประจำปีงบประมาณ พ.ศ.2566



- Reports have emerged that the Royal Thai Police Office has made several adjustments to its office after a series of bad incidents affecting the Thai police's reputation.
 - ❖ Reports said sculptures of Garuda birds were installed on the building, facing Wat Phatumwanaram on Rama I Road. The Garuda sculptures, representing an auspicious animal and great power, have a wingspan of 1 meter and a body height of 80 centimeters.
 - ❖ At the same time, "Chinsae," a Chinese mentor, was invited to the office to relocate the spirit house from its original position in front of the entrance on Rama I Road to the side of the building. Additionally, the size of the entrance was reduced.



Political News Headlines in Thai Media

- Earlier this month, Bangkok experienced a harrowing event that sent shockwaves through the entire nation. In the bustling Siam Paragon, located in the heart of the city center, a 14-year-old boy pulled out a gun and began shooting random people.

- Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/51022/we-can-do-better-as-a-society-when-it-comes-to-mental-health/>
 - Defence Minister Sutin Klungsang on Monday told a House committee that the government will lift the emergency decree imposed in the insurgency-hit southern border provinces by 2027.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/politics/40032388>
 - A senior Pheu Thai MP has voiced support for a bill, proposed by the Move Forward party, calling for the dissolution of Thailand's Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC).
 - Link- <https://www.thaipbsworld.com/pheu-thai-mp-supports-closure-of-internal-security-operations-command/>
 - Suspended jail term for student activist in S112 case.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2674539/suspended-jail-term-for-student-activist-in-s112-case>
 - Sub swap proposal 'must stay in budget'
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2674821/sub-swap-proposal-must-stay-in-budget>
 - Charter rewrite panel seeks public opinion
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2674811/charter-rewrite-panel-seeks-public-opinion>
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Economic News Headlines in Thai Media

- Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin, who is in Laos on an official visit, promised his Laotian counterpart that Thailand would help the neighbouring country become a land-linked nation from a land-locked one.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/general/40032384>

- The Federation of Thai Industries (FTI) has achieved a new milestone in the second phase of its “Made in Thailand” project by signing a pact with four key public sector agencies.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/economy/40032392>
 - The Thai Ministry of Labour has issued a ministerial order setting new fees for inspections and work permits for foreign workers from Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam.
 - Link- https://www.khaosodenglish.com/news/2023/10/30/thailand-lowers-fees-for-cambodian-laotian-myanmar-and-vietnamese-workers/#google_vignette
 - Bars to open until 4am in tourist areas from New Year
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/general/2674554/bars-to-open-until-4am-in-tourist-areas-from-new-year>
 - KBank moves to buy Satang Corp
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/general/2675118/kbank-moves-to-buy-satang-corp>
 - Talks aim to revise land, building tax.
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/general/2674791/talks-aim-to-revise-land-building-tax>
 - Chiang Mai airport's new hours met with protests
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2674886/chiang-mai-airports-new-hours-met-with-protests>
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Issues to be watched out for

- October 31, 2023 - The Ministry of Finance will announce its own GDP data.

- November 6, 2023 - October Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- November 15-17 - Prime Minister Srettha Thavasin attends APEC summit in San Francisco.
- November 29, 2023 - Monetary Policy Committee holds its meeting
- December 6, 2023 - November Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- December 31, 2023 - The last day by which Pheu Thai party has promised to bring about the 20 Baht/ride for the RED and Purple line mass transit to be operational.
- 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/opdayCalendar>

Key Data

SET Index	1,395.85	+7.62
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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 October 30, 2023

Buying, Selling or Transfer of shares by Owners/Management

Stock Code	Volume	Value	Action
ALPHAX	9,500,000	0.96	Purchase
BGT	19,000	0.76	Purchase
CV	5,599,200	0.65	Sale
CV	690,000	0.63	Sale
GUNKUL	4,000,000	2.49	Purchase
GUNKUL	1,000,000	2.44	Purchase
MJD	61,600	1.24	Purchase
MJD	4,700	1.24	Purchase
NDR	150,000	0.08	Sale
NEX	5,400,000	9.2	Purchase
NEX	5,400,000	9.2	Purchase
PQS	600,000	-	Transfer
PRIN	85,000	2.8	Purchase
TRITN	2,000,000	0.14	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 30 October 2023						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	3,048.82	8.29	2,117.56	5.76	931.26	-

Proprietary Trading	2,686.88	7.31	2,774.29	7.55	-87.41	-
Foreign Investor	20,134.05	54.78	20,884.60	56.82	-750.55	-
Local Individuals	10,885.25	29.62	10,978.55	29.87	-93.29	-
Monthly Cumulative between 1 Oct-30 October 2023						
Unit: M.Baht						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	78,911.09	9.03	68,087.43	7.79	10,823.66	-
Proprietary Trading	64,114.03	7.33	69,212.48	7.92	-5,098.45	-
Foreign Investors	458,506.57	52.45	471,908.75	53.99	-13,402.18	-
Local Individuals	272,601.93	31.19	264,924.97	30.31	7,676.96	-
Yearly Cumulative since 1 Jan -30 October 2023						
Unit: M.Baht						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	930,131.72	8.69	868,419.27	8.11	61,712.45	-
Proprietary Trading	816,975.32	7.63	820,350.09	7.66	-3,374.77	-
Foreign Investors	5,492,941.83	51.30	5,663,514.51	52.89	-170,572.68	-
Local Individuals	3,467,697.76	32.38	3,355,462.76	31.34	112,235.00	-

Total Trading Value 36,757.89 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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