November 9, 2023

Thai Enquirer News Summary

Political News

- Leaders of the leading coalition parties in government met to have dinner yesterday at the Spider Collection NW303, a new hideout members only club on Sathorn road.
  - Some of the attendees included Srettha Thavisin and Paetongtarn Shinawatra representing the Pheu Thai Party and Patcharawat Wongsuwan and Thammanat Phromphao representing the Palang Pracharath Party.
  - This was the 1st such meeting in 2-months since Sretthta government was formed and aim is to have such meetings each month to ‘strengthen’ the interaction between the coalition members.
Prime Minister's Office Minister Puangpetch Chunlaiad revealed that Prime Minister Srettha has called for a meeting to prepare for the government's 2-month anniversary policy statement, scheduled for (Today) November 9.

- On November 10, there will also be two events: a policy announcement on the 10,000 Baht digital cash handout and the Thailand Winter Festival.

- The Prime Minister emphasized the importance of widely disseminating the government's achievements to the public and reaching the widest possible target audience.

The Bhumjai Thai Party has petitioned the Election Commission (EC) for the dissolution of the Move Forward Party (MFP), pointing out that it leads the opposition in the House of Representatives while a former party member remains House deputy speaker.

- Bhumjai Thai registrar Supachai Jaisamut said that he had sent his petition to the political party registrar of the EC. It asked that the election regulator look into the behaviour of Move Forward and its former member, Phitsanulok MP Padipat Suntiphada.

- He wondered if Move Forward had followed the rules by launching disciplinary action against Padipat before expelling him. If not, he remained a member of the party.

- Padipat is yet to move to a new political party as per the law states that an expelled MP from the party has to be a member of a political outfit within 30-days after the expulsion.

Move Forward party, the main opposition party in recent days has expelled 2 other MPs for sexual harassment, but those moves followed disciplinary investigations in line with the party's regulations.
Move Forward emerged from the May 14 general election with the most seats and Padipat became a deputy House speaker. But the party was subsequently excluded from the coalition government and became the biggest opposition party. Bhumjai Thai came 3rd in the election and is a member of the coalition.

As the 2nd largest member of the coalition, Bhumjai Thai party’s candidate is eligible to be the deputy House Speaker, but this can only happen after Padipat is removed from the position.

Democrat MP Tankhun Jittitsara has accused Move Forward MP Phattarapong Leelaphat, representing Chiang Mai, of falsifying the signatures of his assistant canvassers. This alleged action was taken to retain all the funds allocated to his canvassers during the election, provided by the Move Forward Party, for his own benefit.

According to Tankhun, two of Phattarapong's canvassers approached him, reporting that they were supposed to receive 13,490 and 18,020 Baht respectively for their canvassing efforts. However, Phattarapong reportedly withheld these amounts for himself.
General News

- Two people were hospitalized when concrete sheets covering the road at the entrance of Soi Sukhumvit 64/1 in Bangkok’s Phra Khanong district collapsed under the weight of a 10-wheeler on Wednesday morning.

  ❖ The sheets, extending across 3 traffic lanes, were placed to conceal an excavation for an underground power line project. Despite the driver's claim that the truck adhered to weight limits, its rear became lodged in the hole.

  ❖ Bangkok governor Chadchart Sittipunt arrived at the scene at around 1pm, and ordered an immediate halt to the power line project underneath until the cause has been found and the road fixed. He said there are 700 projects like this in Bangkok.

- Good news for commuters near Sukhumvit 64: the hole in front of Soi 64/1 was fixed overnight and opened to traffic.

  ❖ The latest news reports, which quoted the Bangkok Governor, indicate that the truck, which was stuck in collapsed metal slabs over a utility tunnel that made up the road, was carrying 45 tons of weight.
• Adding a mysterious twist to the situation, a sticker believed to be connected to a police bribery ring was discovered on the truck. The sticker, a green-white star shape with a letter "B," is believed to have been one of the stickers distributed to overweight trucks by police, implying that they've paid bribes and won't be inspected by on-duty officers.

❖ This allegation was first made by Move Forward party-list MP Wiroj Lakkhanaadisorn in May. The Land Transport Federation of Thailand highlighted that police bribery rings in the trucking industry have persisted for the past two decades, with no effective measures taken by successive governments.

• The Central Criminal Court for Corruption and Misconduct Cases sentenced 4 police officers from Huai Khwang Police Station to 5 years in jail for extorting money from a Taiwanese actress in January.

❖ The court found them guilty of extorting 27,000 baht from An Yuqing, also known as Charlene An, at a checkpoint near the Chinese embassy at approximately 1 a.m. on January 4. Two other officers who were also accused of the same crime were acquitted.

❖ On that night, the officers stopped her taxi at the checkpoint and detained her and her friends for about two hours while they attempted to charge her for having an invalid visa and for possessing e-cigarettes. However, she did have a visa on arrival, and there is usually no checkpoint near the embassy. The officers later informed them that they would have to pay to be released from the checkpoint.
The actress and her friends paid the bribe before returning to Taiwan the following day, vowing never to return to Thailand again.

Bangkok residents should beware of harmful levels of PM2.5 from November 9-12, the city administration cautioned on Wednesday.

The assistant secretary to the Bangkok governor and Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) spokesman, Aekvarunyoo Amrapala, said that due to correlated factors and the weather, air quality was expected to be poor from November 9-12.

The concentration of PM2.5 were expected to be high, reaching the “orange zone”, which could have adverse effects on public health. The BMA has urged residents to wear masks when going outside, especially vulnerable groups like the elderly, pregnant women, young children, and individuals with pre-existing health conditions.

Economic News

Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin will attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) Economic Leaders' Meeting 2023 from November 11 to 17 in San Francisco, California, USA.
The meeting will involve discussions with leaders from various countries, with the aim of proposing a major investment project titled “Land Bridge” through the Southern Economic Corridor that will connect the Pacific Ocean with the Indian Ocean.

Srettha will also attend one-on-one meetings with executives from major global companies including Microsoft and Google to prepare for the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for clean energy investment, enhancing workforce capabilities, and advancing artificial intelligence (AI) development in Thailand.

Energy Minister Pirapan Salirathavibhaga addressed concerns regarding recent fuel shortages at certain Bangchak gas stations.

He stated that a review of recent data revealed a significant decrease in fuel consumption, particularly between November 4 and 6, 2023. During this period,

- Gasohol 95 consumption dropped by more than 60%, declining from 17 million liters per day to 7 million liters per day as people waited for the prices to drop by 1.00 Baht on November 7.

- Similarly, gasohol 91 consumption decreased from 6 million liters per day to 2 million liters per day again as people waited for a drop of 2.50 Baht per liter. This trend was also observed for E20 and E85.

Pirapan attributed this decline in fuel consumption to public awareness of the Ministry of Energy's policy to reduce gasohol prices. He explained that many people likely refrained from refueling until the price reduction went into effect, causing a surge in consumption and resulting in the shortages.
Nevertheless, Pirapan stated that the shortages would be resolved within 1-2 days. He also established a task force to examine the matter.

- At the same time the price of gasoline saw yet another dip today amid lower global oil prices.

- Shares of True Corporation Plc (TRUE) saw its price dip by 4.13% yesterday, or 0.25 Baht, closing at 5.80 Baht. The trading value was 1.33 billion Baht with the lowest trading price recorded at 5.55 Baht.

- The decline followed the announcement from the Thai Bond Market Association (ThaiBMA) regarding the sale of True’s bonds, totaling 14 billion Baht. Of this,
only 12 billion Baht has been sold, leaving 2 billion Baht remaining. True also has bonds worth over 27 billion Baht, consisting of 6 sets that will mature in 2024.

- True is set to announce its performance results for the 3rd quarter of 2023 today. According to Refinitiv consensus data, the company’s estimated net loss for Q3/2023 is 1.74 billion Baht, with an average target price of 8.20 Baht from 11 brokers.

- Gulf Energy Development Plc (GULF) will report its performance for the 3rd quarter of 2023 today. It is projected that GULF’s revenue will reach around 30.49 billion Baht, with a net profit of 3.42 billion Baht, in line with market expectations. The average target price is advised at 55.69 Baht, based on assessments from nine brokerage firms.

- Thai Oil Plc (TOP) has reported its performance for the 3rd quarter of 2023. The company achieved a net profit of 10.82 billion Baht, representing an increase of 10.81 billion Baht compared to the same period last year.

  - This also signifies a rise of 9.71 billion Baht compared to the previous quarter. In total, for the first 9 months of this year, TOP recorded a net profit of 16.49 billion Baht, which is a decrease of 16.02 billion Baht compared to the same period last year.

  - It is anticipated that the company's operational performance will remain favorable in the next three months of this year due to the rising demand for heating oil during the winter season, continuous growth in the tourism sector, and the sustained high level of crude oil prices.

**Political News Headlines in Thai Media**

- In September, the Global Shaper Bangkok Hub hosted the SHAPE APAC 2023 conference to highlight that Thailand is also facing a ‘polycrisis.’

- Another petition seeks to axe Move Forward

- Charter rewrite vote may coincide with PAO polls
• The Foreign Ministry issued a statement on Wednesday dismissing social media reports that Thai workers are being hired as mercenaries in Israel.

• More than 200 Thais stuck in the ongoing clash at Myanmar’s Kokong Self-Administered Zone may be brought back to Thailand later this week.

• Public input sought for new drug rules

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**Economic News Headlines in Thai Media**

• Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin will seek investment from US business leaders at the seven-day APEC CEO Summit, starting on Saturday in San Francisco.

• While Western and Chinese arms manufacturers dominate at Bangkok’s biannual defence fair this week, Thai exhibitors are also targeting a bigger slice of a global industry worth around US$475 billion (16.9 trillion baht).

• Bangchak Group announced its performance for the first nine months of 2023, recording a total revenue of THB 242,931 million and EBITDA of THB 31,433 million.

• The 1441 hotline of the Anti-Online Scam Operation Centre (AOC) was flooded with 15,000 calls in the first six days of operation that also saw 680 suspected mule accounts frozen, a senior official said Wednesday.
The Thai Bankers Association (TBA) has offered an assurance that their mobile banking applications are secure and safe.

Stock investor confidence at 5-month low

New members bring industry experience to BoT rate policy panel

Issues to be watched out for

- November 11-17 - Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin 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/oppdayCalendar
**Key Data**

**SET Index**

1,411.77  
**+3.47**


**Global Commodities**


**Global Equity Market’s Movements**


**Asian Equity Markets Movement**


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**Information on November 8, 2023**

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

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<th>Stock Code</th>
<th>Volume</th>
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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](https://www.set.or.th/set/xcalendar.do)

**Trading Breakdown on the Stock Exchange of Thailand**

### Daily as of 8 November 2023

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<th>Investor Type</th>
<th>Buy</th>
<th>Sell</th>
<th>Net</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Value</td>
<td>%</td>
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### Monthly Cumulative between 1 Nov - 8 November 2023

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<th>Buy</th>
<th>Sell</th>
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<tbody>
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### Yearly Cumulative since 1 Jan - 8 November 2023

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|                      | -176,839.39      |                  |                     |

**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.


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