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March 13, 2024

Thai Enquirer News Summary

Political News

- Election Commission voted unanimously to seek the dissolution of Move Forward Party after the Constitutional Court ruled the party had violated the charter by campaigning to amend the Article 112 (lese majeste law).
 - ❖ The 5 election commissioners voted unanimously on Tuesday to push for Move Forward's dissolution in line with complaints filed by "master petitioner" Ruangkrai Leekitwattana and lawyer Theerayut Suwankesorn.
 - ❖ On January 31, the court ordered Move Forward to cease all attempts to abolish or amend Article 112 of the Criminal Code or the lese majeste law, saying its constant campaigning on the issue would undermine the Thai monarchy. It also deemed the move as an attempt to overthrow the country's constitutional monarchy as per Article 49 of the Constitution.

- ❖ Before the EC voted, they considered the result of the EC's interpretation of the written verdict, which was published in the Royal Gazette on February 29. According to the EC's interpretation, the verdict found Move Forward guilty of violating Article 92 (1) of the Political Party Act of 2017.
- ❖ The EC also called on the Constitutional Court to ban Move Forward executives from contesting future elections.
- ❖ MFP won 151 seats (the most of all political parties) in the May 2023 election but couldn't form a government due to a lack of support from the Senate. If disbanded, MFP executives could also be banned from politics for 10 years.

Section 47. A person shall have the right to receive public health services provided by the State.

An indigent person shall have the right to receive public health services provided by the State free of charge as provided by law.

A person shall have the right to the protection and eradication of harmful contagious diseases by the State free of charge.

Section 48. The rights of a mother during the period prior to and after giving birth shall be protected and assisted as provided by law.

A person who is over sixty years of age and has insufficient income for subsistence and an indigent person shall have the right to receive appropriate aids from the State as provided by law.

Section 49. No person shall exercise the rights or liberties to overthrow the democratic regime of government with the King as Head of State.

Any person who has knowledge of an act under paragraph one shall have the right to petition to the Attorney-General to submit a motion to the Constitutional Court for an order to cease such act.

มาตรา ๔๒ เมื่อคณะกรรมการมีหลักฐานอันควรเชื่อได้ว่าพรรคการเมืองใดกระทำการอย่างใดอย่างหนึ่งดังต่อไปนี้ ให้ยื่นศาลรัฐธรรมนูญเพื่อสั่งยุบพรรคการเมืองนั้น

(๑) กระทำการล้มล้างการปกครองระบอบประชาธิปไตยอันมีพระมหากษัตริย์ทรงเป็นประมุข หรือเพื่อให้ได้มาซึ่งอำนาจในการปกครองประเทศโดยวิธีการซึ่งมิได้เป็นไปตามวิถีทางที่บัญญัติไว้ในรัฐธรรมนูญ

(๒) กระทำการอันอาจเป็นปฏิปักษ์ต่อการปกครองระบอบประชาธิปไตยอันมีพระมหากษัตริย์ทรงเป็นประมุข

(๓) กระทำการฝ่าฝืนมาตรา ๒๐ วรรคสอง มาตรา ๒๔ มาตรา ๒๕ มาตรา ๓๐ มาตรา ๓๔ มาตรา ๔๕ มาตรา ๔๖ มาตรา ๕๒ หรือมาตรา ๕๔

(๔) มีเหตุอันต้องยุบพรรคการเมืองตามที่กฎหมายกำหนด

เมื่อศาลรัฐธรรมนูญดำเนินการไต่สวนแล้ว มีหลักฐานอันควรเชื่อได้ว่าพรรคการเมืองกระทำการตามวรรคหนึ่ง ให้ศาลรัฐธรรมนูญสั่งยุบพรรคการเมือง และเพิกถอนสิทธิสมัครรับเลือกตั้งของคณะกรรมการบริหารพรรคการเมืองนั้น


มาตรา ๕๓ เมื่อปรากฏคือนายทะเบียนว่าพรรคการเมืองใดกระทำการตามมาตรา ๔๒ ให้นายทะเบียนรวบรวมข้อเท็จจริงและพยานหลักฐาน พร้อมทั้งเสนอความเห็นต่อคณะกรรมการเพื่อพิจารณา ทั้งนี้ ตามหลักเกณฑ์และวิธีการที่คณะกรรมการกำหนด

ในการยื่นคำร้องต่อศาลรัฐธรรมนูญตามมาตรา ๔๒ คณะกรรมการจะยื่นคำร้องเอง หรือจะมอบหมายให้นายทะเบียนเป็นผู้ยื่นคำร้องและดำเนินคดีแทนก็ได้ และเพื่อประโยชน์ในการดำเนินคดี นายทะเบียนโดยความเห็นชอบของคณะกรรมการจะขอให้มีการสุ่มหาพยานหลักฐานในการพิจารณาของศาลรัฐธรรมนูญกว่าจะเสร็จสิ้นก็ได้

ในกรณีเห็นสมควร ศาลรัฐธรรมนูญจะสั่งให้พรรคการเมืองระงับการกระทำใดไว้เป็นการชั่วคราวตามคำร้องขอของคณะกรรมการ นายทะเบียน หรืออัยการสูงสุด แล้วแต่กรณี ก็ได้

มาตรา ๕๔ เมื่อศาลรัฐธรรมนูญมีคำสั่งให้ยุบพรรคการเมืองใดแล้ว ให้นายทะเบียนประกาศคำสั่งยุบพรรคการเมืองนั้นในราชกิจจานุเบกษา และห้ามมิให้บุคคลใดใช้ชื่อ ชื่อย่อ หรือภาพเครื่องหมายของพรรคการเมืองเข้า หรือพ้องกับชื่อ ชื่อย่อ หรือภาพเครื่องหมายของพรรคการเมืองที่ถูกระงับ

- The dissolution of MFP is unlikely to have a major impact on the number of MPs of the party in the parliament as most of the people who could be banned are on the party-list and their disqualification would just move those on the party-list who did not make it to being MP move up.



Party	Party-list			Constituency			Total seats	+/-
	Votes	%	Seats	Votes	%	Seats		
Move Forward Party	14,438,851	37.99	39	9,665,433	25.40	112	151	+70 ^[b]
Pheu Thai Party	10,962,522	28.84	29	9,340,082	24.54	112	141	+5
United Thai Nation Party	4,766,408	12.54	13	3,607,575	9.48	23	36	New
Bhumjaithai Party	1,138,202	2.99	3	5,133,441	13.49	68	71	+20
Democrat Party	925,349	2.43	3	2,278,857	5.99	22	25	-28
Prachachart Party	602,645	1.59	2	334,051	0.88	7	9	+2
Palang Pracharath Party	537,625	1.41	1	4,186,441	11.00	39	40	-76
Thai Liberal Party	351,376	0.92	1	277,007	0.73	0	1	-9
Thai Sang Thai Party	340,178	0.90	1	872,893	2.29	5	6	New
New Democracy Party	273,428	0.72	1	13,583	0.04	0	1	0

- The political future of 10 executives of the Move Forward Party is now hanging in the balance as they could face up to 10-year ban from politics.
- ❖ Currently, MFP has 6 executives who are also members of the parliament including Pita Limjaroenrat, Chaithawat Tulathon, Somchai Fangchonchit, Apichat Sirisoontorn, Benja Saengchan, and Suthep U-on. Padipat Suntiphada, Second Deputy Speaker of the House, could also be banned.



- Pita Limjaroenrat, former MFP leader and main adviser, took to Instagram and wrote "Without you, there is no us. Let's move forward together."



- In a recent meeting, MFP MP Natthawut Buaprathum revealed that the party discussed strategies to maintain a grassroots presence even if the party is disbanded. They plan to contest local elections under the MFP banner.
- ❖ The party is also prepared to form a new political entity if its executives face a political ban. "Only the name of the party will be changed," said Natthawut.

- ❖ Natthawut also brushed off reports that some of the MFP MPs visited leader of the Palang Pracharath Party Gen Prawit Wongsuwan to ask to join his party, saying it is impossible.



- The decision to dissolve MFP could happen in matter of weeks or months. A similar allegation against Thai Raksa Chart party (the one that nominated Princess Ubolratana as its Prime Minister candidate in 2019) was dissolved on similar allegations of undermining the monarchy, and the party was dissolved in matter of weeks after the petition was filed.
- Meanwhile the investigation by the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC), which could result in a lifetime political ban for 44 Move Forward Party (MFP) MPs, is expected to be completed within the 180-day timeframe, according to Niwatchai Kasemmongkol, the Secretary-General of the NACC.
 - ❖ The petition for the NACC to investigate the 44 MFP MPs, who proposed a bill to amend the lese-majeste law, was submitted by Lawyer Teerayut Suwankasorn on February 2.
 - ❖ If the NACC finds the 44 MPs guilty of severe ethical misconduct for proposing the amendment bill, they could request the Supreme Court's Criminal Division for Holders of Political Positions to impose punishments on the MPs, including banning them from politics for a certain period or for life.
 - ❖ The MFP argued that MPs have the right to amend laws, and they highlighted that the Supreme Court's Criminal Division for Holders of Political Positions examines proof of circumstances differently from the Constitutional Court.



- Yesterday, the Ruam Thai Sang Chat Party (RTSC) convened a meeting to urgently consider a motion filed by the Move Forward Party to establish a committee to study the

scope of powers of the Constitutional Court. This motion was inserted into the agenda of this week's regular parliamentary meeting.

- ❖ According to Akaradej Wongpitakroj, an RTSC MP, the party disagreed with the urgent motion because it violates the constitution, which clearly defines the powers of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches. Akaradej added the MFP's motion also constitutes an overreach of the legislative power and involves overlapping interests.
- Thai Pakdee Party Chairperson Warong Dechgitvigrom was acquitted by the Criminal after a case of defamation was filed against him.
 - ❖ The plaintiff was Progressive Movement Leader Thanathorn Juangroongruangkit, who accused Warong of discrediting him while asking for damages worth 24 million Baht.
 - ❖ Warong stated that the case was related to his speech against the Move Forward Party, the Progressive Movement, and the pro-democracy youth movement he referred to as the "three-fingers mob." He claimed that they were seeking to overthrow the constitutional monarchy system.



- Yesterday marked the 20th anniversary of the disappearance of human rights lawyer Somchai Neelapaijit, the former Deputy Head of the Human Rights Commission of Thailand's Lawyer Council, and former President of the Muslim Lawyers Club who was forcibly disappeared 20 years ago in March 2004.
 - ❖ An event was organized by Amnesty International Thailand at Chulalongkorn University to call for justice for Somchai and his family, as well as other victims of forced disappearance.
 - ❖ Amnesty International's Regional Researcher for Thailand, Chanatip Tatiyakaroonwong, said that Thai authorities have "utterly failed" to provide justice or reparation to Somchai and his family. He said the case, along with many others involving enforced disappearances, highlights an "entrenched culture of impunity" in a country now attempting to join the UN Human Rights Council.

- ❖ Victims of enforced disappearances cannot fully trust the Thai authorities. He said that despite the government enacting a law criminalizing enforced disappearance over a year ago, no cases have reached the court, indicating the law's ineffectiveness in practice.



- The Office of the Basic Education Commission instructed Matthayom Wat That Thong School to eliminate an oral test for Mathayom 6 students (year 13 / grade 12) that had upset a royalist group. The royalist group claimed that the oral test could have implications for national security.

Economic News

- Prominent US-media outlet Time magazine featured Prime Minister Srettha Thavasin on its cover under the headline “The Salesman” and says Srettha is open to business.



- In over 6-months in office, Prime Minister Srettha has earned kudos for his efforts to win back the confidence of international investors, but there's little else to show for all the travels and meetings.
 - ❖ The country's image was undoubtedly damaged by the 2014 military coup and a military-backed government, and the PM has been working hard to rebuild

confidence and credibility. Srettha has been proactive in reaching out to many world leaders – politicians and investors – to secure investments in Thailand.

- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior – Anutin Charnvirakul, has come out to defend PM Srettha saying that his visit to 16 countries in 6-months and him being out of Thailand for 52 days out of the nearly 180-days, needs not be criticized because salesmen go 10 times and even if 3 are a done deal then it is considered to be a success.
 - ❖ “I was in the private sector and as salesman if we get 3 out of 10 doors we knock on, it is considered to be a success,” Anutin said.
- Satya Nadella, CEO of Microsoft, is scheduled to visit Thailand on March 21, 2024. He will be attending the “Microsoft Build: AI Day” event at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Center.
 - ❖ Nadella's visit will also include a meeting and meal with Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin at the Government House. This marks the 2nd time a Microsoft CEO has met with a Thai Prime Minister. In 2003, then-CEO Bill Gates met with former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra at the Government House.
- According to news reports, Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin has instructed Industry Minister Pimpatra Wichaikul to revise the industrial city plan to further facilitate foreign investments, including Tesla's potential investment in Thailand.
 - ❖ Tesla is currently in discussions with the Thai government about a potential production facility in Thailand, following a site survey conducted last year. The government has offered 100% green energy to power the facility, which could produce electric vehicles (EVs) or batteries.
 - ❖ In December, Srettha stated that Tesla is seeking 2,000 rai (320 hectares) of land, and he has already shown them around three industrial estates. He also said Tesla plans not only to invest in the EV manufacturing plant but also in the country's entire EV supply chain.
 - ❖ However, the latest reports indicate that the government and the company are facing challenges in finding the required 2,000 rai of land within existing industrial estates. The minister has been instructed to facilitate this potential investment.
 - ❖ The reports also suggest that the company is considering an area in Lat Krabang, which is not part of an industrial estate so there is a need to review the industrial city plan to avoid potential legal complications in the future.

- Thailand has welcomed more than 7.4 million international visitors between January 1 and March 10, according to Tourism Minister Sudawan Wangsupakitkosol. This surge generated 359 billion Baht for the country.
 - ❖ China led the pack in terms of visitor numbers, contributing over 1.3 million tourists. Tourists from neighboring Malaysia followed closely at nearly 1 million, with Russia, South Korea, and India rounding out the top five source countries.
 - ❖ However, the latest figures for the week of March 4 to 10 indicate a slight decline in tourist arrivals. This week saw 698,675 visitors, a decrease of 6.8% (51,000 tourists) compared to the previous week.
 - ❖ The decline seems to be affecting both nearby and distant markets. Tourist numbers from ASEAN and East Asian countries, including Malaysia which saw a 26% drop, have dipped. European tourists are also arriving in smaller numbers.
 - ❖ The average number of foreign arrivals per day is 99,811.



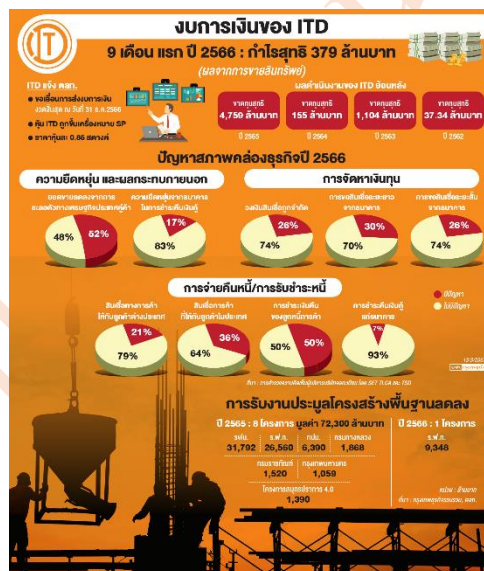
- The cabinet approved 5 versions of the alcohol control bill that will be deliberated in Parliament. This includes 2 versions from the civic sector, one version from the Move Forward Party, one version from the Ministry of Public Health, and one government version.
 - ❖ The government's version is the newest one and is based on suggestions from PM's Secretary-General Prommin Lertsuridej, which include:
 - The abolition of the 1972 order that dictates alcohol selling hours between 11:00-14:00 and 17:00-24:00.
 - Allowing the selling of alcohol at licensed establishments and hotels located near educational institutions.

- Allowing the selling of alcohol at concerts and sports stadiums.
- Allowing the health minister to decide on the date and time when alcohol cannot be sold, instead of the Prime Minister.
- The revision of the ban on alcohol advertisement.
- The revision of the ban on the sales of alcohol at automatic vending machines and promotions for alcohol.



- The cabinet has approved a measure to exempt investors from paying income tax on gains made from holding investment tokens that are already subjected to a 15% tax deducted at the source.
 - ❖ "The key point is that it is a single 15% tax collection on the gains from investment tokens without having to add it as income for annual tax calculations," said Deputy Government Spokesperson Karom Phonphonklang.
 - ❖ The exemption applies to gains received from January 1, 2024, onwards. The move will cost the state coffers about 50 million in terms of tax collection, but it will support the government's goal for Thailand to become Southeast Asia's digital asset hub.
 - ❖ This decision follows the government's move in February to suspend the 7% VAT on income from cryptocurrency trading.
- Reports are emerging that the government is looking to raise the minimum wages in April as a 'gift' for Songkran for Thai people. This may be implemented in only 10 provinces (initially).
 - ❖ Earlier attempt to raise the minimum wages was met with resistance to a point where Prime Minister Srettha had said that the rise of wages in some provinces (especially the South of Thailand) was not even enough to buy a single chicken egg.

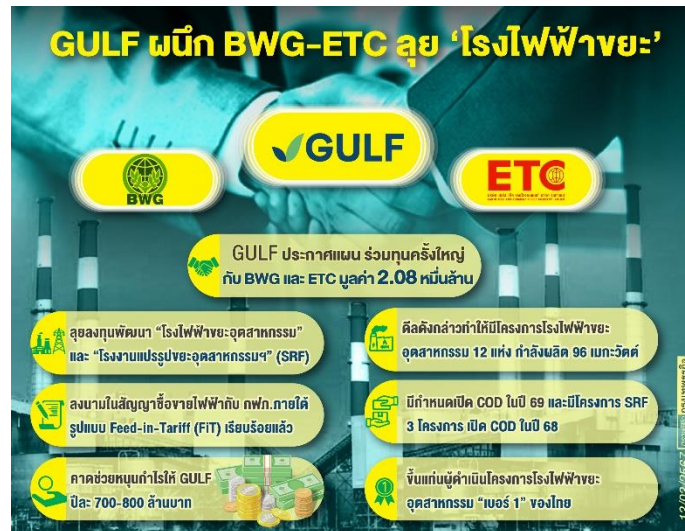
- ❖ The new wage would likely be discussed within March 2024 and would see certain big areas such as Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Chonburi, Songkla, Rayong, etc. rise in the minimum wages that would be close to 400 Baht/day with the aim to raising it to 600 Baht/day by the end of the term of this government in 2027.
- Italian-Thai Development (ITD) is grappling with a liquidity shortage after reports emerged that the company is struggling with payments to its subcontractors and workers.
 - ❖ ITD is currently seeking short-term financial support from banks and may need to restructure its debt, reports suggest. Negotiations are expected to conclude by March 2024.
 - ❖ The company has suffered continuous losses for the past five years, with a significant loss exceeding 4.759 billion Baht in 2023. Although the company briefly received profit from asset sales in the first nine months of 2023, ITD recently asked to delay its financial statements for December 2023. This delay resulted in ITD stocks being suspended from trading with a price of 0.85 Baht before the suspension.



- Gulf Energy Development has successfully concluded a deal with Better World Green (BWG) and Earth Tech Environment (ETC) for a collaborative investment of 17.6 billion Baht. The investment aims to construct 12 industrial waste power plants and SRF process plants with a total capacity of 96 megawatts.
 - ❖ Gulf Waste to Energy Holdings (GWTC), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Gulf, entered into an agreement with ETC to acquire 50% of ordinary shares in Get Green Power. This company is engaged in developing 10 industrial power plants valued at 15 billion Baht, categorized as Very Small Power Producers (VSPP) with an 8-megawatt capacity per project. The project secured a 20-year contract to supply

electricity to the Provincial Electricity Authority (PEA) in October 2023, with the plants anticipated to commence operations in 2026.

- ❖ Additionally, GWTC and BWG inked an agreement for the purchase of 50% of ordinary shares in Circular Camp. This company is involved in developing 3 SRF process plants totaling 2.6 billion Baht.



- The Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) closed slightly down yesterday, settling at 1,379.63 points, a decrease of 0.04%. The total trading value was 40.9 billion Baht.
- ❖ Investors adopted a cautious approach as they awaited the release of US inflation data. Domestically, the Election Commission's decision to seek a court order to dissolve the main opposition Move Forward Party had minimal impact on the market. However, this event could potentially limit future gains, analysts said. The market's focus has now shifted towards the passage of the 2024 fiscal budget.

Impact Loss	Trade	Change	%Chg	Impact
PTTEP	147.50↓	-1.50	-1.01	-0.48
CPAXT	33.00	-0.50	-1.49	-0.43
ADVANC	210.00	-1.00	-0.47	-0.24
TTB	1.83	-0.03	-1.61	-0.23
TFMAMA	219.00↓	-7.00	-3.10	-0.21
OR	17.90↓	-0.20	-1.10	-0.19
BAY	26.50	-0.25	-0.93	-0.15
EA	35.00↑	-0.50	-1.41	-0.15
BCP	41.25↓	-1.25	-2.94	-0.13
SCB	112.50↓	-0.50	-0.44	-0.13

- Gold prices in Thailand continued their ascent on March 12, rising by 100 Baht for ornaments and 50 Baht for bars. The selling price of gold ornaments ultimately reached 37,150 Baht per Baht-weight, while gold bars reached 36,650 Baht.

- ❖ Pawan Nawawattanasub, CEO of YLG Bullion International (YLG), predicted that gold prices in Thailand could hit 40,000 Baht by mid-2024. This aligns with the global gold market's upward trend, which already reached a record high of \$2,195 per ounce. The increase so far this year is over 7.3%.
- ❖ Several factors are contributing to the rise, including the Fed potential interest rate cuts and a stronger-than-anticipated US employment rate of 3.9%.
- The Sukosol family, who owns a prime piece of land between Central Chidlom and Central Embassy, released a statement to debunk reports that they are in talks with the Central group to sell the land for as high as 4 million Baht per square wah.
 - ❖ The Sukosol family clarified that there is no negotiation for sale happening at the moment. They also have no plans to sell the land and are only considering leasing it.



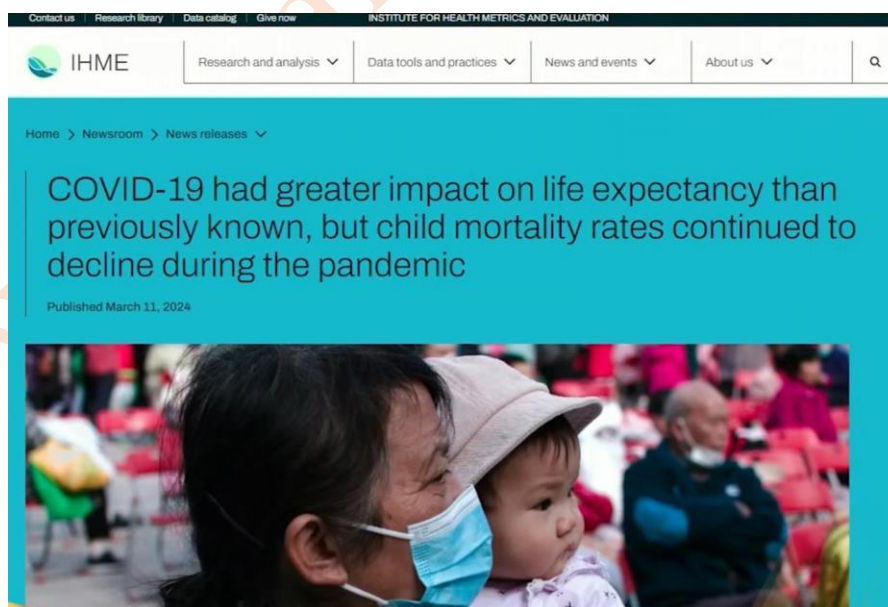
- Maha Songkran Parade will take place from April 11-15, in Bangkok, along the Ratchadamnoen Klang Avenue and at Sanam Luang, with the highlight being the Maha Songkran Parade, featuring 20 grand processions and more than 1,000 performers.
 - ❖ The Ministry of Tourism and Sports, together with the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Interior, and the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT), officially announced that the “Maha Songkran World Water Festival 2024” extravaganza will take place from 11-15 April in Bangkok, along the Ratchadamnoen Klang Avenue and at Sanam Luang.
 - ❖ The Ministry of Culture is proud to support the staging of Songkran celebrations in Bangkok, and five other unique locations, namely Chiang Mai, Khon Kaen, Samut Prakan, Chon Buri, and Phuket, to celebrate its UNESCO ‘Intangible Cultural Heritage’ status and to help promote Thai soft power to a global recognition.

- ❖ The Department of Cultural Promotion, Ministry of Culture has appointed Miss Antonia Porsild, Miss Universe 2023 first runner-up, as Mahodhara Devi, the Nang Songkran goddess of 2024. It is also launching a calendar of Songkran 2024 celebrations in different locations nationwide.



General News

- Covid-19 has lowered the life expectancy of most people around the world, so says the latest research.
- ❖ The latest research shows that life expectancy has reduced by as much as 1.6 years among adults.



- Deputy National Police Chief Pol Gen Surachate Hakparn has been summoned by the police, and arrest warrants have been issued for two more police officers and one civilian in connection with malfeasance, bribery, and money laundering allegations.
 - ❖ The case is linked to the alleged financial ties between Pol Gen Surachate and his subordinate and an illegal online gambling network, including Suchanun "Minnie" Sucharitchinsri's alleged online gambling ring, through at least four mule accounts valued at around 300 million Baht. Minnie admitted to having a close relationship with one of Pol Gen Surachate's subordinates but denied involvement in an online gambling ring.
 - ❖ Pol Gen Surachate's lawyer, Natthawit Netjaruroj, stated that the court did not issue an arrest warrant for the deputy national police chief because there was insufficient evidence, despite initial requests by investigative officers.
 - ❖ Lawyer Natthawit argued that the summoning and arrest warrants were not in accordance with regulations since the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) had already accepted the case on March 4, and the jurisdiction now belongs to the NACC, not the investigative officers. The requests for summoning and arrest warrants were made by Pol Maj Gen Tinnakorn Rangmat, Deputy Commander of the Bangkok Metropolitan Police.
 - ❖ If investigative officers persist in pursuing the case, Pol Gen Surachate's legal team will consider filing a petition to investigate them for abuse of power.



- A 4-year-old girl lost her life in a fire that broke out at the Si Moom Muang Market in Pathum Thani province yesterday evening. Several people were injured from smoke inhalation. Authorities are investigating to determine the cause of the fire.



Political News Headlines in Thai Media

- “Hell on Earth” – Reflections from a Thai Aid Worker in Gaza
 - Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/51882/hell-on-earth-reflections-from-a-thai-aid-worker-in-gaza/>
- Chiang Mai calling for Thaksin
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2757341/chiang-mai-calling-for-thaksin>
- The leader of the ruling Pheu Thai party, Paetongtarn Shinawatra, recently found herself on a list of people winning a spot in the military’s newly developed defence-study course – or in what some accuse as being a medium that elites use to forge their ties.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/politics/40036322>
- “It is still too far-fetched to talk about it”, Deputy PM Somsak Thepsuthin declared in response to speculation that former premier Yingluck Shinawatra may be seeking to return to Thailand.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/politics/40036317>
- PM’s secretary-general Prommin Lertsuridej responded to senators’ threats to question the premier by saying that the PM has achieved a lot in the first six months of his tenure.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/politics/40036316>

- Justice Minister Tawee Sodsong declared confidently on Tuesday that he will be able to answer senators' questions about allowing former premier Thaksin Shinawatra to visit Chiang Mai later this week.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/politics/40036309>
- Narathiwat police have launched a manhunt, fearing that a group of suspected insurgents who hijacked a pickup truck will use it to carry out a bomb attack.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/general/40036305>
- On the 20th anniversary of the enforced disappearance of prominent Thai human rights lawyer Somchai Neelapaijit, human rights organisations in Thailand and overseas issued statements commemorating and demanding justice.
 - Link- https://www.khaosodenglish.com/news/2024/03/12/on-somchai-neelapaijit-20th-anniversary-justice-has-still-disappeared/#google_vignette
- More than 30 senators have expressed a wish to take part in the no-confidence debate against the government of Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin, tentatively before the end of this month.
 - Link- <https://www.thaipbsworld.com/over-30-senators-to-grill-govt-during-no-confidence-debate/>
- MFP says Thaksin treatment will feature in debate
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2757424/mfp-says-thaksin-treatment-will-feature-in-debate>
- 'Sukhothai' salvage operation ends, memorial planned
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2757578/sukhothai-salvage-operation-ends-memorial-planned>

Economic News Headlines in Thai Media

- MQDC, a leading real estate development company, has appointed Suttha Ruengchaiphaiboon as CEO, with a focus on income generation and the completion of its flagship project, "The Forestias."

- Link- <https://www.thaienquirer.com/51876/mqdc-appoints-suttha-ruengchaiphaiboon-as-ceo-unveils-bold-vision-for-2024-with-focus-on-sustainability-quality-and-innovation/>
 - Major Car and Motorcycle Manufacturers Join together for the 45th BIMS 2024
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/blogs/thailand/general/40036321>
 - The Ministry of Labor is conducting inspections at construction sites to swiftly address the challenges faced by Italian-Thai Development (ITD) workers.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/business/corporate/40036319>
 - Thailand's Suvarnabhumi International Airport has been ranked the seventh most luxurious by Travel + Leisure magazine's website.
 - Link- <https://www.thaipbsworld.com/suvarnabhumi-worlds-seventh-most-luxurious-airport/>
 - Land reclaimed from private firm in Phuket
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2757463/land-reclaimed-from-private-firm-in-phuket>
 - Unsold Thai satellite orbit rights at risk of cancellation
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/general/2757658/unsold-thai-satellite-orbit-rights-at-risk-of-cancellation>
 - Cryptomind targets managing assets worth B3bn in 2024
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/general/2757833/cryptomind-targets-managing-assets-worth-b3bn-in-2024>
 - Delta lays out investment plans
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/general/2757568/delta-lays-out-investment-plans>
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Issues to be watched out for

- March 14-16, 2024 - Thaksin Shinawatra heads to Chiang Mai to visit the stupas of his ancestors.
- March 15, 2024 - Prime Minister Srettha Thavasin also heads to Chiang Mai for 'visit' of the province.
- March 25, 2024 - Senate's general debate on the govt's implementation of policies.
- March 30, 2024 - Bruno Mars' concert at Rajamangala National Stadium.
- April 3-4, 2024 - The second and third readings of the 2024 budget bill
- April 5, 2024 - March 2024 Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- April 10, 2024 - Monetary Policy Committee holds its meeting
- May 7, 2024 - April 2024 Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- May 20, 2024 - NESDC press conference Thailand's GDP Q1/2024
- June 5, 2024 - May 2024 Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- June 12, 2024 - Monetary Policy Committee holds its meeting
- July 5, 2024 - June 2024 Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- August 5, 2024 - July 2024 Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- August 19, 2024 - NESDC press conference Thailand's GDP Q2/2024
- August 21, 2024 - Monetary Policy Committee holds its meeting
- September 5, 2024 - August 2024 Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- October 7, 2024 - September 2024 Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- October 16, 2024 - Monetary Policy Committee holds its meeting

- November 5, 2024 - October 2024 Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- November 18, 2024 - NESDC press conference Thailand's GDP Q3/2024
- December 6, 2024 - November 2024 Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- December 18, 2024 - Monetary Policy Committee holds its meeting
- January 6, 2025 - 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	1,379.63	-0.60
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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 March 12, 2024**Buying, Selling or Transfer of shares by Owners/Management**

Stock Code	Volume	Value	Action
APCO	162,800	4.9	Purchase
APCO	162,800	4.9	Purchase
BLC	1,000	4.99	Sale
BH	200,000	228.5	Purchase
DDD	24,000	7.95	Purchase
EP	7,600	2.61	Purchase
GREEN	50,000	1.1	Sale
ITNS	436,700	2.38	Sale
ITNS	136,800	2.36	Sale
ITNS	208,000	2.35	Sale
JR	46,500	4.51	Purchase
JR	27,000	4.51	Purchase
MTI	6,900	109.5	Purchase
PERM	77,100	0.9	Purchase
PERM	150,000	0.89	Purchase
PLANB	485,700	8.75	Sale
PSTC	10,000	0.52	Purchase
PCC	5,000	3.08	Purchase
PRTR	30,000	4.28	Purchase
SCN	400,000	1.16	Purchase
SCN	2,000,000	0.18	Sale
SCN	2,000,000	0.16	Sale
SCN	50,000	0.19	Sale
SCN	217,000	0.1	Sale
SCN	61	0.09	Sale
SPA	2,200,000	14.23	Transfer
SPA	2,200,000	14.23	Acceptance of Transfer
STC	13,000	0.66	Purchase
SYNTEC	31,700	1.8	Purchase
TCMC	500,000	1.39	Purchase
TVO	100,000	21.1	Sale
TPS	75,000	4.2	Sale
UAC	20,000	3.61	Purchase
UBA	40,600	1.11	Purchase
KUN	2,000	1.67	Purchase

KUN	2,000	1.67	Purchase
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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 12 March 2024						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Unit: M.Baht Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	2,326.48	5.68	3,194.34	7.79	-867.85	-
Proprietary Trading	2,866.08	6.99	2,819.17	6.88	46.91	-
Foreign Investor	23,420.58	57.14	23,621.04	57.63	-200.46	-
Local Individuals	12,374.32	30.19	11,352.92	27.70	1,021.40	-
Monthly Cumulative between 1 Mar – 12 March 2024						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Unit: M.Baht Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	31,154.37	9.60	27,391.82	8.44	3,762.55	-
Proprietary Trading	22,725.82	7.00	24,420.12	7.53	-1,694.30	-
Foreign Investors	173,332.47	53.42	179,309.15	55.26	-5,976.68	-
WLocal Individuals	97,285.83	29.98	93,377.40	28.78	3,908.43	-
Yearly Cumulative since 1 Jan -12 March 2024						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Unit: M.Baht Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%

Local Institutions	205,320.15	9.25	209,419.55	9.44	-4,099.40	-
Proprietary Trading	156,535.20	7.05	159,554.79	7.19	-3,019.59	-
Foreign Investors	1,192,791.14	53.75	1,226,779.78	55.28	-33,988.64	
Local Individuals	664,584.60	29.95	623,476.97	28.09	41,107.63	-

Total Trading Value 41,011.61 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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