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April 17, 2024

Thai Enquirer News Summary

Political News

- Despite all the denials it is expected that after the Cabinet meeting next week (April 23), a cabinet reshuffle is imminent.
 - Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin denied but said a reshuffle will happen one day.
 - ❖ The list of ministers who are likely to be removed from their positions includes.
 - Suthin Klangsang, Minister of Defense
 - Chonan Srikaew, Minister of Public Health
 - Kriang Kantinan, Deputy Minister of Interior
 - Chaiya Promma, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives.

- ❖ On the other hand those rumored to be removed or their positions swapped are likely to remain in their positions.
 - Puangpet Chunlaiad, Minister of the Prime Minister's Office
 - Sudawan Wangsupakitkosol, Minister of Tourism and Sports, whose name has been mentioned in seat swapping with Sermsak Pongpanich, Minister of Culture.

Ministry of Finance

- Pichai Chunhavajira, an advisor to the Prime Minister and Chairman of the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET), will likely be appointed to replace Srettha as the Finance Minister.
- Paophum Rojanasakul, Secretary to the Minister of Finance, will accept the position of Deputy Finance Minister, replacing Krisada Chinavicharana.

Ministry of Defense

- Sretttha is likely to take the ministry under his wing.
- Gen Natthaphon Nakpanich, Secretary to the Minister of Defense, will assume the position of Deputy Minister of Defense.

Ministry of Public Health

 Somsak Thepsuthin, Deputy Prime Minister, will assume the position of Minister of Public Health

Deputy Prime Minister

 Suriya Juangroongruangkit, Minister of Transport, will be Deputy Prime Minister in place of Somsak.

Other positions from Phue Thai party's quota

- Pichit Chuenban, an advisor to the Prime Minister set to become Minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office
- Chousak Sirinil, a party list MP, will likely be appointed to fill the positions of Minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office.







 Meanwhile Pai Leeke, a Palang Pracharath MP for Kamphaeng Phet, is still waiting for clarification regarding qualifications. If he does not get any position, the Palang Pracharat Party will likely appoint Atthakorn Sirilatthayakorn in his place. As for the Ruam Thai Sang Chart Party, the name of Suchart Chomklin, a party-list MP, has emerged as a candidate for ministerial position.





- Yesterday Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin paid a high-profile visit to Thaksin Shinawatra at the Chan Song La residence, seeking the paroled former prime minister's Songkran blessings. PM Srettha denied that he discussed a possible Cabinet reshuffle with paroled former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra.
 - ❖ It turns out Srettha changed/edited the content he put for the post on X (formerly Twitter) after he initially posted it.
 - In the 1st one he said 'I have come to wish Thai New Year to Prime Minister Thaksin' he then later edited it to 'I have come to seek blessing and wish New Year to PM Thaksin who is a senior and well respected.'





- ❖ It was earlier reported that Thaksin had asked Srettha to bring the opposition Democrat Party into the ruling Pheu Thai-led coalition.
- ❖ Srettha said he talked to Thaksin about general issues with Thaksin but did not discuss politics. "For example, I talked about the issues of corn prices, forest burning, and cleanliness of the cities. I also talked about Myanmar with him". Thaksin didn't give him any special advice on the country's administration.
- ❖ A reporter then told him that several members of his Cabinet visited Thaksin in Chiang Mai, and Srettha said it was a normal thing for them to do so because the ministers knew Thaksin long before him, as Thaksin was the founder of the Thai Rak Thai Party that became the Pheu Thai Party.
 - Srettha even cited the names of some of the ministers in question Transport Minister Suriya Juangroongruangkit, Deputy Prime Minister Somsak Thepsutin, Culture Minister Sermsak Pongpanit, Public Health Minister Cholnan Srikaew, and Defence Minister Sutin Klungsang. "I don't have to name all of them. They all have known Thaksin longer than me and they have respected him for a long time.
 - Thaksin is older than all the Cabinet members and the ministers I named are older than me. So, I feel nothing about them visiting Thaksin," Srettha said.





- Former Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra could return to Thailand to celebrate Songkran next year, as indicated by her brother, former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra.
 - * "She wished me a happy Songkran before I left Bangkok, so I told her that next year we should come here to make merit together," he told reporters in Chiang Mai. "By Songkran next year, Prime Minister Pou (Yingluck's nickname) probably has a chance to do so," he said.
 - ❖ "When I was returning to Thailand, I was solely focused on the thought that I wanted to come home. I didn't know how or when, but I have been thinking about it since I left... and Prime Minister Pou also wants to come back now," he added.
 - ❖ Meanwhile PM Srettha said many individuals facing political charges and who left Thailand are looking to return home, which is a good sign. However, Yingluck has yet to contact state agencies about her possible return. There is actually no need for her to contact any state agency before returning, as everything will be handled according to the justice process.



• Politicians on holiday: PM Srettha Thavisin was in Hua Hin. Former PM Thaksin Shinawatra and Pita were in Chiang Mai.







• Yesterday, PM Srettha posted a photo while exercising, along with a caption stating that every time he exercises, he feels refreshed, his mind becomes clear, and he can think about many things about work.





- Srettha's boxer wearing has taken the country's social media by storm.
 - ❖ Social media was buzzing with many issues ranging from
 - Is it appropriate that the Prime Minister wears boxers and comes out in public?
 - And then there is the issue of his private parts kinda visible from the boxers/sports shorts/swimming shorts that he was wearing. Take a look at the red/white boxer and the various circles that has made it on social media.



Economic News

- Thailand has welcomed 10 million foreign tourists so far this year, according to Tourism and Sports Minister Sudawan Wangsuphakitkoson. The influx of tourists has contributed 518 billion baht to the Thai economy.
 - ❖ The top 5 countries with the highest number of foreign tourists are China (2,031,552 people), Malaysia (1,391,057 people), Russia (695,624 people), South Korea (619,186 people), and India (546,935 people).
 - ❖ Meanwhile, last week, 96,000 Muslim tourists, with Malaysians being the largest group, increased by 78,297 from the previous week due to the long holiday period in most of Muslim countries.



❖ Last week (April 11-15), over 784,000 international visitors arrived in Thailand to attend the Maha Songkran World Water Festival in Bangkok. This figure was nearly four times higher than the expected number of attendees, and generated an estimated 2.88 billion baht in revenue.



- According to sources from Government House, Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin is set to step down from his concurrent role as Minister of Finance. This will pave the way for a potential appointment of Pichai Chunhavajira, an advisor to the Prime Minister and current Chairman of the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET), to become the Minister of Finance and potentially assume the additional role of Deputy Prime Minister as well.
 - ❖ However, Pichai's potential appointment will necessitate his resignation from the SET's chairmanship. This will create a vacancy on the board, requiring the commission to appoint a replacement.



• Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Parnpree Bahiddha-Nukara submitted an official letter of intent to join the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) at a ceremony held in Paris, France, on Tuesday. The event was attended by representatives from all 38 OECD member countries, as well as representatives from the European Union (EU).

- ❖ In his address, Parnpree outlined Thailand's vision for OECD membership, emphasizing the potential for economic growth and global recognition that it could bring to Thailand.
- ❖ He cited studies by the Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI) that indicate OECD membership could boost Thailand's GDP by 1.6%, equivalent to around 200 billion baht. The membership could also help Thailand transform from a developing country to a developed country by 2037, the minister said.





• Four egg producer cooperatives have announced a 20-satang increase in the price of mixed-grade eggs, effective April 17, 2024. The new price is set at 3.60 baht per egg, up from the previous price of 3.40 baht.



- Thai AirAsia X announced on Tuesday that passengers on its two flights from Seoul and Osaka that had to make emergency landings in Hong Kong had been compensated.
 - ❖ The flights heading to Bangkok from Seoul and Osaka had to make emergency landings in Hong Kong due to engine malfunction. The two flights were:
 - ➤ Flight XJ701 from Seoul on Sunday with 289 passengers and 11 crew members.

- ➤ Flight XJ611 from Osaka on Monday with 364 passengers and 11 crew members.
- Gold prices in Thailand experienced a significant jump on April 16, rising by 250 baht compared to the previous day's closing price. The Gold Traders Association made 10 price adjustments throughout the day before the market closed.
 - ❖ As a result, the buy-back price for gold jewelry reached 40,355.92 baht per baht-weight, while the selling price was 41,700 baht per baht-weight. For gold bars, the buy-back price was 41,100 baht per baht-weight and the selling price was 41,200 baht per baht-weight. Meanwhile, the global spot gold price stood at \$2,372.50 per ounce.
 - ❖ MTS Gold Group, one of Thailand's leading gold trading firms, predicted a continued upward trend for gold prices in the medium to long term. In the short term, they expected gold prices to fluctuate within a range of 40,000 to 41,000 baht per baht-weight. However, in the medium to long term, they anticipated gold prices reaching 45,000 to 50,000 baht per baht-weight.
 - ❖ MTS believed that gold prices could reach 45,000 baht per baht-weight within the next three months, considering the 7,000 baht increase witnessed in just three and a half months.

Gold Price by GTA / ราคาทองตามประกาศของสมาคมค้าทองคำ						
ประจำวันที่ 16/04/2567 เวลา 17:03 น. (ครั้งที่ 10) บาทละ(บาท)						
ทองคำแท่ง 96.5%	ขายออก	41,200.00				
	รับชื้อ	41,100.00				
ทองรูปพรรณ 96.5%	ขายออก	41,700.00				
	ฐานภาษี	40,355.92				

ช่วงเวลา		ทอง	พองแห่ง		ปพรรณ			
เวลา	ครั้งที่	รับชื่อ (บาห)	ขายออก (บาห)	รับชื่อ (บาห)	ขายออก (บาห)	Gold Spot	Baht / US\$	ขึ้น/ลง
16/04/2567 17:03	10	41,100.00	41,200.00	40,355.92	41,700.00	2,372.50	36.65	50
16/04/2567 16:44	9	41,050.00	41,150.00	40,310.44	41,650.00	2,370.50	36.64	50
16/04/2567 16:31	8	41,000.00	41,100.00	40,264.96	41,600.00	2,368.00	36.64	-100
16/04/2567 15:17	7	41,100.00	41,200.00	40,355.92	41,700.00	2,369.00	36.68	-100
16/04/2567 13:56	6	41,200.00	41,300.00	40,462.04	41,800.00	2,371.00	36.72	-100
16/04/2567 13:39	5	41,300.00	41,400.00	40,553.00	41,900.00	2,379.00	36.74	-50
16/04/2567 13:32	4	41,350.00	41,450.00	40,598.48	41,950.00	2,381.00	36.76	-50
16/04/2567 12:41	3	41,400.00	41,500.00	40,659.12	42,000.00	2,387.00	36.72	-100
16/04/2567 10:07	2	41,500.00	41,600.00	40,750.08	42,100.00	2,386.00	36.83	50
16/04/2567 09:02	1	41,450.00	41,550.00	40,704.60	42,050.00	2,384.00	36.82	600





General News

- The three-day Songkran water splashing on Khao San road was over on Monday night and left behind about 116 tonnes of garbage, mostly drinking water bottles, plastic bags, water guns, plastic buckets and traces of white clay flour, to be collected by city collectors.
 - ❖ According to city officials, a total of 116 tonnes of garbage were collected from Khao San and its vicinity for the first three days from April 12. For Silom road, about 33 tonnes of garbage were collected on April 13-14. The number of revellers there was estimated at about 58,000 and 79,000 respectively.





- Bound & Beyond Plc will start transporting cadmium tailings from Samut Sakhon, Bangkok and Chon Buri back to their original location in Tak on May 7 and expects to complete the job in under 36 days, according to Industry Minister Pimphattra Wichaikul.
 - ❖ Pimphattra on Tuesday said the committee overseeing the transport of the tailings had considered a revised plan by the company that owns the cadmium waste. The company will begin transferring the cadmium tailings to Tak on May 7 using 30 trucks. It will move 450 tonnes of cadmium tailings per day.
 - ❖ Originally, the company was looking to deploy 10 trucks for transport, with the cadmium tailings predicted to be transferred in 92 days, but the committee requested an increase in the number of trucks to reduce the duration.



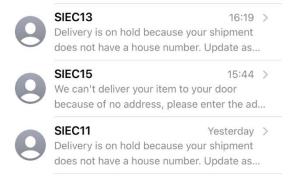


- A tourist boat caught fire as it was bringing 24 Thai tourists for a sight-seeing tour of the Chao Phraya River in Muang district of Ayutthaya province yesterday. All the tourists were, however, safely evacuated to another passing tourist boat. No one was harmed in the incident, but the boat was completely damaged by the fire.
 - ❖ A tourist boat operator said that the boat was about four years old and had insurance coverage for all the passengers. It was reported that the tourists were having lunch on board the boat when fire started, emitting black smoke, causing panic among some of them.
 - Fortunately, another tourist boat passed by and all of them were evacuated on to it.





- Beware of this phone scam. Many people are receiving SMS messages claiming there is a delivery waiting for them, with a link provided to update their house number. Do not click the link on these messages.
 - ❖ This is an example of an SMS scam, in which scammers send messages to individuals asserting they've been granted a loan, won a prize, or must register to receive a benefit. These messages trick people into sharing personal information and downloading unwanted files.



Political News Headlines in Thai Media

- Former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra's role in Thai politics has triggered a high possibility of a Cabinet reshuffle, a political expert said on Tuesday.
 - o Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/politics/40037291
- If the Cabinet reshuffle does go ahead as speculated, Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin will likely replace his Finance portfolio with that of the Defence Ministry, a source said.
 - o Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/politics/40037294
- Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin on Saturday ruled out a Cabinet reshuffle on April 17, in reaction to widespread speculation.
 - o Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/politics/40037219
- Democrat Party insists "no negotiations" have been made with former premier Thaksin Shinawatra over a possible Cabinet reshuffle after the latter said he had held talks with some Democrat MPs.
 - o Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/politics/40037264
- After years of living as a fugitive abroad, former Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra could soon return to Thailand just as her brother, former PM Thaksin, has done, political analyst and law professor Thanaporn Sriyakul said on Monday.
 - o Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/politics/40037273
- The Royal Thai Police are calling for sellers of motorcycles to participate in e-bidding to supply 14,442 motorcycles for patrol police under a budget of 1.884 billion baht.

- o Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/general/40037248
- The army has expressed satisfaction at more than 38,000 Thais volunteering to enlist, an improvement over the previous year.
 - o Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/general/40037241
- Campaigners use Songkran to urge people to run for Senate
 - o Link- https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2776915/campaigners-use-songkran-to-urge-people-to-run-for-senate
- Paetongtarn slammed for HK trip plan
 - Link- https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2774314/paetongtarn-slammed-for-hk-trip-plan

Economic News Headlines in Thai Media

- Digital wallet 'super app' to link with bank apps
 - o Link- https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2777054/digital-wallet-super-app-to-link-with-bank-apps
- Chiang Mai Zoo's aquarium reopens after B29m boost
 - o Link- https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2777299/chiang-mai-zoos-aquarium-reopens-after-b29m-boost
- Money 20/20, the world's leading fintech show, regarded as the place where money does business, is opening up its doors to Money20/20 Asia will be held in Bangkok at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Center on April 23-25.
 - Link- https://www.khaosodenglish.com/news/business/2024/04/16/bangkok-will-host-money20-20-asia-stage-for-global-fintech/
- Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin is closely monitoring the situation in the Middle East, particularly the escalating tensions between Iran and Israel, and has instructed agencies involved in foreign affairs, security, and the economy to report any significant changes and potential impacts on Thailand.

- o Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/economy/40037251
- The Finance Ministry has been appointed by the Cabinet as the lead agency in considering the report prepared by an ad hoc House committee on the feasibility of opening entertainment complexes with casinos in Thailand, a news source said.
 - o Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/general/40037274
- Chai Eamsiri, chief executive of Thai Airways International Pcl, has responded to reports
 that several countries in the Middle East have announced the closure of their airspace due
 to conflict between Iran and Israel.
 - o Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/general/40037245
- Nearly 70% of Thais said they are ready to receive the 10,000-baht digital wallet handout that is being launched as an economic stimulus measure, a recent poll shows.
 - o Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/economy/40037282
- It's time for Thai exporters to start preparing for Spain's new green regulation, which will go into effect from July 3, Commerce Minister Phumtham Wechayachai said.
 - o Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/thailand/economy/40037279
- Thailand is preparing to enact legislation that will regulate the export of young durians in an attempt to serve markets with only the highest quality fruit.
 - o Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/blogs/thailand/economy/40037254
- KCE Electronics Plc and BTS Group Holdings Plc became the two top firms whose share prices have fallen the most this year among the top 100 firms with the highest market cap, according to statistics from the Stock Exchange of Thailand.
 - o Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/business/corporate/40037262
- Thai retailer Central Group has acquired the landmark KaDeWe property in central Berlin from the insolvent Austrian company Signa in what it said was another step towards buying the group.
 - o Link- https://www.nationthailand.com/business/corporate/40037215
- Thai banks eye regional expansion

o Link- https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/general/2776774/thai-banks-eye-regional-expansion

Issues to be watched out for

•	April 23, 2024	-	FTI executives meet to elect the new President
•	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 Inflation Data December & Fiscal Year 2023 Consumer Confidence

For information on Opportunity Day of various companies click on the link –

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

Key Data

SET Index 1,396.38 -11.79

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 April 11, 2024

Buying, Selling or Transfer of shares by Owners/Management

Stock Code	Volume	Value	Action

ALPHAX	5,746,600	0.85	Purchase

ALPHAX	40,736,900	0.89	Purchase
AMARIN	1,746,491	5	Purchase
AMARIN	203,000	5	Purchase
APCO	20,000	4.96	Purchase
APCO	15,000	4.96	Purchase
APCO	20,000	4.96	Purchase
APCO	15,000	4.96	Purchase
HTC	500,000	17.48	Sale
JR	24,000	4.4	Purchase
JR	11,500	4.4	Purchase
JR	1,500	4.4	Purchase
RPH	40,000	6.05	Purchase
RPH	20,000	6	Purchase
THG	250,000	41.5	Transfer
TKC	15,000	12.7	Purchase
TKC	10,000	12.94	Purchase
YONG	158,000	2.03	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 11 April 2024							
				Unit: M.I	Baht		
Buy		Sell		Net			
Value	%	Value	%	Value	%		
3,756.93	8.75	4,485.36	10.44	-728.43	-		
3,428.50	7.98	2,600.29	6.05	828.22	-		
20,818.72	48.47	22,635.01	52.70	-1,816.30	-		
14,948.19	34.80	13,231.68	30.81	1,716.51	-		
	Buy Value 3,756.93 3,428.50 20,818.72	Buy Value % 3,756.93 8.75 3,428.50 7.98 20,818.72 48.47	BuySellValue%Value3,756.938.754,485.363,428.507.982,600.2920,818.7248.4722,635.01	Buy Sell Value % Value % 3,756.93 8.75 4,485.36 10.44 3,428.50 7.98 2,600.29 6.05 20,818.72 48.47 22,635.01 52.70	Buy Sell Net Value % Value % Value 3,756.93 8.75 4,485.36 10.44 -728.43 3,428.50 7.98 2,600.29 6.05 828.22 20,818.72 48.47 22,635.01 52.70 -1,816.30		

Monthly Cumulative between 1 Apr -11 April 2024

			Unit: M.Baht			Baht	
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net		
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%	
Local Institutions	29,544.08	9.82	34,409.37	11.44	-4,865.28	-	
Proprietary Trading	19,577.56	6.51	18,750.91	6.23	826.64	-	
Foreign Investors	156,063.71	51.89	146,299.91	48.64	9,763.80	-	
WLocal Individuals	95,569.74	31.78	101,294.91	33.68	-5,725.16	-	
Yearly Cumulative since 1 Jan -11 April 2024							

Unit: M.Baht

Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	278,605.24	9.11	289,643.35	9.47	-11,038.11	-
Proprietary Trading	210,781.11	6.89	212,847.21	6.96	-2,066.10	-
Foreign Investors	1,613,032.34	52.72	1,672,594.75	54.67	-59,562.40	
Local Individuals	957,041.86	31.28	884,375.24	28.91	72,666.61	-

Total Trading Value 42,973.84 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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