

# THAI ENQUIRER



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**May 2, 2024**

## **Thai Enquirer News Summary**

### **Economic News**

- Microsoft is committed to opening its 1<sup>st</sup> regional data center in Thailand and investing in artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure in the country, the company said yesterday.
  - ❖ Prime Minister Srettha Thavasin said the investments are in line with the government's push to become a digital economy hub powered by green energy. This came a day after the tech giant announced investments worth \$1.7 billion in AI and cloud facilities in Indonesia over a period of 4-years.
  - ❖ The company said the regional data center will expand the availability of its hyperscale cloud services with full Azure capability in Thailand and a world-class AI infrastructure.

- ❖ The investments in Thailand are expected to create more than 6,000 jobs, and the company also expects to train around 100,000 Thai entrepreneurs, especially in tourism, on how to use AI to enhance their businesses.



**แผนลงทุนในไทยของไมโครซอฟท์**

**ไมโครซอฟท์ ย้ำแผนลงทุน**

- การลงทุนต้อง สร้างมูลค่าเพิ่ม มีผลกระทบเชิงบวก ลดค่าใช้จ่าย ยกกระดับการทำงานภาครัฐ และการให้บริการประชาชน
- ส่วนการจัดสรรงบประมาณ ไมโครซอฟท์จะตั้งเป็นรายปี (CAPEX) การลงทุนด้าน AI จะสอดคล้อง นโยบายให้บริการระดับภูมิภาค เชื่อมโยงเพื่อใช้งานในระดับภูมิภาค ไม่ใช่แค่ในประเทศไทย

**ลงทุนด้านโครงสร้างพื้นฐาน "คลาวด์ - AI"**

**จัดตั้ง "ศูนย์ AI" ระดับภูมิภาค แห่งใหม่**

**เสริมสร้างทักษะด้าน AI ให้บุคลากรไทย 100,000 คน**

**ต้นกล้า AI อินฟราสตรักเจอร์ Microsoft Azure (ไมโครซอฟท์ อาซัวร์) เต็มรูปแบบ**

- The government on Wednesday gave a gift to workers on May Day by announcing an increase in daily minimum wage to 400 Baht nationwide effective October 1.
  - ❖ Interior Minister Anutin Charnvirakul and Labour Minister Pipat Ratchakitprakarn made the promise during May Day celebrations at the Lan Khon Muang ground in front of Bangkok City Hall.
  - ❖ The May Day ceremony was presided over by Anutin, who received the 10-point demand from the labour movement, which demanded better welfare and pay.
  - ❖ Anutin told the gathering of workers at the event that the government of Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin was giving priority to labourers and attached importance to increasing their daily wages. He said Srettha had instructed the labour minister to do anything to raise the daily wage to 400 Baht, saying the policy was as important as the economic stimulus policy of handing out 10,000 Baht via a digital wallet.



- Thai and migrant workers marched to Government House on Labour Day. Thai workers were calling for the nationwide 400 Baht daily minimum wage, which the government said should come into effect in October. Many delivery riders also called for the protection of their rights and welfare under the labour protection law and social security law.
  - ❖ Apart from calling for an increase in the daily minimum wage, extended maternity leave, appropriate working hours, guaranteed overtime pay, and more protection for Thai and migrant workers' rights, many workers' groups also called for the government to address the rising costs of living and indebtedness.



- Chatchalawan Muangchan, a representative of the Empower Foundation, stated that on National Labor Day, the foundation is advocating for the rights of sex workers who are fighting against the criminalization of prostitution in Thailand. Earlier this year, they submitted petitions to political parties to demand equal rights and basic welfare from the government for sex workers, which should be on par with other professions.
  - ❖ According to data from the website "sex-worker-statistics," which ranks the top 20 countries with the highest number of sex workers in 2024, China ranks first with approximately 5 million people, while Thailand ranks 8<sup>th</sup> with around 250,000 people.
  - ❖ The data below indicates which country has how many prostitutes.

 จีน	5,000,000 คน	 ตุรกี	118,000 คน
 อินเดีย	3,000,000 คน	 ไต้หวัน	100,000 คน
 สหรัฐอเมริกา	1,000,000 คน	 กัมพูชา	70,000 คน
 ฟิลิปปินส์	800,000 คน	 ยูเครน	67,500 คน
 เม็กซิโก	500,000 คน	 อังกฤษ	58,000 คน
 เยอรมนี	400,000 คน	 เคนยา	50,000 คน
 บราซิล	250,000 คน	 เวียดนาม	33,000 คน
 ไทย	250,000 คน	 แอฟริกาใต้	30,000 คน
 บังกลาเทศ	200,000 คน	 ยูเออี	30,000 คน
 เกาหลีใต้	147,000 คน	 ฝรั่งเศส	20,000 คน

- The Manufacturing Production Index (MPI) dropped for 18 consecutive months in March, declining by 5.13% year-on-year to 104.06 points, as reported by the Office of Industrial Economics (OIE). The capacity utilization rate in March was 62.39%.
  - ❖ For Q1 of 2024, the MPI dropped by an average of 3.65% year-on-year, with a capacity utilization rate of 60.45%.
  - ❖ The decline in March was attributed to lower car production, which has contracted for 8 consecutive months, as domestic demand is being dampened by high household debt, while demand from Southeast Asia, mainly the Philippines and Indonesia, has also decreased, according to the OIE.



- Deputy Minister of Finance Julphan Amornvivat, in his capacity as Chairman of the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives (BAAC), confirmed that the Ministry of Finance is discussing plans to increase BAAC's capital by 10 billion Baht. The current registered capital of BAAC stands at 80 billion Baht.
  - ❖ The principle behind the plan is that for every 1 Baht of capital increase, the bank will be able to disburse 11 Baht in loans. Julphan, however, denied that this capital increase is meant to facilitate the digital wallet project.



- ❖ Regarding the proposal to use 172 billion Baht of BAAC's funds to support the digital wallet project, Julphan stated that this matter will need to be formally discussed at a BAAC board meeting. He added that there is around 5-6 months to wait for the Council of State to provide a clear interpretation of the matter. However, he has already had informal discussions with the BAAC board, who he said agreed to support the project.



- A 3 billion Baht compensation might have to be paid to the Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF) if its Kantarat Golf Course, located between the runways of Don Mueang International Airport, is to be used to expand the airport's runways, said Defence Ministry spokesperson Jirayu Huangsap, who chairs a special parliamentary committee set up to push for the transfer of military-owned businesses to other state agencies.
  - ❖ Kirati Kitmanawat, deputy director of Airports of Thailand (AOT), stated at the committee meeting that they are ready to reclaim the land, as the golf course still poses a risk, despite being deemed acceptable by the International Civil Aviation Organization previously.
  - ❖ Kirati added that if the land is transferred to AOT, it would be used to connect runways 1 and 2, allowing for more flights in the near future.
  - ❖ Jirayu stated that compensating the RTAF would cost around 90-100 million Baht per year, totalling around 3 billion Baht over a 30-year period. However, the decision on how to proceed would ultimately be up to the government.



- Some members of the Board of Directors of Thai Airways International Plc (THAI) have come out to post that a data that puts to shame how exorbitant the pricing strategy of the ‘National Carrier’ is.
  - ❖ THAI is reportedly charging the highest margin on its ticket sales among all the airlines in the WORLD.
    - FYI Piyasvasti Amranand is the ‘Independent Director’ on the Board of Directors of THAI as per the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) data this morning.



- Supreme Distribution Plc (SPREME) is set to begin trading on the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) today, May 2, within the ICT industry sector.
  - ❖ Prior to the listing, the company offered 200 million common shares for public subscription, priced at 2.60 Baht per share. Following the IPO, SPREME plans to use the funds to prepare for bidding on large government contracts worth over 1 billion Baht in value.
  - ❖ Analysts predict a fair value for SPREME's shares at 5 Baht by the end of 2024, representing a 92% upside potential from the IPO price. This valuation is based on a P/E ratio of 20.7.

- The Supreme Administrative Court ruled yesterday that the Director of Lak Si district must exercise legal authority to ensure the Aspire Ngamwongwan condominium project strictly adheres to the environmental protection and mitigation measures outlined in its Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).
  - ❖ The case involved a lawsuit filed by the Anti-Global Warming Association and 39 other individuals against Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) and relevant parties. The plaintiffs sought the court to revoke the building permit and the EIA report, along with compensation for damages.



- Emanuelle, a famous massage parlor located on Ratchada Road near the MRT Ratchada station in Bangkok, has put up a sign advertising its land for sale or lease.
  - ❖ The land on which Emanuelle is located is leased land, with an area of around 1 rai. The front land is leased from the State Railway of Thailand (SRT) with a lease expiring on April 30, 2027, but can be renewed. The land inside is currently occupied by a 7-story building. The asking price for the land is 1 million Baht per square wah, for a total sale value of 645 million Baht.
  - ❖ Emanuelle went out of business in early April 2024 due to poor business and the need for a large investment in renovations to compete with nearby rivals.
  - ❖ According to reports, there has been interest in leasing the land for a hotel since the sale announcement, but no agreements have been reached as the landowner is only interested in selling the land.



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## General News

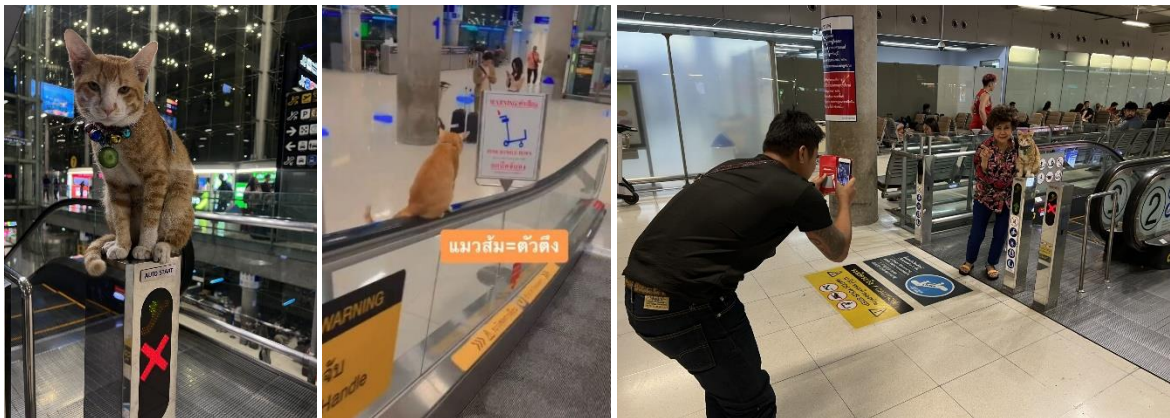
- The heat wave is set to continue today and likely to get worse.
  - ❖ Yesterday saw temperatures above 40 degrees Celsius in most part of Thailand and Bangkok had temperatures reaching well above 40 degrees as well.
  - ❖ So bad was the heatwave that parts of railway track in Nakorn Srithammarat (South of Thailand) had to have water sprayed, banana stem put over it and buckets of ice put in order to cool off and avoid the tracks overheating and curving around (thus endangering the rail movements).





1 พ.ค. 67		
ภาคเหนือ	43.6 °C	อ.เมือง จ.แม่ฮ่องสอน และ อ.เมือง จ.ลำปาง
ภาคอีสาน	43.2 °C	อ.เมือง จ.เลย
ภาคกลาง	42.7 °C	อ.เมือง จ.นครสวรรค์ และ อ.เมือง จ.กาญจนบุรี
ภาคตะวันออก	42.0 °C	อ.อรัญประเทศ จ.สระแก้ว
ภาคใต้	41.0 °C	อ.หัวหิน จ.ประจวบคีรีขันธ์
กรุงเทพฯ และปริมณฑล	41.5 °C	อ.คลองหลวง จ.ปทุมธานี

- A nine-month-old cat has become famous in Thailand recently, after video clips showing him strolling among passengers at Suvarnabhumi International Airport went viral. The cat is now known among Thai netizens as the “Suvarnabhumi orange cat,” although his name is actually “Nurang”.
  - ❖ The clips showing him wandering around airport and riding up and down escalators have been shared and liked many times. The mainstream and digital media have reported on his presence at the airport. Many tourists were seen taking photos with Nurang, who stood out by wearing a collar decorated with bells.



- During a meeting of the House Committee on Industry yesterday, which was scheduled to discuss the cadmium waste disposal case and to follow up on the fire at a warehouse storing industrial waste and chemicals in Rayong province, Department of Industrial Works (DOPA) Director-General Chulapong Taweessri revealed that he had submitted his resignation letter to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry.
  - ❖ This unexpected announcement left the committee chair and members stunned, and the meeting was immediately adjourned.

- ❖ There were rumors circulating that Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Industry Pimpatra Wichaikul was dissatisfied with Chulapong's performance and was planning to transfer him, with a proposal to be presented to the Cabinet next week.
- ❖ In response to these rumors, Chulapong told reporters that he had always carried out his duties to the best of his ability. However, given the current situation, he felt it was necessary to resign to preserve his own dignity and that of the Ministry of Industry. He added that he will retire from civil service on September 30 of this year and does not feel any need to cling to power.



- Meanwhile, Minister of Industry Pimpatra addressed rumors that she pressured Chulapong to resign. She stated that she has never pressured him to resign. Instead, she just urged all officials to work more diligently to resolve recurring problems within the ministry that have remained unresolved for far too long.
  - ❖ Pimpatra also clarified that she has not yet received any official resignation letter from Chulapong.
  - ❖ According to reports, Chulapong faced pressure from various sources, including Prime Minister Srettha, who reportedly criticized his handling of the fire at a warehouse in Rayong and the illegal transportation of cadmium waste from Tak province to Samut Sakhon, which subsequently spread to Chonburi and Bang Sue district in Bangkok. The transportation process reportedly had several issues, leading to further criticism directed at Chulapong, ultimately prompting his resignation.



- A massive fire broke out at an abandoned warehouse Wednesday evening in Ayutthaya where some 4,000 tonnes of chemicals were illegally stored. The fire prompted the Ayutthaya governor to order urgent evacuation of residents of nearby communities in Moo 2 village in Phachi district.
  - ❖ The fire broke out at 6pm at the warehouse buildings No 4 and 5. Authorities had previously impounded some 4,000 tonnes of chemicals illegally stored at the warehouse. The chemicals were evidence for a planned investigation and possible legal action against the warehouse owner.
  - ❖ The governor said warehouse No 4 had caught fire previously but Wednesday's disaster came from warehouse No 5.
  - ❖ The governor said the authorities were preparing to evacuate some 30 patients from the nearby Phachi Hospital as soon as possible as hazardous smoke was still being emitted. The patients are being evacuated to Tha Rua and Uthai hospitals.



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### **Political News**

- The Cabinet ministers are preparing for an audience with His Majesty the King to take their oath of office on the afternoon of May 3. The new ministers have been instructed to arrive at Santi Maitree Building at 15:00 PM for a group photo and ID card issuance. Prime Minister Srettha will then lead the new Cabinet to the audience with the King.
  - ❖ In addition, Srettha has submitted a letter requesting leave for the morning of May 3.
- Maris Sangiampongsa, a former ambassador to Australia and Canada, was officially appointed as the new foreign minister, as announced in the Royal Gazette.



ประกาศ  
แต่งตั้งรัฐมนตรี

พระบาทสมเด็จพระปรเมนทรรามาธิบดีศรีสินทรมหาวชิราลงกรณ  
พระวชิรเกล้าเจ้าอยู่หัว

พระบาทสมเด็จพระปรเมนทรรามาธิบดีศรีสินทรมหาวชิราลงกรณ พระวชิรเกล้าเจ้าอยู่หัว มีพระบรมราชโองการโปรดเกล้าฯ ให้ประกาศว่า ตามที่ได้ทรงพระกรุณาโปรดเกล้าฯ แต่งตั้ง นายเศรษฐา ทวีสิน เป็นนายกรัฐมนตรี ตามประกาศฉบับที่ ๒๑ สิงหาคม พุทธศักราช ๒๕๖๑ และแต่งตั้งรัฐมนตรีเพื่อบริหารราชการแผ่นดิน ตามประกาศฉบับที่ ๑ กันยายน พุทธศักราช ๒๕๖๑ และประกาศฉบับพิเศษ ฉบับที่ ๒๑ เมษายน พุทธศักราช ๒๕๖๒ นั้น

บัดนี้ นายกรัฐมนตรีได้กราบบังคมทูลว่า รัฐมนตรีว่าการกระทรวงการต่างประเทศ ได้ลาออกจากตำแหน่ง สมควรแต่งตั้งรัฐมนตรีว่าการกระทรวงการต่างประเทศแทนตำแหน่งที่ว่าง เพื่อความเหมาะสมและบังคับประสิทธิภาพราชการแผ่นดิน

อาศัยอำนาจตามความในมาตรา ๑๕๘ ของรัฐธรรมนูญแห่งราชอาณาจักรไทย จึงทรงพระกรุณาโปรดเกล้าฯ แต่งตั้ง นายมาวิชัย เสียมทองชัย เป็นรัฐมนตรีว่าการกระทรวงการต่างประเทศ

ทั้งนี้ ตั้งแต่วันที่ขึ้นบังคับใช้

ประกาศ ณ วันที่ ๑๐ เมษายน พุทธศักราช ๒๕๖๒ เป็นปีที่ ๙ ในรัชกาลปัจจุบัน

ผู้รับสนองพระบรมราชโองการ  
เศรษฐา ทวีสิน  
นายกรัฐมนตรี

- ❖ Maris expressed confidence that his long experience as a diplomat would help him work smoothly in the post. “For me, the post of deputy prime minister is not necessary because I work without restrictions,” he said.
- ❖ The new foreign minister declined to respond when asked to comment on the perception that he was close to former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra.



- Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin said the Council of State had scrutinized Pichit Chaimongkol’s qualifications before proposing his name for Royal Endorsement as a Minister in the Prime Minister's Office.
  - ❖ These remarks come as an anti-Thaksin group, along with a royalist faction, has submitted a petition to the Election Commission to verify Pichit's credentials. They are also intending to lodge a petition against Srettha with the National Anti-Corruption Commission. Allegedly, Srettha was aware that Pichit’s prior conviction disqualified him from the position, yet pursued royal endorsement for the appointment anyway. This could be interpreted as severe ethical misconduct, they said.



- ❖ Pichit, a former lawyer for former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, was sentenced to 6 months in jail in 2008 for attempting to bribe the Supreme Court with two million Baht in cash, which was discovered wrapped in a paper bag within the court's compound.



- The Constitutional Court has granted the main opposition Move Forward Party another 15 days to submit its defense statement in its dissolution case, extending the deadline to May 18.
  - ❖ Move Forward Party was accused by the Election Commission (EC) of violating the Political Parties Act and taking a hostile stance against the Royal Family by pushing to amend Article 112 of the Criminal Code, or the draconian lese majeste law. The EC based its complaint on the charter court's ruling that campaigns by former party leader Pita Limjaroenrat and other party members to amend Article 112 were unconstitutional.
  - ❖ The EC is pushing for the court to dissolve the party, ban its executives from politics and block them from setting up a new party.
  - ❖ On Wednesday, the court said Move Forward had sent a letter on April 23 asking for a 30-day extension, but it believes 15 days should suffice.

(๒) คณะกรรมการการเลือกตั้ง ขอให้ศาลรัฐธรรมนูญพิจารณาวินิจฉัยเพื่อมีคำสั่งยุบพรรคก้าวไกล (เรื่องพิจารณาที่ ๑๐/๒๕๖๖)

คณะกรรมการการเลือกตั้ง (ผู้ร้อง) โดยนายทศนิยมพรหมการเมือยื่นคำร้องกรณีมีหลักฐานอันควรเชื่อได้ว่าพรรคก้าวไกล (ผู้ถูกร้อง) มีพฤติการณ์กระทำการล้มล้างการปกครองระบอบประชาธิปไตยอันมีพระมหากษัตริย์ทรงเป็นประมุข และเข้าอีกพฤติการณ์อันอาจเป็นปฏิปักษ์ต่อการปกครองระบอบประชาธิปไตยอันมีพระมหากษัตริย์ทรงเป็นประมุข อันเป็นเหตุแห่งการยุบพรรคผู้ถูกร้องตามที่พระราชบัญญัติประกอบรัฐธรรมนูญว่าด้วยพรรคการเมือง พ.ศ. ๒๕๖๐ มาตรา ๑๒ วรรคหนึ่ง (๒) และ (๒) ซึ่งได้แจ้งรับทราบคุณค้ำที่วินิจฉัยศาลรัฐธรรมนูญที่ ๑๓/๒๕๖๖ ขอให้ศาลรัฐธรรมนูญสั่งยุบพรรคผู้ถูกร้อง เพิกถอนสิทธิสมัครรับเลือกตั้งของบุคคลผู้เป็นคณะกรรมการบริหารพรรคผู้ถูกร้อง และห้ามมิให้ผู้ซึ่งดำรงตำแหน่งคณะกรรมการบริหารพรรคผู้ถูกร้องและถูกเพิกถอนสิทธิสมัครรับเลือกตั้งไปจดทะเบียนพรรคการเมืองขึ้นใหม่หรือเป็นการบริหารพรรคการเมืองหรือจัดตั้งพรรคการเมืองขึ้นใหม่ภายหลังการพ้นโทษไปก่อนถึงวันเลือกตั้งในคราวเดียวกันของบุคคลผู้ถูกร้อง ตามพระราชบัญญัติประกอบรัฐธรรมนูญว่าด้วยพรรคการเมือง พ.ศ. ๒๕๖๐ มาตรา ๑๒ วรรคสอง และมาตรา ๑๔ วรรคสอง

**ผลการพิจารณา**

ศาลรัฐธรรมนูญพิจารณาคำพิพากษาศาลฎีกาที่ ๑๒ เมษายน ๒๕๖๖ ยกขยายระยะเวลาขึ้นคำวินิจฉัยคดีว่า ศาลมีคำสั่งยุบพรรคก้าวไกลในวันที่ ๑๐ มีนาคม ๒๕๖๖ และให้กรรมการบริหารพรรคก้าวไกลพ้นจากตำแหน่งและระงับการดำเนินคดีอาญาที่มีคำสั่งจำคุกในวันที่ ๓ พฤษภาคม ๒๕๖๗ ซึ่งจะครบกำหนดขึ้นคำวินิจฉัยคดีว่าพรรคก้าวไกลรัฐธรรมนูญในวันที่ ๒๗ พฤษภาคม ๒๕๖๗ ส่วนคำวินิจฉัยของนายค้ำที่วินิจฉัย ศาลรัฐธรรมนูญที่ ๑๓/๒๕๖๖ ขอให้ศาลรัฐธรรมนูญสั่งยุบพรรคผู้ถูกร้อง ยกเลิกในวันที่ ๑๑ เมษายน ๒๕๖๗ ศาลรัฐธรรมนูญพิจารณาคำพิพากษาศาลฎีกาที่ ๑๒ มีนาคม ๒๕๖๖ วินิจฉัยว่า คำพิพากษาศาลฎีกาที่ ๑๒ มีนาคม ๒๕๖๖ มีผลบังคับใช้ตั้งแต่วันที่ ๑๒ มีนาคม ๒๕๖๖

- Pol. Lt. Col. Keirov Kritteeranon, Secretary-General of the Office of the Ombudsman, announced that letters have been sent to the Office of the Secretary-General of the House of Representatives and the Election Commission to request clarification on issues raised in a complaint. This information will be used by the Ombudsman to make their decision on the matter.

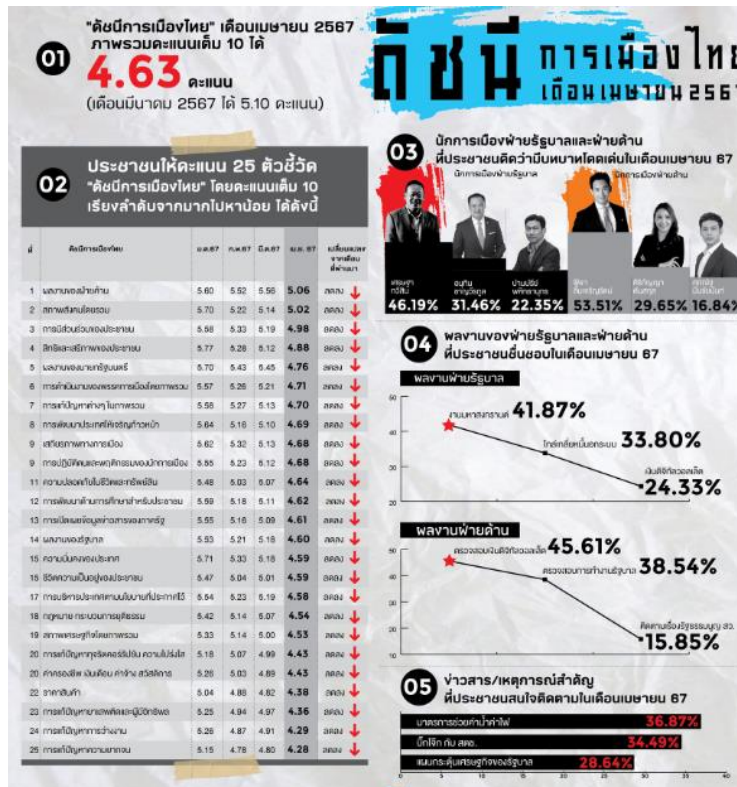


- ❖ On Tuesday a group of individuals seeking candidacy for the Senate election, led by former prosecutor and former dean of the Faculty of Law at Thammasat University, Panat Tasneeyanond, submitted a petition asking the Administrative Court to block the Election Commission (EC)'s latest rules regarding the introduction of senatorial candidates.
- ❖ Other members of the group included former secretary-general of the National Institute for Emergency Medicine, Pairoj Boonsirikamchai, musician Sirasak Ittipholpanich, and journalist Chonlanat Koaykul. The group contended that the rules, which prohibited candidates from distributing leaflets and participating in media interviews, excessively restricted their rights to introduce themselves to the public.
- ❖ Panat argued that the new rules must be published in the Royal Gazette before taking effect, emphasizing that no one is officially a candidate as registration has yet to commence. Consequently, individuals seeking candidacy should have the opportunity to introduce themselves to the public, as senators are representatives of the people according to the charter.
- Former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra went on a personal visit to Phuket province on April 29 and planned to stay there until today, May 2.
  - ❖ Thaksin was accompanied by Suwat Liptapanlop, Advisory Chairman of the Chart Pattana Party. This marked Thaksin's first visit to Phuket in 17 years since his self-exile. The purpose of the trip was to gain insights into the tourism situation and engage in discussions with local business owners.

- ❖ Following his Phuket visit, Thaksin is scheduled to travel to provinces in the Northeast region. He will be visiting Nakhon Ratchasima province to join a dinner with Suwat in late May.



- The latest Suan Dusit Poll surveyed public opinion on the Thai Index of Politics for April 2024. The results revealed that 46.19% of the votes chose Srettha Thavisin as a politician within the government who has the most outstanding role. He was followed by Anutin Charnvirakul with 31.46% and Panpree Phitthanukorn with 22.35%.
- ❖ In the opposition camp, 53.51% of the poll respondents chose Pita Limjaroenrat, followed by Sirikanya Tansakul with 29.65%.





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### **Political News Headlines in Thai Media**

- Former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra drew crowds of Thai and foreign tourists while visiting Phuket’s popular Patong Beach area on Tuesday night.
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/news/politics/40037675>
- Opposition Move Forward MPs joined workers in a rally slamming the government for not raising the daily minimum wage on Labour Day.
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/news/politics/40037691>
- Former foreign minister Parnpree Bahiddha-nukara arrived at the ministry on Tuesday morning to be greeted with warm welcomes and tearful goodbyes.
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/news/politics/40037658>
- Three political networks on Tuesday submitted an appeal to the Election Commission (EC) urging a consultation with the Constitutional Court to determine whether Pichit Chuenban, the new minister attached to the Prime Minister’s Office, possesses any prohibited qualifications.
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/news/politics/40037656>
- Sutin ‘confident’ about anti-coup proposal
  - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2785295/sutin-confident-about-anti-coup-proposal>
- Clarity due soon on police ties to gambling network



- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2784869/clarity-due-soon-on-police-ties-to-gambling-network>
  - Thammasat picks new rector
    - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2784824/thammasat-picks-new-rector>
  - Chaiya warns of poll blowback
    - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2784799/chaiya-warns-of-poll-blowback>
  - South Africa, Thailand forge ahead together
    - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2785597/south-africa-thailand-forge-ahead-together>
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### **Economic News Headlines in Thai Media**

- One of the biggest challenges facing the Srettha II Cabinet after the recent reshuffle is the sliding Baht, precipitated by the cut in interest rates offered by state-run and commercial banks in response to the government's policy of helping vulnerable bank customers.
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/business/banking-finance/40037686>
- Feasibility studies for two new international airports in Thailand – Andaman Airport in the South and Lanna Airport in the North – should be complete this year with construction set to start by 2027, according to Airports of Thailand (AOT).
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/business/investment/40037688>
- Petrol stations nationwide have stopped selling B10 diesel in line with the Energy Policy Committee's decision to reduce types of diesel fuel.
  - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/news/general/40037677>
- The Livestock Development Department has warned that eggs will become more expensive because hens and ducks are laying fewer eggs due to the heatwave.

- Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/news/general/40037651>
  - Dumping of cheap steel irks Tata unit
    - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/general/2784849/dumping-of-cheap-steel-irks-tata-unit>
  - Bourse chief application period extended
    - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/investment/2784924/bourse-chief-application-period-extended>
  - DES readies systems to handle 50m digital wallet payments
    - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/general/2784874/des-readies-systems-to-handle-50m-digital-wallet-payments>
  - Extreme heat bends railway tracks
    - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2785335/extreme-heat-bends-railway-tracks>
  - Impact of loan rate cuts on key players deemed as limited
    - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/general/2785567/impact-of-loan-rate-cuts-on-key-players-deemed-as-limited>
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### **Issues to be watched out for**

- May 7, 2024 - April 2024 Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- May 18, 2024 - The date set by the Constitutional Court for Move Forward to submit its statement of defense in the dissolution case.
- 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
- September 2025 - The deadline set by Transport Minister Suriya Juangroongruangkit that his ministry will implement a 20-Baht flat fare policy for all electric trains in the Bangkok Metropolitan Region.

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

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

### **Key Data**

**SET Index**

**1,367.95**

**+5.98**

Link - [https://www.set.or.th/en/company/ipo/upcoming\\_ipo\\_set.html](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 30, 2024**

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

<b>Stock Code</b>	<b>Volume</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Action</b>
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APURE	100,000	0.4	Sale
BAREIT	7,000	9.75	Purchase
BKD	83,500	1.29	Purchase
BKD	15,000	1.3	Purchase
EP	3,000	2.66	Purchase
STX	70,000	2.53	Purchase
STX	404,000	2.77	Purchase
TERA	<del>90,000</del> Revoked by Reporter	1.75	Purchase



TERA	<del>20,000</del> Revoked by Reporter	3.2	Purchase
TERA	<del>20,000</del> Revoked by Reporter	3.18	Sale
TERA	20,000	3.18	Sale
TERA	20,000	3.2	Purchase
TERA	<del>310,000</del> Revoked by Reporter	1.75	Purchase
TPL	8,000,000	1.45	Sale

### **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 April 2024						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Unit: M.Baht	
	Value	%	Value	%	Net Value	%
Local Institutions	5,731.59	12.79	4,137.40	9.24	1,594.19	-
Proprietary Trading	2,495.56	5.57	2,748.41	6.14	-252.85	-
Foreign Investor	25,013.19	55.84	24,037.75	53.66	975.44	-

Local Individuals	11,555.69	25.80	13,872.47	30.97	-2,316.78	-
<b>Monthly Cumulative between 1 Apr –30 April 2024</b>						
<b>Unit: M.Baht</b>						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	72,658.99	9.49	72,648.19	9.49	10.79	-
Proprietary Trading	47,952.79	6.26	50,011.73	6.53	-2,058.95	-
Foreign Investors	409,049.76	53.43	405,136.10	52.92	3,913.66	-
WLocal Individuals	235,880.17	30.81	237,745.68	31.06	-1,865.51	-
<b>Yearly Cumulative since 1 Jan -30 April 2024</b>						
<b>Unit: M.Baht</b>						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	321,720.14	9.13	327,882.17	9.30	-6,162.03	-
Proprietary Trading	239,156.33	6.79	244,108.03	6.93	-4,951.69	-
Foreign Investors	1,866,018.40	52.95	1,931,430.94	54.80	-65,412.54	-
Local Individuals	1,097,352.29	31.14	1,020,826.01	28.97	76,526.27	-

Total Trading Value 44,917.29 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](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](https://www.ect.go.th/ect_th/download/article/article_20190508184334.pdf)

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