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August 19, 2024

Thai Enquirer News Summary

Political News

- Today, Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra is scheduled to hold a small group meeting with her team and party leaders at Shinawatra Tower 3. This comes a day after Paetongtarn has received royal endorsement, officially becoming the 31st Prime Minister of Thailand.



- Reports suggest that the formation of the new government will not be swift, as the vetting of ministerial candidates will be more stringent this time, likely taking about 2-3 weeks. This careful approach aims to prevent a repeat of the outcome for Srettha Thavisin, who was ousted after nominating Phichit Chuenban, whose background had legal hurdles.
 - ❖ At the same time, although the Pheu Thai Party assured that it will maintain the current coalition and retain the same ministerial quotas for coalition partners, there are rumors that they may reclaim one of the positions allocated to the Ruam Thai Saang Chart Party (RTSC), which currently holds 2 Minister and 2 Deputy Minister positions.
- Reports are emerging that some of the dubious background members did not appear at the swearing in ceremony of Prime Minister Paetongtarn.
 - ❖ Those missing were the likes of
 - Convicted drug dealer – Thammanat Prompao, who is from the Palang Pracharat party. He was celebrating his 59th birthday in Phayao province.
 - Maverick politician who has alleged been blamed for being a gangster in Uthai Thani province - Chada Thaised from Bhumjai Thai party who was deputy Interior Minister, was also missing from the ceremony yesterday.
 - Patcharawat Wongsuwan, the younger brother of the multi-million dollar watch borrower from dead friends – Prawait Wongsuwan, as also missing. Reports are that Thaksin has said that he does not want any Wongsuwan in the new cabinet after it was Prawit's men who filed the case against Srettha to the Constitutional Court.
- The speculation for the Cabinet has already started.
 - ❖ According to Pheu Thai sources, caretaker defence minister Sutin Klungsang, caretaker finance minister Pichai Chunhavajira and caretaker PM's Office minister Jakkapong Sangmanee are likely to be left out when Prime Minister Paetongtarn announces her Cabinet.



- ❖ Meanwhile, candidates from the Pheu Thai Party who were ministers in the previous government are reportedly lobbying influential figures to secure their portfolios.
 - For example, Sudawan Wangsupakitkosol, the current Minister of Culture, is reportedly trying to regain control of the Ministry of Tourism and Sports, according to the sources.
- Reports indicated that on Saturday, August 17, Thaksin Shinawatra held a meeting with leaders of the coalition parties and key figures from the Pheu Thai Party regarding the new Cabinet formation. Initially, the quotas for each party will remain unchanged.
 - ❖ However, Thaksin reportedly instructed Thammanat that no members of the ‘Wongsuwan’ family, including Gen Phatcharavat, should be part of the new Cabinet. It is anticipated that Santi Prompat will be moved to the position of Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, as he is expected to bring back 10 MPs to the Pheu Thai Party in the next elections.



- ❖ The position of Deputy Prime Minister might be filled by either Thammanat or Sonthirat Sontijirawong, the former Minister of Energy.



- Former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra stated that his daughter, Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra, will not be ousted by a coup. When asked if history might repeat itself, he firmly responded, 'No way.'
- ❖ Addressing rumors that he had already selected members of Paetongtarn's administration, Thaksin clarified that the cabinet has not yet been formed and emphasized that such decisions rest solely with the prime minister. Thaksin also confirmed that he would not take any role in the new government, citing his age of 75. If Paetongtarn ever needs his advice, she can easily reach out to him.
- ❖ He noted that Paetongtarn has closely observed how he conducted his duties as prime minister, so she understands the challenges ahead. "Twenty-three years ago, I stood in front while she stood behind. Today, she stands in front, and I am behind her," he reflected.



- Today Former prime minister Thaksin has been ordered to be present at the Criminal Court to review public prosecutors' evidence in the lese-majeste case against him. Court officials said officers from Metropolitan Police Division 2 had been requested to help court police keep security.
- ❖ Thaksin was charged with violating Article 112 of the Criminal Code by giving an interview to South Korea's ChosunMedia in 2015. Public prosecutors arraigned him on June 18 this year, but he pleaded innocence and was released on bail by placing 500,000 Baht worth of assets as a guarantee.
- ❖ The court prohibited him from leaving the kingdom unless he received a court permission. On July 27, Thaksin sought court permission to receive medical treatment in Dubai from August 1 to 16 but the court decided on July 30 to turn down the request.
- On August 18, the Phitsanulok Hotnews Facebook page revealed the election results for the Phitsanulok Provincial Administrative Organization (PAO) President.

- ❖ The results showed that candidate No. 1, Monchai Wiwatthanath, a former Phitsanulok PAO president, had a significant lead over his two competitors. The unofficial results indicated that Monchai had received a total of 214,519 votes. Candidate No. 2, Srettha Kittijarurak, received 13,579 votes, and candidate No. 3, Siriphan Kunprajaknukul from the People's Party, received 104,163 votes.

ผลการนับคะแนนเลือกตั้ง (อย่างไม่เป็นทางการ) (100%)
นายกองค์การบริหารส่วนจังหวัดพิษณุโลก

1	นายมนต์ชัย วิวัฒน์อนามณ์	2	นายเศรษฐา กิตติจารุรักษ์	3	นางสิริพรรณ คุณประจักษ์บุญกุล
214,519		13,579		104,163	
ผู้มีสิทธิเลือกตั้ง	677,410	ผู้มีสิทธิร่วมแสดงตน	361,642	บัตรใช้สิทธิแบบลงคะแนน	690,020
บัตรใช้สิทธิ	361,642	บัตรสี	332,261	บัตรเขียว	13,768
บัตรไม่เลือกผู้สมัครใด	15,613	บัตรพิเศษ	328,378	จำนวนรวมบัตรสี	1,283



- Natthaphong Ruengpanyawut, leader of the People's Party, along with Pita Limjaroenrat and Chaithawat Tulathon, are helping Chairath Sukissaraphong, who is running for the position of Ratchaburi Provincial Administrative Organization (PAO) President, with his campaigning. The election is set to take place on September 1.



- The Thai News Broadcasting Council of Thailand (NBCT) and the Thai Broadcast Journalists Association (TBJA) said in a statement that they will petition parliament to investigate Gen Prawit Wongsuwan, leader of the Palang Pracharath Party and a key figure in the 2014 coup, for ethical misconduct following his assault of a female reporter from Thai PBS.
 - ❖ While Prawit claimed his actions were intended as a joke and not meant to cause harm, the associations argued that his facial expression and demeanor clearly reflected anger and malicious intent, far beyond the scope of a mere joke.
 - ❖ The associations emphasized that Prawit's attempt to downplay the incident should not be allowed to quietly fade away, as this matter directly impacts journalists' ability to carry out their duties effectively.

- ❖ The Thai PBS Workers' Union has called on the broadcaster to take a clear stance on the recent incident involving Palang Pracharath leader Gen. Prawit.



- NIDA Poll revealed the results of a survey on the "Likelihood of the Next General Election," conducted between August 13-15 with 1,310 respondents. The survey found that 27.40% believe it is very likely that a political party will win by a landslide and form a single-party government. In contrast, 22.5% think this is unlikely, and 21.15% believe it is entirely impossible.
- ❖ Regarding the possibility of a political party winning the most seats but not by a landslide, 38.17% consider this somewhat likely, 29.77% believe it is very likely, while 18.78% think it is unlikely, and 12.21% believe it is entirely impossible.



- Wirangrong Dabbaransi, President of the University Network for National Reform, posted on Facebook stating that Thaksin Shinawatra continued to break the law even after his daughter became Prime Minister.
- ❖ She claimed that the 2009 Prime Minister's Office Regulations on the Uniforms of Political Officials clearly state that political officials who are not in active service do not have the right to wear official uniforms. This includes political officials who have been imprisoned by a final court ruling or a lawful order, except in cases of negligence or minor offenses.



Economic News

- A source from the Pheu Thai Party's economic team revealed that Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra is considering reviewing and canceling the 10,000 Baht digital

wallet program. This decision comes after discussions with senior party members and former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

- ❖ Instead, the government under Paetongtarn plans to distribute cash directly to vulnerable groups to reduce the budgetary burden and simplify funding sources. Details are expected to be disclosed during the policy statement to Parliament.
- ❖ Yesterday, Paetongtarn stated that the public should look forward to the policy statement in September. She also dismissed rumors that Thaksin ordered the cancellation of the digital wallet program. She emphasized that the digital wallet project was intended to stimulate the country's economy, but the past year has seen numerous events and economic changes, which necessitated careful study and consideration. The program must also comply with the Fiscal Discipline Act, she said.



- Today at 9:30 AM, Danucha Pichayanan, Secretary-General of the National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC), will preside over a meeting to review Thailand's economic conditions for Q2 2024, outlook for 2024, and the latest GDP projections for Thailand.
 - ❖ The announcement will be broadcast on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NESDCfan>.
 - ❖ Previously, the NESDC reported that Thailand's economy grew by 1.5% in Q1 2024, following a 1.7% growth in Q4 2023. For 2024, the economy is expected to grow by 2.0% to 3.0%, with a median forecast of 2.5%, showing a gradual improvement from the 1.9% growth in 2023.
 - ❖ Key supporting factors include a 4.5% growth in private consumption and a 3.2% growth in private investment, along with a 2% increase in the value of goods

exports in US dollars. Inflation is expected to range between 0.1% and 1.1%, with a current account surplus of 1.2%.

- ❖ However, analysts said attention must be given to economic risks, particularly domestic political issues, following the ousting of Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin and the formation of a new government during a critical budgetary period. The direction of key government policies under the new administration will also need to be monitored.



- The Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) index is expected to fluctuate within a limited range this week. Today, the GDP figures for Thailand in Q2 2024 will be announced, with the market expecting a 2.2% year-on-year growth and a 1% increase from the previous quarter.
 - ❖ Additionally, after the listed companies' Q2 2024 earnings reports are released, attention will turn to whether analysts adjust their EPS forecasts and whether the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) will maintain interest rates at its meeting on August 21.
 - ❖ On Friday, August 16, the SET index closed at 1,303.00 points, up by 13.16 points (+1.02%) with a trading value of 35.657 billion Baht. The market performed well, supported by positive sentiment from the surge in U.S. markets and domestic factors, particularly the resolution of political uncertainties with Paetongtarn Shinawatra becoming the new Prime Minister. There is a high likelihood that the current Cabinet will remain.
 - ❖ However, the market will closely monitor the Cabinet appointments and the government's policy statement to the Parliament.

Impact Gain	Trade	Change	%Chg	Impact
DELTA	104.00↑	+1.50	1.46	+1.515
CPN	57.50	+3.00	5.50	+1.080
AOT	56.50↓	+0.75	1.35	+0.870
SCC	205.00	+8.00	4.06	+0.800
CRC	26.50↑	+1.50	6.00	+0.735
PTT	34.25↑	+0.25	0.74	+0.577
KBANK	133.50↑	+3.00	2.30	+0.570
SAWAD	32.00↓	+4.25	15.32	+0.510
CPAXT	28.25	+0.50	1.80	+0.430
MTC	42.50↑	+2.50	6.25	+0.425

- Super Poll released a survey on public confidence in the new Prime Minister, conducted nationwide among 1,054 respondents from various occupations on August 16-17. The majority, 46.1%, supported Parliament's endorsement of Paetongtarn Shinawatra as Prime Minister, while 26.4% were opposed.
- ❖ Interestingly, when asked about their confidence in Paetongtarn Shinawatra as a new-generation female Prime Minister to address public grievances, over half, 51.7%, expressed a high to very high level of confidence, while 48.3% had little to no confidence.
- ❖ The urgent issues that respondents want Paetongtarn to address include economic problems such as the cost of living, call center scams, and both formal and informal debt issues.





บริษัท ท่าอากาศยานไทย จำกัด (มหาชน)
Airports of Thailand Public Company Limited

General News

- Former deputy commerce minister Banyin Tangpakorn who has been sentenced to death in two high-profile murder cases has received a royal clemency, reducing his penalties to life imprisonment, the Corrections Department chief said on Sunday.
 - ❖ Sahakarn Phetnarin, director-general of the Corrections Department, said Banyin was among 30,597 prisoners, who were eligible for a royal clemency on the occasion of His Majesty the King's 72nd birthday on July 28. The inmates eligible for royal clemency would be given royal pardon differently, depending on their jail terms and types of crimes. Some would get their terms reduced, some would be released on parole and others would be freed.
 - ❖ Sahakarn said the eligible inmates must have served one-third of their term or been imprisoned for at least eight years.



Political News Headlines in Thai Media

- Foreign leaders congratulate 'Ung Ing' on new job
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2849306/foreign-leaders-congratulate-ung-ing-on-new-job>
- Fight must go on, despite obstacles
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2849446/fight-must-go-on-despite-obstacles>
- The six partners of the Pheu Thai-led coalition have reaffirmed their shares in the quotas of 35 Cabinet seats, and three former Pheu Thai ministers are likely to be left out of the new Cabinet, sources said.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/news/politics/40040681>
- Caution urged as cabinet takes shape
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2848942/caution-urged-as-cabinet-takes-shape>
- New PM Paetongtarn Shinawatra will face a number of obstacles, constitutional expert predicts
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/blogs/news/politics/40040656>
- Two journalistic bodies on Saturday issued a joint statement seeking a review on the ethics of General Prawit Wongsuwan, listed MP and leader of the Palang Pracharath Party, over an alleged assault on a female reporter during an interview on Friday.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/news/politics/40040660>
- US ambassador promotes informed election reporting
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2848847/us-ambassador-promotes-informed-election-reporting>

- Officials from the Explosives Ordnance Disposal (EOD) unit in Thailand's southern province of Yala meticulously searched a sedan today, which was found abandoned near a rubber plantation in Raman district.
 - Link- <https://world.thaipbs.or.th/detail/eod-officials-search-suspicious-car-for-explosives-in-yala-p/54361>
- Gold card scheme at risk of collapse
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2849451/gold-card-scheme-at-risk-of-collapse>

Economic News Headlines in Thai Media

- Newly appointed Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra has denied that her father Thaksin Shinawatra has told her to terminate the controversial digital wallet scheme.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/news/politics/40040684>
- Expropriation for new Orange Line to begin
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2848972/expropriation-for-new-orange-line-to-begin>
- Ministry warns Thais against Israel jobs for now
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2849012/ministry-warns-thais-against-israel-jobs-for-now>
- Factory construction halts amid wage row
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2848962/factory-construction-halts-amid-wage-row>
- Booze industry wants strict ad curbs loosened
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/general/2848857/booze-industry-wants-strict-ad-curbs-loosened>
- Gold tops \$2,500 for first time

- Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/general/2848823/gold-tops-2-500-for-first-time>
 - Asian shares rally on upbeat US outlook
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/investment/2848578/asian-shares-rally-on-upbeat-us-outlook>
 - Industry sentiment up in July
 - Link- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/general/2848548/industry-sentiment-up-in-july>
 - The Finance Ministry and its partners have helped a total of 16,593 non-banking debtors saddled with illegally high interest rates refinance their debts so far, a senior official said on Sunday.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/news/general/40040680>
 - Kirati Kijmanawat, president of Airports of Thailand Pcl (AOT), announced the company's performance for the first nine months of the fiscal year, from October 2023 to June 2024. AOT reported a net profit of 14.910 billion Baht, an increase of 9.551.41 billion Baht or 178.23% compared with the same period last year.
 - Link- <https://www.nationthailand.com/blogs/business/corporate/40040655>
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Issues to be watched out for

- August 19, 2024 - NESDC press conference Thailand's GDP Q2/2024
The announcement will be broadcast on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NESDCfan>.
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- August 19, 2024 - Court hearing on the Lese Majeste case against paroled former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

- August 21, 2024 - Monetary Policy Committee holds its meeting
- August 22 - Paroled former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra is expected to complete his sentence. Thaksin previously stated that he intends to assist the government upon the completion.
- September 5, 2024 - August 2024 Consumer Confidence Inflation Data
- September 9, 2024 - The possible date for the decision by the Constitutional Court meeting on the case of 40 senators who have petitioned about the ‘morality’ of Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin.
- 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
The announcement will be broadcast on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NESDCfan>.
- 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/oppdayCalendar>

Key Data

SET Index

1,289.84

-2.85

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 August 16, 2024

Buying, Selling or Transfer of shares by Owners/Management

Stock Code	Volume	Value	Action
AMANAH	1,000,000	0.9	Purchase
BCP	50,000	32	Purchase
BKIH	16,000	286.19	Purchase
EP	100	2.04	Purchase
FTE	230,000	1.3	Purchase
FTE	30,000	1.27	Purchase
FTE	50,000	1.28	Purchase
GTB	135,500	0.7	Purchase
ICN	10,000	1.87	Purchase
JDF	40,500	2.28	Purchase
KCG	25,000	9.57	Purchase
KCG	7,700	9.5	Purchase
KKP	30,000	38.5	Purchase
KKP	30,000	39.5	Purchase

MJD	100,000	0.99	Purchase
MALEE	220,000	9.96	Purchase
MALEE	200,000	10.25	Purchase
MBAX	100	2.8	Purchase
MINT	1,000,000	24.61	Purchase
PEACE	22,300	2.62	Purchase
PEACE	126,000	2.61	Purchase
PG	82,000	8.92	Purchase
PCC	13,200	2.76	Purchase
RBF	300,000	5.32	Purchase
SCN	105,000,000	0.03	Sale
SPA	50,000	6.4	Purchase
SE	237,300	0.62	Purchase
SAWAD	147,800	28.33	Sale
STC	35,100	0.54	Purchase
SUN	73,000,000	3.76	Sale
SPALI	2,634,900	15.86	Purchase
SPALI	1,308,100	15.94	Purchase
SPALI	2,634,900	15.86	Purchase
SPALI	1,308,100	15.94	Purchase
SUPER	2,300,000	0.24	Purchase
YONG	200,400	1.18	Purchase
YONG	200,000	1.18	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 16 Aug 2024					
Unit: M.Baht					
Investor Type	Buy Value	%	Sell Value	%	Net Value
					%
Local Institutions	4,450.33	12.48	3,653.51	10.25	796.82

Proprietary Trading	2,159.42	6.06	2,149.77	6.03	9.65	-
Foreign Investor	16,872.51	47.32	16,537.91	46.38	334.60	-
Local Individuals	12,175.46	34.15	13,316.53	37.35	-1,141.07	-
Monthly Cumulative between 1 Aug-16 August 2024						
Unit: M.Baht						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	45,402.98	9.90	45,554.06	9.94	-151.08	-
Proprietary Trading	27,727.99	6.05	28,775.97	6.28	-1,047.97	-
Foreign Investors	230,598.23	50.29	231,794.05	50.56	-1,195.82	-
Local Individuals	154,767.89	33.76	152,373.02	33.23	2,394.87	-
Yearly Cumulative since 1 Jan -16 Aug 2024						
Unit: M.Baht						
Investor Type	Buy		Sell		Net	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Local Institutions	602,332.50	9.35	600,872.32	9.33	1,460.18	-
Proprietary Trading	427,728.32	6.64	430,256.08	6.68	-2,527.76	-
Foreign Investors	3,355,287.08	52.10	3,475,266.46	53.96	-119,979.38	-
Local Individuals	2,055,195.66	31.91	1,934,148.70	30.03	121,046.96	-

Total Trading Value 41,339.73 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.

2023 General Election 			
[Official result] Date: 25 May 2023 100% vote counted			
 Move Forward	Constituency MP	Party list MP	151
 Pheu Thai	112	29	141
 Bhumjaithai	68	3	71
 Palang Pracharath	39	1	40
 United Thai Nation	23	13	36
 Democrat	22	3	25
Charthaisattana	9	1	10
Prachachart	7	2	9
Thai Sang Thai	5	1	6
Chart Pattana Kia	1	1	2
Pheu Thai Ruam Palang	2	-	2
Seri Ruam Thai	-	1	1
New Democracy	-	1	1
New Party	-	1	1
Thai Counties Party	-	1	1
Fair Party	-	1	1
Palang Sangkhom Mai	-	1	1
Thai Teachers for People	-	1	1
Total: 500 MPs			
Election Commission of Thailand			

- List of MPs - https://www.ect.go.th/ect_th/download/article/article_20190508184334.pdf

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