

## MOVE TO FORM GOVERNMENT Thailand's Pheu Thai joins military rivals

### House to vote on new PM today

REUTERS, Bangkok

Thailand's Pheu Thai Party yesterday vowed to deliver on a raft of election promises and change the constitution, as it unveiled an 11-party alliance that includes some military-linked rivals that will try to form a coalition government this week.

Thailand's bicameral parliament has been deadlocked for weeks on forming a government, after the anti-establishment election winner Move Forward succumbed to conservative resistance in parliament, leaving second-placed Pheu Thai to take up the effort.

While the proposed alliance is a step towards ending the stalemate, the pact between the populist Pheu Thai and some of old military-linked enemies could prolong concern about a new bout of instability after nearly two decades of on-off turmoil.

Parliament will vote today on the prime ministerial bid of Pheu Thai's Srettha Thavisin, a 60-year-old real estate mogul who was thrust into politics only a few months ago.

"We are confident that Srettha will pass the vote," Pheu Thai leader Cholan Srikaew told a press conference.

"We must quickly work to restore the economy and come up with policies that will develop mechanisms for the stability of politics, the economy and society," he said, after announcing how many cabinet portfolios each party would get.

Pheu Thai's pact includes parties created by generals who were behind 2006 and 2014 coups against its governments, and engineered re-writes of a constitution to make it extremely difficult for election winners not favoured by the conservative establishment to form governments.

Most Thais disagree with the idea of a coalition government that includes military-backed groups, an opinion poll showed on Sunday.

Cholan acknowledged the political divisions in the alliance but said rival forces had a duty to the public to not delay the formation of a government.

The alliance comprises 314 lawmakers and Srettha needs 375 votes from the combined upper and lower houses of parliament to be endorsed as premier and form the next government. It will be counting on support from non-alliance members, including from the upper house Senate, to get it over the line.

Meanwhile, Thailand's Police and Corrections Department officials will arrest former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra, 74, as soon as he disembarks his private jet at Don Mueang Airport today, sources have said.



A handout obtained from the Cypriot government's Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC) late on Sunday, shows the rescue operation of migrants in Mediterranean waters east of Cape Greco in southeastern Cyprus. Cypriot authorities rescued 86 migrants after their boat got into difficulty 12 nautical miles off the Mediterranean island's southeast coast.

PHOTO: AFP

## Won't be bullied to take sides in global issues

### S African President Ramaphosa vows as he readies to host BRICS summit

AFP, Johannesburg

South Africa will not be forced to side with any global powers, President Cyril Ramaphosa vowed Sunday as he readied to host a summit of major emerging economies.

The meeting in Johannesburg this week of BRICS nations — Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa — will seek to widen their influence and push for a shift in global geopolitics.

South Africa's hosting of the summit has turned a spotlight on its ties with the Kremlin, especially as it has refused to condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"While some of our detractors prefer overt support for their political and ideological choices, we will not be drawn into a contest between

global powers," Ramaphosa said in a televised state of the nation address.

"We have resisted pressure to align ourselves with any one of the global powers or with influential blocs of nations," he said.

Ramaphosa will be joined at the BRICS summit by China's President Xi Jinping, India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

Russia will be represented by Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, with President Vladimir Putin participating online.

Putin decided against attending in person as he is the target of an International Criminal Court arrest warrant that South Africa is in theory bound to enforce.

## LOC IN KASHMIR Civilian killed by Indian gunfire: Pak

REUTERS, Muzaffarabad

Police in Pakistan-administered Kashmir said yesterday a civilian was shot dead by Indian forces along Himalayan region's disputed boundary, the second such incident since June despite a ceasefire accord.

Riaz Mughal, Superintendent of Police in Kashmir's Kotli region, said a 62-year-old man was hit by "unprovoked" Indian shooting while he was cutting grass near the Line of Control (LoC) — the de facto border between the two countries.

The Indian military did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

## Tropical Storm Hilary releases fury on California

REUTERS, Los Angeles

The first tropical storm to hit Los Angeles in more than 80 years unleashed furious floods across parts of Southern California more accustomed to drought, as officials urged the public to stay safe as they began to count the cost of damage.

The National Weather Service downgraded the hurricane to a tropical depression but not before California Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency for much of Southern California, with flash flood warnings until at least 3:00 am yesterday.

Mountain and desert areas could get 5 to 10 inches (12 to 25 cm) of rare rain, as much as the deserts typically see in a year, forecasters said.

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass said she was still worried that people could let down their guard if Hilary left them initially unharmed but later bands of the storm swung back to surprise those who were not prepared.

Hilary's center was expected to move quickly across Nevada yesterday, with the storm forecast to dissipate later in the day, the weather service said.

## REPUBLICAN DEBATES Trump says he won't take part

REUTERS, Washington

Former US President Donald Trump on Sunday said he would skip the upcoming Republican primary debates, citing his large lead in opinion polls as evidence that he



was already well-known and liked by voters ahead of the 2024 election. Trump has for months suggested he would likely pass on Wednesday night's debate in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, arguing that it did not make sense to give his Republican rivals a chance to attack him given his sizeable lead in national polls.

On Sunday, a CBS poll showed he was the preferred candidate for 62 percent of Republican voters, with his closest rival Florida Governor Ron DeSantis at 16 percent. All other candidates in the primary race had less than 10 percent support.



A fire-fighting helicopter drops water over a wild fire near Prodomos, 100km northeast from Athens, Greece yesterday. Greek authorities warned that most regions face a high risk of new blazes.

PHOTO: AFP

## HOT SPELL IN SWITZERLAND 'Zero-degree' line reaches record height

### France sizzles in late summer heatwave

AFP, Geneva

A hot spell enveloping Europe has pushed the zero-degree line — the altitude at which the temperature dips into the minus — to a record height of nearly 5,300 metres (17,400 feet) in Switzerland.

The zero-degree line is determined by meteorologists using weather balloons that take off twice a day from Payerne in western Switzerland.

MeteoSwiss said the new height was clocked overnight from Sunday to yesterday at 5,298 metres, "which constitutes a record since monitoring began in 1954".

The previous record of 5,184 metres was set on July 25 last year.

"The area known as the zero-degree isotherm is the threshold between air layers with temperatures above 0°C at lower altitudes and those with temperatures below freezing at higher altitudes," MeteoSwiss said.

"Among other things, the zero-degree isotherm affects vegetation, the snow line and the water cycle, and so has a considerable impact on the habitats of humans, animals and plants alike," it added, calling the marker "an integral part of weather forecasts in the Alpine region".

Meanwhile, tens of millions of people in France sweated through a late summer heatwave yesterday, with record temperatures expected in the wine-growing Rhone valley region and a forest fire also blazing in the southeast.

Temperatures are expected to peak today and tomorrow, with the most intense heat in the southern parts of the country where the mercury is already pushing past 40 degrees Celsius.

Health authorities have placed 50 out of 96 departments in mainland France in the second-highest heat warning level, with some areas expected to be placed in the maximum red category in the coming days.

## UK judge jails child-killer nurse for life

AFP, London

A British nurse was jailed for life yesterday, with no prospect of release, for murdering seven newborn babies and attempting to kill six others while they were in her care.

Lucy Letby, 33, was convicted of killing five baby boys and two baby girls, making her the UK's most prolific child serial killer in modern history.

She was arrested following a string of baby deaths at the neonatal unit of Countess of Chester Hospital in northwest England between June 2015 and June 2016.

The prosecution said Letby attacked her prematurely born victims, often during night shifts, by either injecting them with air, overfeeding them with milk or poisoning them with insulin.

### Gazipur City Corporation

Zone-06, Gazipur  
gcc.gov.bd

Memo No. 46.19.0000.129.07.001.23.582

**Invitation for Tenders (Works)**  
**e-Tender Notice No. 01/2023-2024 (Works)**

e-Tender will be invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of

Package No.	Tender ID No.	Source of funds	Description	Online tender notice publication date	Online tender closing date
GCC/Z-06/T-01/2023-2024/01	863581	Own fund	Construction of RCC Drain from Dhaka-Bypass to Mim Design Factory near Dhaka-Mymensing Highway via Kashem Neta's house. (Remaining part of JICA's work).	21.08.2023	11.09.2023
GCC/Z-06/T-01/2023-2024/02	863582	"	(a) Construction of RCC Road from South side of Barkot Sharoni's Pond to Sayod Ali Matbor Road via east direction Khondokar Aminul Hoque's house under Gazipur City Corporation Ward No. 17. (b) Construction of BC Road from Sardi Road to Tin Shorok Road via Ikhu Gobeshona via Monindro Goshami's House via Goshami's pond under Gazipur City Corporation Ward No. 17.	21.08.2023	11.09.2023
GCC/Z-06/T-01/2023-2024/03	863584	"	Part-1) Construction of RCC Road from Jugitola Nekibari Main Road to south direction of Mr. Mizanur Rahman's House, (B) Construction of RCC Road from north side of Brothers Fashion to Sahid Hurmut House Road, in under Gazipur City Corporation at Ward No. 14. (c) Construction of Uni-Block Road from Haque Market Bason Sorkar house opposite side of Baitul Mamur Jame Mosque to Md. Abdus Sobahan Shek house in under Gazipur City Corporation at Ward No. 14. Link-1: Construction of Connecting Road by Uni-Block from Barkot Sharoni road to Sayod Ali Madbor Road, under City Corporation at Ward No. 17 Part-2) Construction of a permanent Tarun/gate at the head of Shaheed Barkat Government Road on Dhaka Joydevpur Highway.	21.08.2023	11.09.2023

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) is required. The fees for last selling/downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd)).

*(Signature)*  
**AKM Harunur Rashid**  
Executive Engineer  
Zone-06  
Gazipur City Corporation  
Gazipur

GD-1267