



### Topic: What's the [hell] PM selection today?

After the disqualification of former Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra by the Constitutional Court on September 1, 2025, the political situation became increasingly unstable. The House of Representatives and the Senate had to vote for the new Prime Minister; the front-runners were Mr. Anutin Charnvirakul from the Bhumjaithai Party and Mr. Chaikasem Nitisiri from the Pheu Thai Party. Nevertheless, both two candidates needed more than 247 votes from the House in order to become Prime Minister. Since the People Party, the opposition in the Parliament, held 143 votes, the Bhumjaithai and the Phue Thai Parties had to negotiate with them. The People Party's main demand was that either party must agree to dissolve the House of the Representatives within four months, and in return they would support that candidate. Therefore, the Bhumjaithai Party accepted the offer and was ready to be voted on September 5, 2025.

On this day, September 5, 2025, the House of Representatives held a meeting to debate the selection of Thailand's 32nd Prime Minister. From my perspective, the most impressive moment of today's meeting was when Mr. Natthaphong Ruengpanyawut, the leader of the People Party, said: *"People Party would choose Anutin to let him dissolve Parliament within 4 months, pointing out that the single parliamentary group voting for 4 Prime Ministers stems from the Constitution Order, which must be amended as soon as possible. Emphasizing that this is the best solution."* This statement was very spectacular for me because it highlighted the People Party insistence on dissolving the House of Representatives.

In contrast, there was also a disappointing moment in today's meeting. In the morning session, the voting process to select the 32nd Prime Minister was adjourned. This delay left me dissatisfied, as I wanted to see how Thailand would be governed under Mr. Anutin Charnvirakul. However, later in the afternoon, the House of Representatives agreed to resume the voting process. As a result, under the People Party's MOU with the Bhumjaithai Party, Mr. Anutin Charnvirakul was elected Prime Minister.

From my perspective, I believe that Thailand will be slightly changing in the next four months if Bhumjaithai keeps its promise to the People Party and dissolves Parliament. In my opinion, Mr. Anutin Charnvirakul would likely do anything possible to gain personal benefits before leaving the Parliament because, at the end of the day, *politics is about interests*. At the same time, Thai citizens today are politically aware and better educated about politics, which might make them a key driver of political change in the future.