

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY

Trial begins today with evidence submission for six core leaders of the anti-coup group calling itself People Who Want Elections. The six, including Sirawith "Ja New" Seritiwat, allegedly violated the junta's ban on groups larger than four. A subcommittee of the junta-appointed National Legislative Assembly (official motto: "We are not a rubber-stamp") will hold a meeting in cool Chiang Rai to discuss "lessons learnt" from the rescue of the cave-stranded Wild Boars football team. Specifically? Specifically the NLA will reveal Thai scientific and technological capabilities that were put into use. Tencent of China doesn't care what the Ministry of Culture thinks (it thinks video games are as addictive as drugs), it's holding a two-day Arena of Valor, international e-sports tournament on Dec 15-16, and tickets go on sale today, likely to go quickly.

TUESDAY

The always-interesting National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) will meet today to authorise itself to reclaim "unused spectrum" from various owners so that it can feed the bandwidth into the planned but highly inoperative 5G system to be set up at some point, possibly this century. The Supreme Court's Criminal Division for Political Office Holders will rule today on the petition by the world's only fugitive female ex-prime minister whose brother is a fugitive ex-prime minister. She has agreed to withdraw defamation charges against three self-admitted nasty-mouthed Democrats but needs the court's permission.

The Ministry of Commerce and the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives will choose and hype 100 model farmers today for using advanced technology to harvest and process crops — particularly pineapples.

WEDNESDAY

The *Bangkok Post* International Forum, all day at Centara Grand at CentralWorld: Be there or be square. Very influential people will tell you, and answer your questions about, "Asian transformation: The changing landscape". AIS and DTAC are supposed to fork over 6.7 billion baht apiece to the always interesting National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) today, first payment on the 1800MHz bandwidth purchase they bought in August. Any sign of reluctance will not bode well. Stand by for a possible "final announcement" of a Brexit deal between Britain and the European Union. Thailand play at the Philippines in Group B of the Suzuki Cup at 6.30pm Thailand time.

THURSDAY

The Election Commission is supposed to meet today with leaders or representatives of all political parties. Not every party is likely to show up. The loveliest festival of them all that can't be spoiled even by louts and fireworks tossers is the Loy Krathong Festival. The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) is opening 30 public parks, but there are plenty of other places to go that aren't expensive hotel swimming pools. ISIS Thailand will peacefully talk about

war at a 9.30am seminar — US-China trade war — at Chulalongkorn University's Faculty of Arts Building. RSVP through the Institute of Security and International Studies (ISIS) website.

FRIDAY

His Majesty the King will officially open the 23.5-kilometre Charoensuk Mongkoljit cycling track around Suvarnabhumi airport. The track will be closed all week to prepare for the "Happy and Healthy Bicycle Lane" ceremonies. As of Sunday, it will be open from 6am to 9pm daily. The 10-day, 2018 Red Cross Fair opens today, not at Amporn Gardens but on the greensward of Lumpini Park.



SATURDAY

Reminder: Tomorrow is the 19th International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. In a huge, shock surprise, the single-gender, governing junta has announced no interest whatsoever. Trivia note: It's celebrated in honour of three sisters killed for opposing an all-male, military-backed dictatorship. The Premier League resumes tonight with six matches at 10pm. Then the match of the day features Spurs vs Chelsea at midnight-30. The Lop Buri Monkey Buffet takes place today, a weird but pleasurable feast of fruit and veggies you can watch. Defending champion Thailand host Singapore in the last Suzuki Cup Group B match tomorrow at 7pm at Rajamangala National Stadium. The knockout stage is to begin on Dec 1 and 2.