

Events and tasks at the end of a Parliament and of parliamentary sessions

In Thailand, the term of the House of Representatives, as provided by the Constitution, is four years from the election day. When the term of the House of Representatives expires, a general election will be held within 45 days. In the case of dissolution of the House, a new general election will take place not less than 45 days but not more than 60 days. After the general election, the National Assembly shall be summoned for the first sitting within 30 days.

From the end of the House of Representatives to the first sitting of the new Parliament, the staff of the Secretariat of the House of Representatives is charged with the following tasks to be prepared to receive the incoming House of Representatives :

Before the election day

Document production such as

- Producing official documents for elected Members to complete when they report themselves to the Parliament as well as books, handbooks and brochures on Thai Parliament related topics for Members,

- Preparing personal identification card and vehicle permits for Members to enter the Parliament premises.

Information Technology such as

- Preparing a computer notebook, e-mail address and internet service for Members.

Household such as

- Fixing equipments to be used when Members report to the Parliament,
- Maintaining electricity, water supplies and air conditioner and examining extinguisher and security equipments,
- Improving the surroundings of the Parliament.

Coordination with other agencies such as

- Coordinating with the Election Commission of Thailand for the unofficial results of the election, political parties to inform the dates for Members to report themselves to the Parliament and reference materials needed for a report, the National Transport Agency to provide transportation services to Members.

Management such as

- Preparing the process of election of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the process for a Royal Command to appoint the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the process to determine the qualifications and prohibitions of Members holding the positions of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and Deputy Speakers of the House of Representatives, the process to elect the Prime Minister, the process for a Royal Command to appoint the Prime Minister and the process for a Royal Command to appoint the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives.

Public Relations such as

- Producing television and radio spots on the election,
- Reporting the election developments,
- Producing live talk shows on the election,
- Promoting the election via the National Assembly web site and Members of the House of Representatives newsletter and the Parliament Radio Station.

During the election day and the announcement of the election result

Public Relations such as

- Producing special programs on the election day,
- Reporting election news and election atmosphere,
- Informing new Members via media about the dates for them to report to the Parliament and to bring necessary reference materials with them for report.

On the day Members of the House of Representatives report themselves to the Parliament

Household such as

- Facilitating the traffic in the Parliament premises,
- Setting and decorating the location for reception of Members.

Security such as

- Handling security around the Parliament,
- Coordinating with plainclothes police to additionally guard the area of the

Parliament.

Reception and service such as

- Performing the duties to receive Members.

Management such as

- Exhibiting on the election,
- Informing the result of the report of Members to the Parliament.

Public Relations such as

- Broadcasting live the atmosphere of the report of Members to the

Parliament,

- Handling public relations about the report of Members to the Parliament.

In addition, after the convocation made by a Royal Decree, the King will be present to perform the opening ceremony of the first general ordinary session or command any person to perform the ceremony as His Representative. In this event, the Secretariat staff is entrusted with the tasks as follows :

Coordination such as

- Coordinating with other agencies concerned,
- Sending invitation letters to dignitaries.

Household such as

- Asking permission from the Bureau of the Royal Household to use the Ananta Samakhom Throne Hall for the opening ceremony,

- Making the plan to welcome the King or His Representative.

Public Relations such as

- Producing news to inform Members and media before the ceremony.

Reception and service such as

- Receiving and providing facilities to Members, diplomatic corps and distinguished guests,
- Providing facilities for media.

Security such as

- Controlling security at the Ananta Samakhom Throne Hall.

As for the parliamentary sessions, the Constitution provides that each year, there will be a general ordinary session and a legislative ordinary session and an ordinary session shall last 120 days. The day on which the first sitting is held is considered as the first day of the general ordinary session and the first day of the legislative ordinary session will be fixed by the House of Representatives. For the current Parliament, the general ordinary session is from 21 January to 20 May and the legislative ordinary session lasts from 1 August to 28 November. When the Parliament is out of session, the Secretariat staff continues his/her work except the performance of duties in the Chamber.