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THAI DEMONSTRATORS CHALLENGE MONARCHY AS HUGE PROTESTS ESCALATE

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Openly challenging the rule of Thai King Maha Vajiralongkorn, thousands of protesters have marched in Bangkok for the second straight day to present demands that include a call for reforms to curb his powers.

Protesters have grown bolder during two months of demonstrations calling for reform of the monarchy, as well as for the removal of Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, a former military government leader, and a new constitution and elections-dominated establishment.

Criticising the monarchy has long been taboo, and is illegal under lese-majeste laws.

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