



## CAT UPDATE NO.3

# DEADLY THAILAND FLOODING THREATENS BANGKOK

Monday

24 OCTOBER 2011

Floodwaters in Bangkok have reached Don Muang Airport, one of the Thai capital's two main airports and home to the flood relief operation command, which may have to move to another location, according to the governor. In the east, the industrial estates of Lat Krabang and Bang Chan remain under threat, and volunteers are being sought for help with sandbagging.

Some flooding on Bangkok's outskirts was expected after Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra ordered floodgates opened in a risky move to drain the dangerous runoff through urban canals and into the sea, as authorities are trying to control the water levels by using all the dams and dikes to cope with an unusually heavy rainy season. Protecting Bangkok is a priority because it comprises the economic heart of Thailand, Shinawatra said. "But it doesn't mean we have no concern for the people who are suffering from the flooding," she added. The decision to divert water through canals in Bangkok means parts of the city and its surrounding suburbs, such as Rangsit, are flooded. Residents have resorted to moving out of flooded homes by boat or anything that could float -- or wading through water with plastic bags of belongings balanced on their heads or pets tucked into clothes.

The government has called the flooding the worst to afflict the nation in half a century and said some areas might require more than a month before waters recede. More high tides are expected in the coming week, which could cause rivers to back up, further raising water levels, according to Thailand's Flood Relief Operations Command. The flooding has already killed 356 people, with nearly 9 million others affected, authorities said. Overall damage from the floods has risen and could top \$6 billion, with the worst yet to come as the waters destroy shops and paralyze factories nationwide, the Thai Finance Ministry said.

Crawford adjusters have already been deployed to affected states and additional Crawford Global Technical Services<sup>SM</sup> (GTS<sup>SM</sup>) adjusters have been brought in to help respond to the massive damage brought by the floods.

If you have any claims which require our attention, please contact any of the personnel below or through **CAT@crawco.co.th** or our **dedicated 24-hour hotline: +66 86 061 0404**

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