



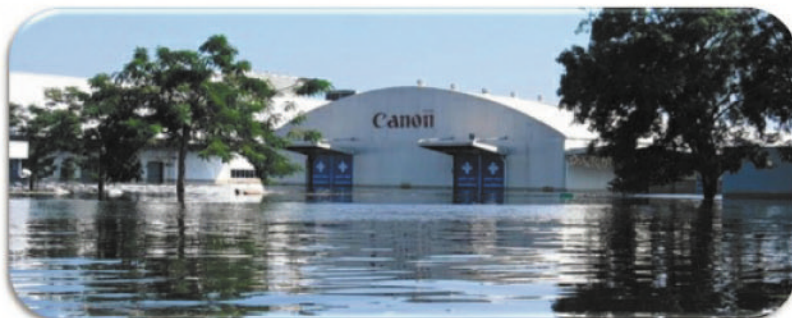
Thailand Flood Relief and Recovery Bulletin

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Thai Government Expects Early Factory Reopenings in Flooded Business Parks



BANGKOK (Nov. 3, 2011, Bangkok Post) - All of the seven industrial estates ravaged by floods (in Thailand) are expected to resume operations early next year, an assistant to the industry minister said on Thursday.

Suparp Khleekachai said that at a meeting of officials and investors yesterday to explore ways of restoring the flood-hit industrial estates it was initially agreed that all of them would begin to pump water out of their flooded premises on Nov. 10.

After the water is drained it would take about one month for them to complete the clean-up work and another three to four months to repair damaged machinery. It was expected the factories in the seven industrial estates would gradually resume operations and production early next year, Mr. Suparp said.

Measures in Place to Support Rehabilitation of Damaged Factories

Mr. Suparp said the government had prepared measures to help both the operators of the industrial estates and the factories with rehabilitation. It would require a large sum of money. Measures would also be taken to prevent the industrial estates from flooding again in the long run. As much as 1.2 billion baht (US\$39 million) would be needed to build a flood prevention system at Rojana Industrial Park in Ayutthaya alone, he said.

Federation of Thai Industries President Payungsak Chartsuthipol said eight working committees had been set up to plan the restoration of industries damaged by floods. Seven of the committees were to work on the rehabilitation of the seven devastated industrial estates and the other to rehabilitate small and medium enterprises (SMEs) outside the estates.

He said the committees would coordinate with government and private agencies, including the local Provincial Electricity Authority, to help bring the industrial estates back into operation as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, a working committee for the restoration of the six flood-ravaged industrial estates in Ayutthaya province has agreed to begin draining water out of Saha Rattananakhon in one or two days.



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Thailand Government to Waive Tax On Some Flood Insurance Claims

BANGKOK (Nov. 1, 2011, Bloomberg) - Thailand's government will waive taxes on insurance claims for machinery damaged by flooding, Finance Minister Thirachai Phuvanatnaranubala said. Existing tax rates will apply to insurance claims for loss of revenue related to the floods, he told reporters today in Bangkok.

Economic Impact of Flooding Assessed By Bank of Thailand, Inflation to be Short-Lived



BANGKOK (Nov. 3, 2011, Bangkok Post) - The Thai economy is expected to remain sluggish for a while due to the country's worst floods in half a century, according to the Bank of Thailand. BoT domestic economy department senior director Methee Supamong said Thursday there had been a decline in exports, industrial output, tourism and domestic consumption.

"Exports of electronic goods and hard disk drives have a tendency to decline because of the state of the global economy but the flooding will likely prolong the slump. The sector that will suffer more impact is tourism as traveling might not be easy, but there'll be some tourists

coming to the country because foreign tourists understand the situation in Thailand," Mr. Methee said.

The central bank's study found business and consumer confidence had fallen below the 50-point level as sales orders had been down for some time because of the widespread flooding in the North, Northeast and the Central Plains.

However, the BoT expected the inflation caused by the severe flooding would be short-lived. Product prices would return to normal when the water recedes. It was unlikely to affect next year's inflation, rate, he added.



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