

## **Yingluck Faces Constitutional Court**

**Bernama**

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BANGKOK, May 6 (Bernama) -- Thailand's caretaker Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra is one of four people scheduled to testify at the Constitutional Court today, in a case where she is the accused, charged with abuse of power over the transfer of National Security Council chief Thawil Pliensri in 2011.

She faces the possibility of being removed from power upon conviction.

As Yingluck arrived at the court about 10.30am, security was tight with the deployment of riot police and army personnel in the vicinity of the court.

Her supporters threatened action if she was found guilty and removed as prime minister, while an anti-government group which has camped nearby, has also planned retaliatory action.

Both groups are planning large rallies next week.

The case, which Yingluck is facing, is one of two legal threats to her position as the interim prime minister.

The other, brought about by the National Anti-Corruption Commission is the charge of dereliction of duty in handling the rice subsidy scheme where the government now owed farmers billions of baht in payment which is long overdue for many months now.

If Yingluck is removed by the court, it raises the possibility that the general election that is scheduled to be held on July 20 will be postponed.

The opposition Democrat Party leader Abhisit Vejjajiva has proposed a six-month delay for the general election planned to enable political and electoral reforms to take place.

However, the ruling Pheu Thai Party which is favourite to retain power has rejected the proposal.

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