



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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23 - 29 October 2019

Indonesia

Floods hit the northern areas of Sumatra island. At least 11 districts across Batubara regency in North Sumatra were inundated by floodwater. About 1,087 houses were damaged while thousands of people were forced to stay in evacuation sites.

According to the Batubara Disaster Mitigation Agency (BPBD), high-intensity rainfall struck the regency for at least the past seven days, causing the rivers to heavily overflow and damage people's houses.

Furthermore, small tornadoes also reportedly hit residential areas in Kuala Indah village of Air Putih district. A number of houses were damaged. Yet, there was no report of death.

Local agencies organised emergency shelters and aid for those affected people

Source: The Jakarta Post. (2019, Oct 28). *Thousands forced to live in tents as floods hit 11 districts in North Sumatra.*

Malaysia

Nearly 2,000 people were in temporary evacuation centres as floods hit Malaysian states. Monsoon rains damaged 80 hectares of rice fields and also affected 1,954 people in five states namely Johor, Negeri Sembilan, Selangor, Perak and Penang.

Rice farmers in Kampung Matang Merbau, Bagan Serai, Perak have suffered losses and needed assistance from the government.

Selangor was the hardest hit area with a total of 826 people displaced. However, no deaths or injuries were reported.

Source: Jakarta Tribune. (2019, Oct 26). *More than 1,000 people in relief centres as flooding hit five Malaysian states, SE Asia News & Top Stories;* Bernama. (2019, Oct 28). *Rice fields damaged, 1,954 flood victims in relief centres.*

Philippines

A strong earthquake rattled southern Philippines. According to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS), a magnitude 6.6 earthquake shook Cotabato province at 9:04 a.m. (local time) on 29 October 2019, at a depth of 7 kilometers, about 25 kilometers southeast of Tulunan town.

The earthquake was also strongly felt in Kaidapawan City, Sarangani province, Davao City, Koronadal City, Cagayan de Oro City, General Santos City, Zamboanga City, and Bukidnon province.

The heavy tremor cut the power supply in many affected provinces, knocked down electric posts and shattered glasses in some of the establishments. Patients of a local hospital were evacuated out of the building.

Source: Xinhua. (2019, Oct 29). *6.6-magnitude earthquake rattles southern Philippines.*

Japan

The death toll from a heavy storm hit eastern Japan rose to 10 as of 26 October 2019. Just two weeks after Super Typhoon Hagibis devastated the region, the storm brought torrential rains triggering more floods and mudslides in eastern Japan.

There were ten people in Chiba and Fukushima prefectures confirmed dead while three people have been missing. Evacuation orders and advisories were issued.

About hundreds of people were still in evacuation centres and some rail and bus services remained suspended. Some roads were closed and approximately 4,700 households were still without water in the city of Kamogawa, Chiba.

Authorities warned of the chance of further landslides and floods, especially in areas where levees remained broken after Super Typhoon Hagibis

Source: Reuters. (2019, Oct 26). *Ten killed as storms ravage eastern Japan: NHK.*

The high volcanic alert level was warned for southwestern Japan island. The Japan Meteorological Agency, on 28 October 2019, the volcano warning level for Mount Shindake on Kuchinoerabu Island in Kagoshima Prefecture was upgraded from 2 to 3 on a 5-points scale after a large-scale earthquake was recorded near the crater the night before.

The agency also warned climbers to refrain from scaling the mountain.

Source: The Mainichi. (2019, Oct 28). *Alert level raised for volcano on southwestern Japan island.*

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