



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Indonesia

A large number of people in Central Java were affected by flooding. Continuous heavy rains caused the Bengawan Solo River to overflow its bank and flood Surakarta city, Central Java province of Indonesia. As of 17 February 2023, almost 22,000 people in more than 16 sub-districts of the city were affected while about 4,000 people had to evacuate. The authorities provided assistance for those affected alongside of rescue operations and emergency relief efforts. However, no injuries or casualties were reported in the incident.

Sources: Tasnim News. (2023, Feb 17). *Thousands Affected by Floods in Indonesia's Surakarta.*

The Philippines

A strong earthquake struck the Philippines' Masbate province. On 16 February 2023, a 6.0-magnitude tremor jolted off the coast of Masbate province followed by 135 aftershocks with magnitudes ranging from 1.5 to 4.2. The strong earthquake forced people in Masbate to run

out of their homes, and dozens of patients in a provincial hospital to be evacuated. Besides, 63 houses and some buildings were damaged; classes of all level were suspended. Also, some routes were temporarily impassable. Power outage was reported in the affected area and nearby Ticao Island. The assessment of damages was underway by local officials.

Sources: Philstar. (2023, Feb 17). *Magnitude 6 quake rocks Masbate.*

Republic of Korea

Unsettled weather caused chaos on transportation in Korea. Sudden heavy snowfall hit the east coast of Korea on 15 February 2023 causing passenger ferry services between Pohang city and Ulleung Island in North Gyeongsang province to be halted, and a part of national highway in the city to be restricted. Accidents on the roads in Gangneung municipal city of Gangwon province were also reported. In the meantime, the snow also struck Busan from the night of 14 February until 15 February 2023. Furthermore, the snow was reported in Jeju, and the northern parts of Korea while the mixture of rain and snow affected the capital Seoul, Incheon city, and the provinces of Gyeonggi, Gangwon and Chungcheong on 16 February 2023. The Korea Meteorological Agency (KMA) warned the commuters to be careful of icy roads and black ice, which were the major cause of accidents.

Sources: Korea JoongAng Daily. (2023, Feb 16). *Unstable weather system brings a bit of everything to Korea.*

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