



WEEKLY UPDATE ON NATURAL DISASTERS IN ASEAN PLUS THREE

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3 – 9 January 2024

Indonesia

A 5.9-magnitude earthquake badly hit Indonesia's Banten province. On 3 January 2024, an earthquake of magnitude 5.9 struck Bayah district of Banten province, Indonesia damaging 10 houses in eight villages of the district. The authority assessed the affected buildings, and urged locals to stay vigilant of possible aftershocks. The quake's epicenter was located about 72 kilometres away from southwest of Dayah district at a depth of 74 kilometres.

Sources: Antara News. (2024, Jan 4). *Banten's M5.9 earthquake damages 10 houses in Sukabumi: BPBD.*

Malaysia

Floods disrupted lives in Johor state of Malaysia. All 10 districts of Johor state, Malaysia faced heavy and persistent rains on 7 January 2024. Consequently, 338 people from 92 families in the districts of Mersing, Kluang, Kota Tinggi, and Segamat were affected by floods; over 250 people of which had to shelter at temporary relief centres.

Some roads in Kluang district were impassable for small vehicles or closed to all vehicles. Meanwhile, the water level of the rivers in Kluang and Kota Tinggi districts reached the critical level.

Sources: New Strait Times. (2024, Jan 7). *Johor flood update: Roads closed, rivers at critical levels.*

The Philippines

Heavy rains and landslides forcibly shut down schools in Bicol region. All classes in many towns of the Philippines' Bicol region were suspended after continuous heavy rains since 7 January 2024 triggered landslides. A major landslide in Baras town had blocked main roads, however; the clearing operations were halted due to the rains and dangerous road conditions. Besides, residents living near the river channels and lahar flow areas around Mayon Volcano in Albay province were warned of possible lahar flow due to heavy rains caused by the shear line or the convergence of cool and warm winds.

Sources: Inquirer.Net. (2024, Jan 9). *Heavy rains trigger landslides, class suspensions in Catanduanes.*

Japan

Death toll from a massive earthquake in Japan jumped to 202. As of 9 January 2024, Japanese authorities confirmed a new death toll of 202 up from 168 a day earlier and revised downwards the number of missing people to 120 after the 7.5-magnitude earthquake devastated Ishikawa Prefecture of Japan on 1 January 2024. Rescue efforts were underway under adverse weather conditions. The powerful earthquake toppled buildings, sparked fires, and knocked out

infrastructure. Almost 30,000 people had to live at the government shelters while over 75,000 households were without running water or electricity supply. Moreover, road conditions had been heavily worsened by days of rainfalls triggering around 1,000 landslides in the prefecture. The Prime Minister urged secondary evacuations for other regions outside the quake-hit areas.

Sources: Japan Today. (2024, Jan 9). *Japan sharply revises down quake missing to 120; death toll 202.*

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