



WEEKLY UPDATE ON NATURAL DISASTERS IN ASEAN PLUS THREE

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8 - 14 January 2025

Indonesia

Mount Ibu in Indonesia's North Maluku province erupted. On 11 January 2025, Mount Ibu in West Halmahera district of North Maluku province, Indonesia erupted and spewed a thick plume of ash 4,000 metres high above the summit. Authorities had to issue warnings to the public immediately after the eruption. All public activities were not allowed within a 4-kilometre radius of the volcano and a 5.5-kilometre sector to the north of the active crater. Also, the public was urged to stay vigilant. Since June 2024, the volcano's eruptions have been fluctuating causing the volcanic activity remains at level III or Alert.

Sources: Borneo Bulletin. (2025, Jan 13). *Mount Ibu erupts in Indonesia, spews hot lava.*

Malaysia

Floods affected thousands of people in Malaysia. Heavy rains since 10 January 2025 triggered floods in Malaysia, and caused population displacement and

damages. As of 12 January 2025, 3,844 people in Johor, Perak, and Terengganu states were displaced and sheltered in 38 evacuation centres. Meanwhile, more heavy rainfall was still forecast over southern Malaysia.

Sources: Reliefweb. (2025, Jan 13). *Malaysia - Floods (ADINet, MET Malaysia) (ECHO Daily Flash of 13 January 2025).*

China

More than 3,600 aftershocks were recorded after the Xizang earthquake. Since the 6.8-magnitude earthquake struck Dingri county in southwest China's Xizang Autonomous Region and claimed 126 lives last week, a total of 3,614 aftershocks were detected as of 14 January 2025. The two strongest aftershocks were a magnitude 4.9 and 5.0 which recorded on 13 January 2025. The tremor also damaged some houses in the county. However, no casualties were reported due to the aftershocks.

Sources: Xinhua. (2025, Jan 14). *Over 3,600 aftershocks detected following 6.8-magnitude Xizang quake.*

Japan

A strong earthquake hit southwestern Japan. A 6.6-magnitude earthquake jolted southwestern Japan on 13 January 2025 while small tsunami was observed in parts of Miyazaki and Kochi prefectures. The quake measured a lower 5 on the Japanese seismic intensity scale of 7 in Miyazaki, Shintomi and Takanabe prefectures at a depth of about 36 kilometres. Meanwhile, service on some parts of the Kyushu Shinkansen bullet train line was temporarily suspended. The

government also called for caution over the increased risk of strong shaking across a large area. Although the quake occurred beneath the western edge of the hypothesised epicentre of a Nankai Trough quake, it was not powerful enough to lead the agency to issue a special alert. Furthermore, northern and western Japan had faced heavy snow on 10 January 2025 causing the disruption to the railway services and traffic.

Sources: Kyodo News. (2025, Jan 10). *Heavy snow hits north, west Japan, 100 vehicles temporarily stranded*; Kyodo News. (2025, Jan 14). *M6.6 quake hits southwestern Japan, small tsunami observed*.

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