



## WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATION

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### **Myanmar**

#### ***Paddy prices bounce back as November rains turn to sun***

Paddy prices in Nay Pyi Taw were on the rise after hitting a low in the first week of November due to heavy rain and a falling import from China, the major buyer of Myanmar's rice. Currently, the prices of rice increased from K350,000 for 100 baskets (about USD 130.13 per 1 tonne) to K500,000 (USD 381) due to the fair weather.

The government of Myanmar announced a scheme, which has yet to begin, focuses on farmers who cannot store their paddy. Farmers will hand over paddy to traders and rice millers who will sell and transfer the payment when the rice prices are agreeable to the individual farmer. The government also revealed the plans to allow paddy exports with some limitations, and attract some potential oversea-buyers such as Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam.

\* USD 1 = K 1,312.03

**Source:** H. Thant. (2016, Nov 30). *Paddy prices bounce back as November rains turn to sun*. The Myanmar Times.

### **Philippines**

#### ***Philippines hopes to limit rice imports to 500,000 tonnes in 2017***

The government of President Rodrigo Duterte aims to be self-sufficient in rice production by 2020.

Agriculture Secretary said he hoped the Philippines would not have to buy more than 500,000 tonnes of grain next year as the prospect of farm production seemed favorable.

The Philippines' National Food Authority last month indicated that they could buy 250,000 tonnes of rice to boost buffer stock on top of the 250,000 tonnes purchased from Viet Nam and Thailand.

**Source:** RiceHQ World Rice Industry News & Prices, (2016, Nov 29). *Philippines hopes to limit rice imports to 500,000 tonnes in 2017*.

#### ***Rice conditions in Philippines 'favorable'***

According to the Agricultural Market information System (AMIS), the forecast volume of global product in 2016 was pegged at 498 million tonnes. Wet season rice cultivated in July to August provided promising output due to ample rainfall.

At the beginning of this month, the Philippines Statistics Authority revealed a 3 percent year-on-year raise in the volume of agricultural productions during the third quarter of the year due to the recent El Nino's effect.

**Source:** R. W. Domingo. (2016, Nov 24). *Rice conditions in Philippines 'favorable'*. Inquirer.net.

## **Thailand**

### ***Rice exports on track to reach 9.5 million tonnes target***

The Commerce Ministry was currently confident of attaining its target of 9.5 million tonnes this year after rice exports was 9.18 million tonnes in the first 11 months. On November 28, the approved amount for exports increased 8.7 percent on the same period last year. The export value for the period was USD 4.159 billion, up 3.5 percent year-on-year. The top ten buyers of Thai rice are Benin, Ivory Coast, Japan, China, Angola, Cameroon, Indonesia, Malaysia, Congo, and Mozambique.

Thai Hom Mali was named as the world's best rice at the annual World Rice Conference held in Chiang Mai in mid-November followed by Cambodia's fragrant rice, and Japonica rice from the US.

**Source:** RiceHQ World Rice Industry News & Prices, (2016, Nov 30). *Rice exports on track to reach 9.5 million tonnes target.*

## **Viet Nam**

### ***Multiple rice exporters at risk of closing down***

The rice conditions provided by government are so strict that several businesses cannot meet. The government order included a rice mill with a minimum capacity of 10 tonnes an hour and at least one storehouse with a minimum capacity of 5,000 tonnes of paddy that meets the standards of Agriculture and Rural Development. This rice conditions have driven many local firms out of rice export sector. This situation contrasted with Cambodia and Laos where enterprises can

easily export rice to other countries due to their governments supporting.

**Source:** Viet Nam net bridge, ( 2016, Nov 29). *Multiple rice exporters at risk of closing down.*

### ***New demand for Viet Nam rice seen up***

Africa, the Philippines and Indonesia are expected to buy 1 million tonnes of rice from Viet Nam by the end of this year if the prices ease. The traders said Viet Nam has signed contracts for between 2.7 million and 2.8 million tonnes this year. The country is able to export 4 million tonnes of rice a year. The trade Minister said the Viet Nam government's target of exporting 3.5 million tonnes of rice could be increased if the domestic prices eased.

The local prices are expected to ease this month due to the peak of harvest period in Mekong Delta. Normally, the summer-autumn paddy price was 1,500 dong per kilogramme (USD0.07 per 1 Kilogramme), while this year it had been at around 1,800 dong (USD0.08).

The Trade Ministry had sent a team to the Delta to survey rice stocks and contracts signed by exporters to work out plan in the rest of the year.

The government data showed Viet Nam exported 2.25 million tonnes in the first half of this year, declined 3.3 percent from previous year.

*\*USD 1 = 22,691.17 Dong*

**Source:** RiceHQ World Rice Industry News & Prices. (2016, Nov 29). *New demand for Viet Nam rice seen up.*

## China

### ***China agrees to import rice from 17 mills in India***

According to official source, Chinese officials visited India in September to inspect 19 rice mills registered with the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) after getting many requests from India. The NPPO assisted China during the inspection for pest-risk analysis and plant quarantine purposes to ensure that the non-basmati consignment from India will be pest-free.

Last week, the Indian Embassy in Beijing informed that Chinese authorities cleared 17 of these 19 mills for rice exports to China.

**Source:** RiceHQ World Rice Industry News & Prices, (2016, Nov 29). *China agrees to import rice from 17 mills in India.*

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