



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Cambodia

A Cambodian rice firm will buy paddy rice from agricultural communities across the country worth 17 million USD.

Amru Rice, one of the biggest rice exporters in Cambodia, will purchase about 50,000 tonnes of paddy this year from agricultural communities across the country, amounting to 17 million USD of an investment. According to Amru Rice CEO, the company has entered contract farming schemes with 56 agricultural communities in nine provinces. A significant portion of this investment will be made in Kampong Thom, where the company will buy 12,000 tonnes of paddy from 20 agricultural communities. The price range that the company pays is between 280-400 USD a tonne, depending on the quality of the product. Farmers will get lots of benefits from the contract farming schemes, because they have guaranteed buyers and can sell their product at a good price, said Director of Kampong Thom's Agriculture Department.

Source: Khmer Times. (2018, Nov 16). *Amru Rice to buy \$17m worth of paddy.*

Myanmar

Myanmar rice exports brought the country more than 440 million USD.

According to Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF), from April to early November 2018, Myanmar exported about 1.3 million tonnes of rice and broken rice with the earning over 440 million USD, including 242 million USD from over 680,000 tonnes via border trade and 200 million USD from about 600,000 tonnes via maritime trade. Myanmar decided to shift its fiscal year, which normally ran from 1 April to 31 March, to 1 October 2018 to 30 September 2019. In 2018-2019 fiscal year, the MRF expected that the maximum rice exports will be 2 or 3 million tonnes. Last 2017-2018 fiscal year, due to the market expansion, Myanmar earned over 1.1 billion USD from rice exports nearly 3.6 million tonnes, reaching the record high in more than 50 years.

Source: Eleven Myanmar. (2018, Nov 17). *Myanmar earns US\$440 M from rice export.*

Philippines

The National Food Authority (NFA) sets the third attempt to rebid the volume of 203,000 tonnes of rice.

According to Agriculture Secretary, a chairperson of the NFA Council, a third attempt to secure the 203,000 tonnes of rice import contracts will be made by NFA next week, following the failed bidding on 6 November 2018. However, Agriculture Secretary declined to provide more details, while the delivery schedule as stated in the Terms of Reference (TOR) used for previous biddings will remain the same. Based on the TOR, the imports must arrive the country between 15 and 31 December 2018. The 203,000-tonne rice represents the unawarded portion of the previous government-to-private (G2P) tender on 18 October 2018 for 250,000 tonnes, which the NFA secured only 47,000 tonnes from the three suppliers who submitted compliant offers with the NFA's reference price.

Source: The Manila Times. (2018, Nov 15). *NFA sets 3rd attempt to bid out rice contracts.*

Singapore

A rice supplier from Singapore has built a rice mill in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Golden Sunland, a supplier of high-quality rice in Singapore, has started the construction of the rice mill in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, with a capacity to supply 50,000 tonnes of rice a year. The mill is located in Pyan Chi village, Lewe Township, and the company plans to invest about 5 million USD in this project. According to a member of parliament for Lewe Township, Golden Sunland will also grow Shwe War Win hybrid rice, a crossbreed with Shwe War Tun rice – a Myanmar high-quality long grain white rice, near the mill in partnership with local farmers on 6,100 hectares annually. This is an opportunity for local farmers to increase their incomes.

Source: The Myanmar Times. (2018, Nov 16). *Singapore firm to mill rice in Nay Pyi Taw*; and Bagan Trade. *Shwe War Tun (Emata White Rice)*.

Viet Nam

Viet Nam exported 5.2 million tonnes of rice in the first 10 months of this year.

According to Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), Vietnamese rice exports during January to October 2018 reached 5.2 million tonnes worth 2.6 billion USD, up 1.7 percent in volume and 14.1 percent in value compared with the same period in 2017. In the first 10 months of this year, white rice was still the largest portion of the total exports, followed by jasmine rice and sticky rice. The structure for kinds of exported rice saw positive changes with a gradual increase of fragrant rice, sticky rice, and white rice of medium and high quality, while the volume of low-quality white rice reduced, accounting for 2 percent of total rice exports. China continued to be the largest export market of Vietnamese rice, accounting for 24 percent of total exports. Other markets, such as Indonesia, Iraq, the Philippines, and Malaysia, also saw a sharp increase in importing Vietnamese rice.

Source: Viet Nam News. (2018, Nov 19). *Rice exports rise 14% in value*.

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