



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

No. 99
12 - 18 December 2018

Cambodia

Cambodian rice sees decline in exports to the international markets.

According to a report by the Secretariat of One Window Service for Rice Export Formality, Cambodia's rice exports to the international market for the first 11 months this year accounted for 497,240 tonnes, down by 13 percent from 562,237 tonnes year-on-year. In November 2018, Cambodia exported only 62,433 tonnes, down from 70,112 tonnes in the same month last year. In accordance with the vice-president of Cambodia Rice Federation (CRF), Cambodia's rice exports have dropped almost every month in 2018. The decline is due mainly to a lack of stockpiles during harvest season and price competition with neighboring countries. Cambodia pledged to send one million tonnes of rice per year to the international market by 2015, but only 538,396 tonnes were exported in 2015, 542,144 tonnes in 2016, and 635,679 tonnes in 2017. With the current situation, it is difficult to reach the target of one million tonnes of rice exports. The key ways to improve exports are increasing and expanding rice stockpiles, increasing loans

to grow the industry, and lowering production costs, said vice-president of CRF.

Source: Phnom Penh Post. (2018, Dec 12). *Cambodian rice sees decline in exports to the international market.*

Myanmar

A Myanmar company has signed a deal to export rice and maize to China.

The business-to-business agreement has been signed between two Chinese firms and the Shan State (Northern) Rice and Paddy Development Public Co., Ltd. of Myanmar to trade 15,000 tonnes of rice and 10,000 tonnes of maize. According to managing director of the Myanmar company, China's government has quotas for rice and maize imports and the company expects to sign deals for 100,000 or one million tonnes. However, the signed agreement was the first step that Chinese partners can officially obtain import licenses for the said amount. If it is successful, other deals may come, said managing director. Meanwhile, Myanmar Trade Promotion Organisation (MyanTrade) under the Ministry of Commerce is negotiating with Chinese government for broader arrangements in terms of rice exports.

Source: The Myanmar Times. (2018, Dec 17). *Company-to-company deal signed for rice, maize.*

Philippines

Rice inventory jumps 88.7 percent in November, compared with October 2018.

According to a report from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), the country's total rice stock inventory as of 1 November 2018 increased by 88.7 percent to 3 million tonnes from 1.58 million tonnes a month earlier and also up by 1.4 percent from 2.95 million tonnes in November 2017. Of the total rice stock inventory, 51.9 percent were from households, 44.6 percent were from commercial warehouses, and 3.5 percent

were from the National Food Authority (NFA) depositories. Month-on-month, household and commercial rice stocks increased by 81.2 percent and 122.3 percent, respectively. On the other hand, the NFA inventories were down by 18.7 percent. Compared with the previous year, rice stocks in the households and NFA depositories fell by 12.7 percent and 45.6 percent, respectively. However, stocks in commercial warehouses were up by 36.2 percent.

Source: The Manila Times. (2018, Dec 13). *Rice inventory jumps 88.7% in November.*

Viet Nam

Rice exports have shown positive signals especially in terms of revenue.

According to the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT), in the past few months, rice has been the fastest-growing currency earner among agro-forestry-fishery products. From January to November 2018, 5.7 million tonnes of rice were exported abroad, worth 2.86 billion USD, a rise of 16.8 percent year-on-year in terms of value. Of the total export earnings, white rice accounted for 51 percent, followed by jasmine rice 32 percent, glutinous rice 12 percent, and japonica rice 5 percent. The price of exported rice hit 504 USD per tonne on average in the past 10 months, up 12.3 percent annually. The number of Viet Nam's rice export markets has increased from 60 to 150 countries and territories since last three years. Apart from the traditional markets, more Vietnamese rice has gone to Latin Americas and Middle East countries. While, premium white rice and jasmine rice have started entering demanding markets. For 2018, the MOIT forecast that rice exports will hit 6.2 million tonnes with the earning around 3.12 billion USD, up 6.6 percent in volume annually and 18.5 percent in value year-on-year.

Source: Viet Nam Plus. (2018, Dec 12). *Rice export shows positive signals.*

Gathered by the APTERR Secretariat
Tel: +66 (0) 2579 4816-17 Fax: +66 (0) 2579 4840
Email: voraporn.mue@apterr.org
Website: <http://www.apterr.org/>

* This Weekly Update on ASEAN Plus Three Rice Situations is based on all available sources during the period. The APTERR Secretariat shall take no responsibility for data accuracy in this publication and any consequence of their use.