



## WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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### Myanmar

***Myanmar earned 730 million USD from rice exports over 2.2 million tonnes.***

Myanmar has earned 730 million USD from rice and broken rice exports over 2.2 million tonnes during 1 April 2018 to 1 March 2019, according to Ministry of Commerce. Referring with the figure, over 1.1 million tonnes of rice and broken rice were exported via border trade with the revenue of 369 million USD, as well as over 1.1 million tonnes were shipped via maritime trade worth 361 million USD. In previous years, the total rice exports via border trade routes were over 70 percent. As a result of successful searching new markets, rice exports via sea trade in 2017-2018 fiscal year were up 48 percent of the total rice exports, and it is expected to reach more than 50 percent in this fiscal year. In the upcoming three years, Myanmar expects to export up to four million tonnes of rice and broken rice with the earning of 1.5 billion USD, according to Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

**Source:** Eleven Myanmar. (2019, Mar 19). *Myanmar earns over US\$730 M from over 2.21 million tons of rice export.*

### Philippines

***The country's rice inventory in February 2019 increased 19.24 percent.***

According to a report from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), the total rice stock inventory in February 2019 stood at 2.14 million tonnes, up 19.24 percent from last year's inventory level of 1.79 million tonnes. However, the figure in February 2019 fell 16.05 percent from 2.55 million tonnes in January 2019. Of the total rice inventory, 48.22 percent were in the households, 37.88 percent were in commercial, and 13.90 percent were in the National Food Authority (NFA) depositories. On a monthly basis, the existing stocks in the households and commercial warehouses declined by 17.25 percent and 32.69 percent, respectively. Meanwhile, stocks in the NFA depositories increased by 203.97 percent. Year-on-year, stocks in NFA depositories and commercial warehouses correspondingly up by 384.72 percent and 25.46 percent. On the other hand, stocks in the households dropped by 5.09 percent.

**Source:** The Manila Times. (2019, Mar 15). *Rice, corn stocks up in February.*

### Viet Nam

***Viet Nam sees an opportunity to export 20,000 tonnes of rice to Egypt.***

The Ministry of Industry and Trade's Import-Export Department had received a tender notice from the Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade of Egypt. Under the tender notice, the type of rice required is short and medium-grain white rice, which Viet Nam harvested in the last crop of 2018. The volume of rice will be shipped to Egypt in this June dividing in two phases, from 1-15 June 2019 and 16-30 June 2019. Accordingly, this is a big opportunity for Vietnamese enterprises to boot rice export by shipping 20,000 tonnes to this potential market. The department also advised the businesses to pay attention to the quality of rice in order to secure long-term customers.

**Source:** Viet Nam Plus. (2019, Mar 25). *Vietnam sees rice export opportunity in Egypt.*

## China

### ***China opens its market for rice, sugar, and yarn imports from Pakistan.***

The Chinese government has finally offered Pakistan market access for three commodities, consisting of rice, sugar, and yarn, worth 1 billion USD for the current calendar year of Pakistan. Rice shipments to China have already begun as part of the deal, which was agreed during Prime Minister Imran Khan's four-day visit to Beijing and Shanghai of China in the first week of November 2018. Under the agreement, exporters have been allowed to ship 200,000 tonnes of rice, and 300,000 tonnes of sugar to China with a total value of 300 million USD. In addition, the agreement includes preferential market access for 700 million USD worth for yarn. However, yarn exports to China are unlikely to reach 700 million USD as total cotton production is expected to decline in the ongoing season, because of decrease in cultivation area, use of poor quality seed, and pesticides, said Pakistan's Commerce Division official.

**Source:** DAWN. (2019, Mar 22). *Pakistan gets \$1bn Chinese market access for rice, sugar, yarn.*

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