



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

No. 148

11 - 17 December 2019

Cambodia

Cambodian rice exports to china rise 34 percent in the first 11 months of 2019.

China remained the top buyer of Cambodian rice from January to November 2019. During this period, Cambodia exported 205,358 tonnes of milled rice to China, accounted for 40 percent of the total country's rice export and up 34 percent over the same period of last year. Besides, China is a key market for Cambodian rice and the country is expected to export 250,000 tonnes of rice to China in 2019, said the President of the Cambodia Rice Federation (CRF).

Source: Xinhua. (2019, Dec 15). *Cambodia sees 34 percent rise in rice export to China in 11 months.*

The rice millers and paddy buyers were asked to not undersell the prices of paddy during the harvest season.

The Prime Minister of Cambodia appealed to rice millers and paddy buyers not to lower the prices of rice, as aiming to secure a better rate for rice farmers in the early harvest season. However, the Prime Minister's call would not affect the free market because it is not a regulation. According to the CRF, the dropping in rice prices since last week because of the influx of poor-quality paddy, which was affected by drought, in some areas. Meanwhile, mostly of rice millers have brought only good quality paddy. To address capital shortages to buy paddy and stabilise paddy prices, the Rural Development Bank (RDB) loaned 50 million USD last week to the Cambodian rice industry. With this amount, it

can buy nearly 300,000 tonnes of paddy for stockpiling.

Source: The Phnom Penh Post. (2019, Dec 11). *Prime Minister appeals to rice millers not to lower paddy prices.*

Thailand

The strong baht drives prices of Thai rice up to higher than the competitors.

As of 12 December 2019, the prices of Thai 5 percent broken rice were quoted at 397-411 USD per tonne from 397-410 per tonne last week. The prices of Thai rice are expected to drop due to the new supply enters the market in December 2019. However, it has been high throughout this year because of the baht appreciation. Meanwhile, some buyers have switched to buy rice from Viet Nam and Myanmar, which have similar quality and cheaper prices.

Source: Reuters. (2019, Dec 12). *RPT-Asia Rice-India prices rebound; Vietnam sees uptick in demand.*

Viet Nam

Prices of Vietnamese rice have slightly increased due to the uptick in demand whereas low supply in the market.

As of 12 December 2019, the prices of Viet Nam's 5 percent broken rice were at 350 USD per tonne, rose slightly from 345 USD per tonne last week. The reason for the increase in rice prices is supply in the market is very low due to the harvest season has ended, whereas the demand from exporters to fulfill shipment to Cuba and Iraq is still high. Meanwhile, the demand from the Philippines had been raised in the past two weeks. However, the local supplies would be increased by early January 2020 because of the beginning of winter-spring harvest.

Source: Reuters. (2019, Dec 12). *RPT-Asia Rice-India prices rebound; Vietnam sees uptick in demand.*

Gathered by the APTERR Secretariat
Tel: +66 (0) 2579 4816-17 Fax: +66 (0) 2579 4840
Email: nattakarn.san@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.