



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Philippines

The Philippines got 950 tonnes of rice contribution from the Republic of Korea (ROK) to help natural disaster victim.

The ROK government has contributed 950 tonnes of rice to the Philippines for the thousands of the Filipino families, who adversely affected by natural disaster in 2019. According to the Department of Agriculture (DA), the beneficiaries include the earthquake-affected person in Mindanao, particularly in North Cotabato and Davao del Sur, and other areas in Davao regions and Soccsksargen, and the flood-affected person in Cagayan Valley. The rice donation is part of the emergency food assistance of the ROK's Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA).

Source: The Manila Times. (2020, Apr 8). *South Korea donates 950 tons of rice to the Philippines.*

Viet Nam

Prime Minister allow rice export plan for April with the quota of 400,000 tonnes.

The Prime Minister of Viet Nam has approved the rice export plan for April 2020, which sets the export quota of 400,000 tonnes. The set of export quota came into force on 11 April 2020. Additionally, the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT) was assigned by the Prime Minister to coordinate with the Ministry of Finance (MOF), the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), and relevant agencies to carry out this plan and ensure that the export will not affect the national food security. Besides, MOIT has to work with the relevant ministries to report on rice export in April and propose the export plan of May to the Prime Minister before 25 April 2020.

Source: Vietnam News Agency. (2020, Apr 11). *PM approves rice export resumption, orders guaranteed food security;* and Viet Nam News. (2020, Apr 11). *MoIT issues rice export quotas this month under PM permission.*

Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT) proposes resuming rice exports in monthly quota amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

On 6 April 2020, the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT) sent an urgent official dispatch to the Prime Minister of Viet Nam, after collecting opinions from relevant ministries and agencies relating to rice export management. Regarding the urgent official dispatch, the MOIT proposed to allow rice exports but strictly control monthly quota, which is a suitable solution to maintain rice production to ensure economic growth while ensuring food security amid the Covid-19 pandemic. Additionally, the MOIT required the 20 biggest rice exporters to sign agreements with at least one supermarket to ensure circulation of food reserve. The MOIT can revoke rice export licenses for the exporters who do not meet the requirements.

Source: Vietnam Net. (2020, Apr 8). *VN Trade Ministry proposes resuming rice exports.*

China

China increases state rice buying to strengthen the nation's grain reserve.

China has increased purchasing of middle- and late- season rice in the country's annual state buying of the autumn grain crop, in order to strengthen the nation's grain stockpile. According to the China Grain Reserve Group (CGRG), at the end of March 2020, the group has bought 22.08 million tonnes of middle- and late- season rice, an increase of 350,000 tonnes year-on-year, at the minimum purchase prices from last year's autumn harvest. The CGRG runs the country's centrally-administered grain reserve, citing regular central stockpiling and ample policy grain inventories.

Source: Xinhua. (2020, Apr 10). *China increases state rice purchasing to strengthen grain reserve.*

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