



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Cambodia

The Cambodia Rice Federation (CRF) asks government to lift the ban on rice exports, whereas requests for an additional fund for purchasing paddy.

The CRF has asked the government to cancel the ban on white rice exports as soon as possible in order to let millers clear their old stocks. The lifting on rice export restriction will help millers to be ready to buy paddy in early July 2020. Additionally, the CRF has requested the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) to increase a dedicated budget through the Agriculture and Rural Development Bank (ARDB) by 30 million USD from the current 50 million USD, which would bring the available fund to 200 million USD. This fund can assist millers in buying one million tonnes of paddy during the upcoming harvest season to improve stockpiles efficiency and prevent falling of rice prices.

Source: The Phnom Penh Post. (2020, May 4). *CRF asks ministry for \$30M increase to purchase paddy; and Khmer Times. (2020, May 1). CRF: Cancel rice ban.*

Rice exports to China increase 28 percent in the first four month of 2020.

From January to April 2020, Cambodia exported 122,094 tonnes of milled rice to China, an increase of 28 percent over the same period last year. In the same period, the

shipments to China accounted for 40.6 percent of the country's total rice export, according to the Secretariat of One Window Service for Rice Export Formality (SOWS-REF).

Source: The Star. (2020, May 2). *Cambodia's rice exports to China up 28% in first four months.*

Myanmar

Myanmar will resume regular volume of rice exports at 150,000 tonnes in May 2020.

According to the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF), rice exports will resume in May at the regular volume of 150,000 tonnes, consisting of 100,000 tonnes for shipping overseas, and 50,000 tonnes for border trade. The government estimated more than 2 million tonnes of rice will be available for export in the current fiscal year, of which 10 percent will be retained as food reserves for Myanmar. Meanwhile, the MRF is negotiating with some Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries for government to government (G2G) export arrangements.

Source: Myanmar Times. (2020, Apr 30). *Myanmar rice exports to resume in May.*

Thailand

Prices of Thai rice increase because the ongoing drought has limited rice supplies.

This week, Prices of Thailand's benchmark 5 percent broken rice were quoted at 535-557 USD per tonne from 530-556 USD per tonne last week. The ongoing drought in Thailand, which started last November, is likely to last until July. However, some rainy days in rice-growing provinces in April have eased worries, and it is possible to have ample water for crops later in the year.

Source: Reuters. (2020, Apr 30). *Asia Rice-India export prices hit 9-month peak as demand recover.*

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/>

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