



## WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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### Cambodia

***Indian rice producer is requested to stop using the Angkor Wat trademark on products.***

In February 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MFAIC) and the Ministry of Commerce (MOC) of Cambodia jointly inspected rice products and found that Voyage India, an Indian rice producer, used the name of Angkor Wat Thai Hom Mali Jasmine rice and image of Cambodia's iconic Angkor Wat temple without permission from Cambodian competent authorities. This behaviour of the company violates the Law Concerning Marks, Trade Names and Act of Unfair Competition, as well as infringes the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property. Regarding this, the MFAIC and the MOC ordered the Cambodian Embassy in India to take immediate action on the issue. As a result, Voyage India has promised to stop labelling the name and image of Angkor Wat on its packaging.

**Source:** Khmer Times. (2021, Jul 13). *Controversy over 'Thai Angkor Wat' rice.... that is grown in India;* and Phnom Penh Post. (2021, Jul 12). *Indian rice firm to stop Angkor Wat labelling: ministry.*

***Cambodia seeks opportunities to increase milled-rice sales in Asian markets.***

According to the Cambodia Rice Federation, Cambodia is seeking to diversify milled-rice export destinations in the Asian market, especially in the large markets as China, ASEAN countries, Hong Kong, and Macau. This move comes amid a steady decline in Cambodian milled-rice exports to Europe due to high freight rates in over a year of the Covid-19 pandemic situation. In the first half of 2021, Cambodia's milled-rice export fell by 29.47 percent to 280,450 tonnes with a total export value of 202.67 million USD.

**Source:** Phnom Penh Post. (2021, Jul 7). *Cambodia sowing seeds for more milled-rice sales to China, ASEAN.*

### Thailand

***Rates for Thai rice exports decrease slightly this week due to dwindling demand and currency depreciation.***

As of 8 July 2021, Thailand's 5 percent broken rice prices widen slightly to 410-425 USD per tonne, hitting the 19-month lowest level, from 420-422 USD per tonne a week earlier. Overseas demand for Thai rice has been dim together with a depreciation of Thai baht against the US dollar resulted in a lower price this week, said the local traders.

**Source:** Reuters. (2021, Jul 8). *RPT-ASIA RICE-Rates wether as exporters brace for fresh crop arrival.*

### Viet Nam

***Vietnamese rice prices slide as high shipping costs harm the overseas purchase.***

Prices of Vietnamese 5 percent broken rice fell to 465-470 USD per tonne from 470-475 USD per tonne last week. Domestic supplies are increasing as farmers in the Mekong Delta provinces have started harvesting the summer-autumn crop. However, rice importers have cut down orders from Viet Nam because of the high shipping cost. Also, domestic paddy sales are slow due to movement restrictions amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Source:** Reuters. (2021, Jul 8). *RPT-ASIA RICE-Rates wether as exporters brace for fresh crop arrival.*

***Mekong Delta sees plenty of rice production from the summer-autumn crop.***

According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Mekong Delta is harvesting the summer-autumn crop and has had a successful rice crop despite the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. This year, farmers sowed 1.51 million hectares of rice, down 9,000 hectares from last year. However, the output is estimated at 8.58 million tonnes, an increase of 124,000 tonnes year-on-year. The planting of fragrant rice and high-quality rice varieties increased, whereas the cultivation of medium-quality rice declined.

**Source:** Viet Nam News. (2021, Jul 12). *Mekong Delta sees bountiful summer-autumn rice crop despite impact of pandemic.*

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*\* 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.*