



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Cambodia

Government increased allocation to \$150 million, stabilising rice prices.

The Royal Government increased the allocation to stabilise rice prices from 30 million USD that was announced last week to 150 million USD on January 20, 2025. Due to the farmers' concern about the drop in rice price, the government wants to ensure the purchase of rice from farmers. Besides, the Prime Minister also called upon the banking and financial institutions to provide lower interest rates of loans for rice millers. Aiming to enhance the capacity of mills to collect paddy rice directly from farmers. Furthermore, this act would contribute to strengthening the domestic rice market.

Source: Khmer Times. (2025, Jan 21). *Govt ups allocation to \$150 million to stabilise rice prices.*

MAFF said OM rice's price declined due to external factors.

The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries declined the claim that the Royal Government failed to promote Cambodia's agriculture sector. In fact, the price drop of the OM rice variety was due to external factors. The MAFF said price drop saw a significant impact only on the OM rice among the dry season rice varieties. Because India has removed the rice export ban, the rice market has become highly competitive. As a result, Cambodia's rice price dropped.

Source: Khmer Times. (2025, Jan 17). *OM rice's price decline due to external factors, Tina says.*

Lao PDR

The President visits a modern rice mill built with Republic of Korea's funding.

Party Secretary General and State President visited a modern rice mill built with the Republic of Korea (ROK)'s funding, located in Ban Nakhamnon, Songkhone District, Savannakhet Province, on January 15, 2025. This mill is one of the initiatives implemented under the Savannakhet Province Integrated Irrigated Agriculture and Rural Development Project. In fact, the project is funded by a grant of 46 million USD from the government of the ROK.

Source: Lao News Agency. (2025, Jan 16). *President Thongloun Visits Modern Rice Mill Built with R. Korea's Funding.*

Philippines

No rice shortage due to the declaring food security emergency.

The Department of Agriculture (DA) clarified that there is no rice supply shortage amid plans to declare a food security emergency, which aim to solve the shortage in supply and the extraordinary increase in the price of rice. Nonetheless, the country has a lot of supply, so the only goal is to solve the increase in rice prices. Therefore, the government, the DA, and the Department of Trade and Industry took many initiatives to lower the price, including reducing the tax from 35 percent to 15 percent, collaborating on the program in Kadiwa, and considering the classification of rice importation.

Source: Philippine News Agency. (2025, Jan 18). *No rice shortage amid plans to declare food security emergency.*

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