



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Cambodia

APSARA National Authority irrigates 1,969 hectares of dry season rice fields.
Due to the start of the dry season in January 2025, the APSARA National Authority supports local farmers by providing essential water for irrigating 1,969 hectares of rice fields across communes and villages outside the West Baray irrigation system. Including 1,354 hectares along the Siem Reap river, 300 hectares in the Kon Kaek and Ta Eng areas, Khnat Commune, Puok District and 315 hectares in Stoeng Preah Srok, Lvea Commune, and Puok District.

Source: Khmer Times. (2025, Jan 27). *APSARA National Authority supplies water for 1,969 hectares of dry-season rice fields.*

Philippines

DA aims to import rice at 49 pesos per kilogramme by March.
The Department of Agriculture (DA) targets to reduce the importing rice price to 49 pesos (0.84 USD) per kilogramme by March 2025 by gradually lowering the maximum suggested retail price, provided the global prices remain stable. This action aims to decrease the rice raising price in Metro Manila. Besides, it connected to the President's action cutting the rice import tariff from 35 percent to 15 percent in July 2023. Meanwhile, the DA Secretary also highlighted the ongoing collaboration with the Department of Trade and Industry on new rice labeling guidelines, which make the customers get the clear information once finalized.

*1 USD = 58.49 peso

Source: Philippine News Agency. (2025, Jan 24). *DA targets P49/kg price for imported rice by March.*

Thailand

The government urged securing paddy prices at 10,000 baht per tonne.
An adviser to the Thai Rice Mills Association and also rice mill owner in Nakhon Pathom province called on the government to guarantee paddy prices at 10,000 baht (295.03 USD) per tonne with a limit of 20 tonnes per household. As The price of freshly harvested rice has dropped to 6,000 baht (177.02 USD) per tonne, which is the lowest in 10 years, due to India resuming exporting milled rice. This has prompted rival exporter nations to reduce their prices. The measure would allow rice millers to buy paddies with cheap and competitive prices without worrying about their loss later.

*1 USD = 33.89 baht

Source: The Nation. (2025, Jan 26). *Government urged to guarantee paddy price at THB10,000 per tonne.*

Viet Nam

Viet Nam is predicted to face rice export challenges in 2025.
According to experts, Vietnamese rice exports in 2025 will likely decrease in both volume and price compared to 2024 due to the decrease in demand. Besides, increasing competition among the export countries intensifies, turning to other countries for their supply as Vietnamese rice prices are relatively high. Moreover, the exerting pressure as India relaxes its rice export restrictions. According to the Import-Export Department under the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Viet Nam focuses on improving quality and branding, allowing domestic businesses to successfully expand into markets such as Indonesia and the Philippines. Nonetheless, banks should offer financial assistance and the Ministry of Finance should expedite export tax refunds.

Source: VietnamPlus. (2025, Jan 24). *Vietnam's rice export predicted to face challenges in 2025.*

Japan

Japan is preparing to use rice reserves as the price of rice increases.

The average price of brown rice suppliers hit 23,715 yen (152 USD) per 60 kilogramme in 2024, which is the highest number since 1990. As the situation is driven by the current high demand for rice coupled with insufficient supply. Therefore, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) plans to sell the rice to cooperatives on the condition that MAFF can buy it back in the future. However, the meeting is set for 31 January 2025 which is expected to more precise guidelines for how and when stockpiled rice might be released. Currently, there are 910,000 tonnes of stockpiled rice prepared for emergency use.

Source: Evrim Agaci. (2025, Jan 26). *Japan Considers Releasing Rice Reserves Amid Soaring Prices*; and Mainichi Japan. (2025, Jan 24). *Japan preparing to use rice reserves amid soaring prices*.

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