



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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19 – 25 December 2018

Indonesia

A tsunami hit the Sunda Strait, especially in the area of Pandenglang, South Lampung and Serang on Saturday night, 22 December 2018. The tsunami was caused by an abnormal tidal wave surge due to a full moon and an underwater landslide following the eruption of the Anak (or “child of”) Krakatau volcano.

The death toll reached 429 people, while more than 1,500 people were injured and 154 people were missing. Many of those killed were tourists. As many as 611 houses, 69 hotels and villas, 60 shops and 420 boats were damaged.

Pandenglang regency in Banten was the worst-hit area. Other regencies hit by the tsunami were Serang in Banten and South Lampung in Lampung. In the latter, the four worst-hit subdistricts were Kalianda, Rajabasa, Sidomulyo and Katibung.

Central authorities have warned residents to stay clear of beaches until at least Wednesday (26 December 2018). Dwikorita Karnawati, chair of Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency (BMKG) warned the residents not to be panic but refrain from conducting any activities near beaches. The BMKG will announce later weather the warning should

be extended. She also advised residents to always refer to authorised agencies, particularly the BMKG, when seeking reliable information.

Source: AHA Centre. (2018, Dec 22). *Indonesia, Tsunami in Sunda Strait*; The Jakarta Post. (2018, Dec 23). *[UPDATED] Sunda Strait tsunami: What we know so far*; The Jakarta Post. (2018, Dec 24). *Another tsunami could hit Indonesia, experts warn*; The Jakarta Post. (2018, Dec 25). *BMKG urges residents to stay clear of beaches until Wednesday*; SBS News. (2018, Dec 25). *Australia ready to help Indonesian tsunami recovery*.

Philippines

Heavy rain caused floods in Bohol province on 20 December 2018. Some areas in Bohol province have been flooded due to six hours of heavy rains brought by low pressure area (LPA).

The waist-deep flood hit Barangay Guinsularan while in Batuan town, heavy rains flooded Barangay Poblacion Sur as well as several rice fields in Barangay Lungsod-daan in Candijay town.

The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said the LPA would bring cloudy skies with scattered rains and thunderstorms in Visayas and Mindanao.

Source: Inquirer. (2018, Dec 20). *Six-hour heavy rains flood villages, rice fields in Bohol*.

Thailand

Torrential downpour has continued to pound the south of Thailand. Heavy rain lashed residential areas until late Wednesday morning, 19 December 2018. Sixty-nine villages in five of the province's districts were inundated, with about 2,000 householders declared flood victims, officials said.

Muang, Khuan Khanun and Sri Nakharin districts were hardest hit by overnight rainfalls and mountain runoff from the Banthat mountain range.

Officials scrambled to help residents, fearing another deluge, move their

belongings to higher ground.

Source: Bangkok Post. (2018, Dec 20). *Storms continue to drench deep South.*

China

A 5.8-magnitude earthquake hit Tibet.

On 24 December 2018, more than 2,100 people had been evacuated after the earthquake jolted Xaitongmoin County in Xigaze city, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region, according to the China Earthquake Networks Center (CENC).

The center said the epicenter was measured at 30.32 degrees north latitude and 87.64 degrees east longitude. The quake struck at a depth of 8 km.

No casualties have been reported. Traffic and telecommunications in the region have remained undisturbed. However, investigators found cracks in some rural houses and damage on some live-stock sheds in the county.

Source: Xinhua. (2018, Dec 24). *5.8-magnitude quake hits Tibet.*

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