



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Indonesia

Indonesia experienced a 6.6-magnitude earthquake. The United States Geological Survey (USGS) reported that an earthquake struck off the coast of Java island early on 7 July 2020.

A 6.6 magnitude earthquake occurred at approximately 100 kilometres off the city of Batang.

However, according to the USGS, there was a low possibility of any casualties or damages since the strong earthquake hit at a depth of more than 500 kilometres.

Source: The Jakarta Post. (2020, Jul 7). *6.6-magnitude quake strikes off Indonesia: USGS.*

Myanmar

Massive casualties were a result of deadly landslide at a jade mine site in Myanmar. The worst disaster to strike Myanmar's jade mine happened on 2 July 2020 as a result of severe monsoon rains in Hpakant, Kachin state near the border with China causing the death toll to exceed 172.

However, the efforts to search and rescue were suspended over the fear of additional landslide that could potentially occur

according to the local administrative organisations and rescue teams.

As of now, the number of missing people is expected to be more than 250.

Source: Aljazeera. (2020, Jul 3). *Myanmar jade mine disaster: More bodies found at landslide site; Elevenmyanmar.* (2020, Jul 4). *Hpakant landslide death toll rises to 172.*

Philippines

A series of earthquake struck Batangas province in the Philippines. A series of 5.6, 6.0 and 4.1 magnitude earthquakes occurred in Batangas province, the Philippines in the afternoon of 4 July 2020 according to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS).

There was a report of a man in Mabini getting injured in the arm, while more than 5,000 residents of Batangas City, Taal, San Pascual, Lipa City, Agoncillo, and San Luis were evacuated from the affected area.

In addition, the earthquakes also caused power interruptions and landslides on some roads and bridges making travel nearly impossible.

Source: Manila Bulletin. (2020, Jul 7). *NDRRMC monitors effects of Batangas earthquake.*

Viet Nam

Northern mountainous provinces of Viet Nam witnessed a severe rain and floods over weekend, Lào Cai was hit the hardest. The cost of all damages was almost half a million dollars.

Between 100 and 250 millimetres of rain fell in Lào Cai from 2 to 4 July 2020 causing 16 houses to be damaged and 33.4 hectares of farmland area to be flooded according to the report from local authorities.

The disaster also eroded a 60,000-cubic metre dam in Bả Thắng District causing the authorities to inspect and reinforce the dam to ensure its safety.

There was also a report about a local man in Phong Thổ District in Lai Châu Province found dead more than 20 kilometres away after falling into the Nậm Cúm River.

Source: Viet Nam News. (2020, Jul 5). *Lào Cai hit hardest by heavy rain at weekend.*

China

China raised its emergency response level as heavy floods in several area have been continuing. China's State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters increased the emergency response for flood control from level IV to level III, the third highest, on 7 July 2020 due to torrential floods affecting more people in vast regions across the country.

After sending teams into Hubei and Anhui, more working teams from the headquarters and the Ministry of Emergency Management were dispatched into more disaster areas including Sichuan, Chongqing, Hunan and Jiangxi in order to help guide local authorities to strengthen their forecast capabilities, improve the patrolling of rivers and reservoirs, and ensure the livelihoods of people affected by the floods.

As of 5 July 2020, the floods have already caused 121 people died or missing while more than 19 million people have been suffering. The overall economic impact was expected to be around 5.9 billion dollars according to the Ministry of Emergency Management

Source: Xinhua. (2020, Jul 7). *China raises emergency response level as flooding continues*; China Daily. (2020, Jul 5). *121 people dead or missing due to floods.*

Japan

Heavy rain and severe flood causing several deaths in southwestern part of Japan. There were 49 deaths recorded in Kumamoto Prefecture following more torrential rain striking a region of Kyushu on 6 July 2020, while more than 11 people are still missing.

The highest-level heavy rain warning was also issued in many parts of the Kyushu Region including parts of Fukuoka,

Nagasaki and Saga prefectures by the weather agency.

As a result of the disaster, 6,100 homes along the river were submerged and around 1,060 hectares of land was damaged by flood. Moreover, 11 bridges had been destroyed. Over 1.2 million residents in the Kyushu Region were instructed to evacuate to the safety.

Source: Japan today. (2020, Jul 7). *Southwestern Japan hit by more heavy rain as death toll rises to 49.*

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