



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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Indonesia

Incessant floods kept on lashing several provinces of Indonesia. Floodwater had poured into residential areas in the provinces of West Java, Aceh and South Sumatra over 4-7 March 2021. Relative to this, the Regional Disaster Management Agency (BPBD) also reported the situation of repeated flooding for nearly a month in several districts of Papua Province on 9 March 2021.

These inundations were the results of heavy continuous rainfalls that triggered a number of rivers to burst their banks. Although no casualties were incurred, the natural disasters collectively affected more than 30,000 individuals and caused thousands of families in Papua to relocate to higher ground. Also, above 7,000 housing units along with two educational facilities were either submerged or damaged.

Source: AHA Centre. (2021, Mar 7). *Indonesia, Flooding in Majalengka Regency, West Java*; AHA Centre. (2021, Mar 7). *Indonesia, Flooding in Ogan Komering Ulu Regency, South Sumatra*; AHA Centre. (2021, Mar 6). *Indonesia, Flooding in South Aceh Regency, Aceh Province*; AHA Centre. (2021, Mar 4). *Indonesia, Flooding in Bandung Regency, West Java*; Antara. (2021, Mar 9). *Floods force thousands to flee homes in Papua's Jayawijaya*.

Malaysia

Severe flood caused five cars along with other areas in Malaysia to be submerged. A scene of five cars being trapped in a flooded intersection at Taman Krubong Perdana in Melaka State had gone viral since 7 March 2021. The flash flood had been triggered by incessant rainfalls since 6 March 2021 as well as an overflow from the nearby river and drainage systems. Apart from this, other areas in the State including Pengkalan Rama Pantai, Taman Merdeka, Taman Sri Krubong, Taman Krubong Jaya and Kampung Tampoi were affected by the inundation as well.

Fortunately, there were no reports on deaths or injury. No temporary evacuation centres had been set up in response to this situation either.

Source: New Straits Times. (2021, Mar 7). *Cars stuck in floodwater as rain batters Melaka*.

The Philippines

Taal volcano raised more concerns to the people. The Alert Level 2 (increasing unrest) was issued for the Taal volcano by the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) on 9 March 2021 upon the rising in volcanic activities consisting of 28 volcanic tremor episodes, four low-frequency volcanic earthquakes, and one hybrid earthquake at shallow depths.

The Alert Level 2 means the eruption may or may not happen. Although evacuation is not required, the public was strongly advised not to go to the Taal Volcano Island (TVI) which has been classified as a permanent danger zone, while the areas around the vicinity of the main crater have been strictly prohibited.

Source: Philippine News Agency. (2021, Mar 9). *Taal Volcano now on Alert Level 2*.

Thailand

Vicious storms inflicted numerous damages in two provinces. Nearly 400 houses together with four temples in Khon Kaen and Nakhon Ratchasima provinces received various degrees of damages caused by severe storms on 7 March 2021.

There was a total of 357 damaged houses and three temples in two villages of Khon Kaen's Chonnabot district which had been ravaged by the wild storm described as the strongest in several decades. Likewise, around 30 houses in four villages of Nakhon Ratchasima's Khon Buri district were caught in a path of afternoon's hailstorm. A temple and a barn in the area were also damaged. No fatalities or injury were reported; however, the evaluation for the overall damage was still underway.

Source: Bangkok Post. (2021, Mar 8). *Storms damage houses, temples in Khon Kaen.*

Gathered by the APTERR Secretariat
Tel: +66 (0) 2579 4816-17 Fax: +66 (0) 2579 4840
Email: pirapat.shi@apterr.org
Website: <http://www.apterr.org/>

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