



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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17 - 23 March 2021

Indonesia

Inundations and whirlwinds disrupted people's livelihoods in Indonesia. Severe floods and gust wind broke out in several areas of Indonesia during 17-21 March 2021. The intensity downpours caused many rivers to overflow. The areas affected comprised the provinces of East Java, Central Java, West Nusa Tenggara, Banten and West Sumatra.

Relative to this, the disastrous phenomenons affected above 3,500 persons, nearly half of them had to evacuate from their homes. Almost 1,000 houses, infrastructures, such as roads along with many public facilities, received some damages. Meanwhile, severe destructions were inflicted to more than 1,000 hectares of agricultural areas as well.

Source: AHA Centre. (2021, Mar 15-21). *WEEKLY DISASTER UPDATE Week 11.*

The Philippines

Taal volcano triggered nearly 200 quakes in 24 hours. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs), on 20 March 2021, observed a total of 175 volcanic earthquakes in the

past 24-hour period, most of them lasted between one to fifteen minutes. This figure exceeded the record on the day before, which was 111, indicating the rising in its activities. The cause for these volcanic earthquakes was the movements or eruptions of magma in Taal volcano, which has been recently registered at alert level 2. The Phivolcs warned that if the current unrest keeps persisting, it can lead to an eruption in the future.

Source: Philippine News Agency. (2021, Mar 20). *Taal registers 175 volcanic quakes in 24 hours.*

Thailand

Storm warnings were placed as the effects mounted in several provinces. The Thai Meteorological Department (TMD) issued warnings for extreme weather in 19 provinces in the northern and northeastern parts of Thailand. At the same time, these provinces had already experienced major storm impacts that caused one person to be killed on 21 March 2021, as well as destructive damages to 864 houses.

Also, some parts in the central, eastern and upper southern regions were forecasted to encounter influences of storms including thunderstorms, gusty winds and hail as well.

Source: Bangkok Post. (2021, Mar 23). *Storm warnings for North, Isan.*

Japan

A tsunami advisory prompted an evacuation in Japan. The Meteorological Agency declared a tsunami warning over Miyagi Prefecture after an earthquake with a magnitude of 6.9 struck off the coast of northeastern Japan on the evening of 20 March 2021. Even though the warning was lifted shortly, nearly 7,000 residents in the prefecture were ordered to evacuate as a precautionary measure. Regarding this, one resident in Miyagi Prefecture was injured as a result of the quakes. Meanwhile, around two hundred houses

had a power blackout. Still, serious damages have been not yet reported.

Source: The Japan Times. (2021, Mar 20). *Magnitude 6.9 quake rocks northeastern Japan.*

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