

Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies

SPECIAL ISSUE:

RICE POLICY IN INDONESIA

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Guest Editors: Neil McCulloch and C. Peter Timmer



This Special Issue of the *Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies*, brought together by guest editors Neil McCulloch and Peter Timmer, focuses on rice policy in Indonesia. It could hardly be more timely. Rice policy is in a state of considerable uncertainty because of the previous government's decision to ban rice imports, with the apparent intention of helping the poor. A large proportion of the poor are consumers rather than producers of rice, however, and so lose rather than gain from the higher prices resulting from import restrictions. These restrictions have therefore become controversial, although they have yet to be abandoned. One reason for this is that Indonesia was self-sufficient in rice in the 1980s, albeit only temporarily; many still regard self-sufficiency as inherently desirable, and see rice imports as conflicting with this objective. The papers presented in the Special Issue try to answer the following questions of particular relevance to the current rice policy debate:

- what is the impact of high rice prices on the poor?
- what has happened to rice production in recent years and why?
- how much rice does Indonesia 'need' to import?
- what is the most efficient way to stabilise rice prices?
- can the world market be trusted for Indonesia's rice needs?
- what is the political economy behind agricultural protection in Indonesia?

Special Issue Articles

Rice policy in Indonesia: a special issue
Neil McCulloch and **C. Peter Timmer**

Rice prices and poverty in Indonesia
Neil McCulloch

Indonesian rice production: policies and realities
Pantjar Simatupang and **C. Peter Timmer**

A note on rice production, consumption and import data in Indonesia
L. Peter Rosner and **Neil McCulloch**

Food price stabilisation and food security: international experience
Paul A. Dorosh

Can Indonesia trust the world rice market?
David Dawe

Agricultural protection in Indonesia
George Fane and **Peter Warr**

Survey article

Survey of recent developments
Tao Kong and **Arief Ramayandi**

In memoriam

Moh. Sadli (1922–2008), economist, minister and public intellectual
Hal Hill and **Thee Kian Wie**

Book Reviews

Hal Hill
Louis T. Wells and **Rafiq Ahmed** (2006)
Making Foreign Investment Safe: Property Rights and National Sovereignty

John Maxwell
World Bank (2006)
Making the New Indonesia Work for the Poor

Alan Khee-Jin Tan
Michael Faure and **Nicole Niessen** (eds) (2006)
Environmental Law in Development: Lessons from the Indonesian Experience

R. William Liddle
Ross H. McLeod and **Andrew MacIntyre** (eds) (2007)
Indonesia: Democracy and the Promise of Good Governance

Ditya Agung Nurdianto
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (2007)
Energy Perspectives on Singapore and the Region

Graeme Hugo
Caroline Brassard and **Sarathi Acharya** (eds) (2006)
Labour Market Regulation and Deregulation in Asia: Experiences in Recent Decades

This special issue is available at the single issue rate of US\$25/ £15/ €20/ AU\$32.

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