

WEEKLY MEDIA MONITORING

HEADLINES

- The Minister of Villages, Disadvantaged Regions and Transmigration **said the audit of village funds would be conducted randomly**, regardless of whether there are early indications of financial irregularities or not.
- Three institutions - **the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Village and the National Police** - will sign a memorandum of understanding on the distribution of authority on **village funds supervision** between the Government Internal Oversight Body (APIP) and the police.
- **Secretary-General of the Ministry of Villages received over 900 reports on the allegations of Village Fund misappropriation**, including for village head' personal use, non-priority activities, and spending without proper deliberation processes.
- **The Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) prosecutors charged two defendants in the bribery cases against auditors of the Supreme Audit Agency (BPK) with a two-year prison sentence.** Two employees of the Ministry of Villages allegedly bribed the auditors to obtain an "unqualified (WTP)" opinion – the highest audit level – for the Ministry's 2016 financial report.
- **Secretary General of the Ministry of Villages, Anwar Sanusi, said only about 18,000 of 74,910 villages have Village-owned Enterprises (BUMDes).** The government aims for half of all villages to establish BUMDes by 2019.
- **E-voting was successfully implemented in village head elections in 25 villages in Bantaeng District, South Sulawesi.** Subsequently, elections will be held in 90 villages in Simalungun District (Oct. 21), 76 villages in Aceh Besar District (Nov. 18), and in Semarang District (Dec. 9).
- **The Minister of Villages said the government allocated Rp 2.8 trillion for village facilitators.** To date, the government has only recruited 30,000 facilitators out of the 70,000 facilitators needed.
- **Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) in Indonesia continues to decline over the past five years, although it still stands at at 306 death per 100,000 births.** The Minister of Health said 86 percent of births currently takes place at health facilities. The government aims to reduce the ratio to 276 per 100,000 births by 2019.

- **The Ministry of Health sets the accreditation of community health centers (puskesmas) as one of the priorities next year.** Only 1,507 out of 9,000 puskesmas are accredited as type A this year.

1. VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT

The Minister of Villages, Disadvantaged Regions and Transmigration said Village Fund audit would be conducted randomly to prevent misconduct, regardless of whether there are early indications of financial irregularities or not.

Three institutions - the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Village and the National Police - will sign a memorandum of understanding that clarifies the distribution of authority on Village Fund supervision between the Government Internal Oversight Body (APIP) and the police.

Director General of Village Governments at the Ministry of Home Affairs, Nata Irawan, said the Ministry has issued a number of regulations to anticipate misappropriation of Village Fund, including two government regulations (PP), 17 ministerial regulations, and one Joint Ministerial Decree.

Secretary General of the Ministry of Villages said the Ministry has received over 900 reports on the allegations of Village Fund misappropriation, including for village head's personal use, non-priority activities, or purchases without proper deliberation processes.

Sources:

- [Pemeriksaan Dana Desa Akan Dilakukan Secara Acak](#) – Pikiran-rakyat.com, October 9, 2017
- [Satuan Tugas Akan Audit Acak](#) – Kompas, October 11, 2017
- [Satgas Akan Audit Dana Desa Secara Acak](#) – Metrotvnews.com, October 11, 2017
- [Cegah Penyelewengan Dana Desa, Kemendagri Klaim Optimalkan Regulasi](#) – Kompas.com, October 9, 2017
- [Pengawasan Dana Desa Dinilai Tumpang Tindih](#) – Pikiran Rakyat, October 10, 2017
- [Kemendes-PDTT Terima 900 Laporan Penyelewengan Dana Desa](#) – Antaranews.com, October 9, 2017
- [900 Laporan Penyelewengan Dana Desa](#) – Waspada, October 10, 2017

2. CORRUPTION AND ANTI-CORRUPTION MEASURES

The Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) charged two defendants in the bribery cases against auditors of the Supreme Audit Agency (BPK) with a two-year prison sentence. Former Inspector General and a staff member of the Ministry of Villages paid Rp 240 million to obtain an “unqualified (WTP)” opinion – the highest audit level – for the Ministry's 2016 financial report.

In Bengkulu, the police arrested former acting chief of Gunung Agung Village in Bengkulu Utara District after naming him as suspect in the embezzlement of the 2016 Village Fund of Rp 120 million.

In East Java, the police detained two staff of Gading Subdistrict government in Probolinggo District for allegedly extorting Rp 99 million Village Fund from seven villages.

In North Sumatra, village heads in Simalungun District reported Rp 3 million illegal levy per village.

In East Java, an artist community urged Mojokerto District Attorney to arrest 299 village heads who allegedly received bribery related to a street lighting project in 2016. The district attorney said 89 village heads have returned the money.

Sources:

- [Irijen Kemendes Dituntut Dua Tahun Penjara](#) – Koran Sindo, October 12, 2017
- [Polres Bengkulu Utara Tahan Tersangka Korupsi Dana Desa](#) – Suara Pembaruan, October 13, 2017
- [Dua PNS Kecamatan Probolinggo Terkena OTT Dana Desa](#) – Detik.com, October 9, 2017
- [Potong Dana Desa Rp 99 Juta, Dua Oknum PNS Ditahan Polisi](#) – Kompas.com, October 9, 2017
- [Bupati Probolinggo Bicara Soal OTT Dua Anak Buahnya](#) – Detik.com, October 11, 2017
- [Bupati Probolinggo: Tak Ada Penyalahgunaan Dana Desa](#) – Kompas.com, October 11, 2017
- [Ratusan Kades Resah Dipungli Rp3 Juta](#) – Koran Sindo, October 10, 2017
- [Kejaksanaan Mojokerto Didesak Tahan Kepala Desa](#) – Kompas, October 11, 2017

3. VILLAGE-OWNED ENTERPRISES

Secretary General of the Ministry of Villages, Anwar Sanusi, said only about 18,000 of 74,910 villages have Village-owned Enterprises (BUMDes). The government aims for half of all villages to establish BUMDes by 2019.

The media reported the progress in the development of BUMDes in some regions. In Papua, none of the 5,420 villages has BUMDes. The province receives Rp 4.3 trillion Village Fund this year. In Cilacap

District, Central Java, only 50 of the 269 villages have BUMDes, most of which focus on market management and saving and loan cooperatives. In Serang District, Banten, of the 38 BUMDes existed, only 17 are active and none has yet to contribute to village income.

Sources:

- [Baru 18 Ribu Desa yang Miliki Bumdes](#) – Antaranews.com, October 9, 2017
- [Dana Desa Untuk Modal BUMDes](#) – Kompas, October 10, 2017
- [Belum Satu Pun Di Papua Punya BUMDes](#) – Kompas, October 14, 2017
- [21 BUMDes Mandek](#) – Radar Banten, October 10, 2017
- [Desa Didorong Bentuk Badan Usaha](#) – Suaramerdeka.com October 12, 2017

4. VILLAGE HEAD ELECTIONS

Local media reported that e-voting process was successfully implemented in 25 villages in Bantaeng District, South Sulawesi, on Oct. 11. Subsequently, elections will be held in 90 villages in Simalungun District in North Sumatera (Oct. 21), 76 villages in Aceh Besar District in Aceh (Nov. 18), and in Semarang District of Central Java (Dec. 9).

In Demak District, Central Java, the losing candidate in Kendalasesem Village Head election filed a lawsuit to the Administrative Court (PTUN). The election resulted in tie, but the election committee ruled that the candidate who won the most votes in the ballot with the largest number of voters was the winner.

In Flores Timur District, East Nusa Tenggara, election in Nubalema and Kiwangona Villages will be rescheduled. The District Government hold off the candidacy of the incumbents in these villages for the failure to submit the 2016 village accountability report.

In East Java, seven out of 19 villages in Gresik District are not ready to implement e-voting system in the upcoming elections on Oct. 29. Moreover, about 1,300 voters in 18 villages (2.76 percent) have not been registered on electronic voter lists. In the neighboring district of Sidoarjo, four villages are reportedly not ready to implement e-voting as they have not purchased the equipment.

In Pandeglang District, Banten, village head elections in 13 villages, scheduled on Nov. 5, are declared vulnerable to conflict due to the high number of candidates. Labuan Village, for example, has 11 candidates running in the election.

Sources:

- [Sengketa Pilkadaes Kendalasesem Berlanjut](#) – Suara Merdeka, October 13, 2017
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- [Warga Desak Tunda Penetapan Kades Terpilih](#) – Suara Merdeka, October 12, 2017
- [Gagal Kawal Pilkades Serentak, 28 Camat Bakal Dicipot](#) – Koran Sindo, October 13, 2017
- [Dua Desa di Flotim Gagal Pemilihan](#) – Kupang Pos, October 13, 2017
- [Sistem Elektronik Belum Pasti](#) – Jawa Pos, October 13, 2017
- [Pilkades di 13 Desa Rawan Konflik](#) – Radar Banten, October 12, 2017
- [Khawatir Benturan, Pemkab Semarang Gabungkan 141 Pilkades](#) – Kompas.com, October 12, 2017
- [90 Gampong di Aceh Besar Gelar Pilchik Serentak](#) – Serambi Indonesia, October 11, 2017
- [Meriahnya Pilkades Serentak Dengan Sistem E-Voting di Bantaeng](#) – Detik.com, October 11, 2017
- [Enam Desa Mundur E-Pilkades](#) – Jawa Pos, October 11, 2017
- [Anggaran Pilkades Cair Sekaligus](#) – Jawa Pos, October 12, 2017
- [Ribuan Pemilih Pilkades Belum Terdata](#) – Jawa Pos, October 10, 2017
- [Hanya 13 Desa yang Siap E-Voting](#) – Jawa Pos, October 10, 2017
- [Semua Pakai Sistem E-Pilkades](#) – Jawa Pos, October 9, 2017

5. VILLAGE FACILITATORS

The Ministry of Villages said the government allocated Rp 2.8 trillion for village facilitators. To date, the government has only recruited 30,000 of the 70,000 facilitators needed.

The media reported that in 233 facilitators in North Sumatra and 667 facilitators in West Java participated in a pre-departure training.

Sources:

- [Untuk Biayai Pendamping Desa Negara Mengeluarkan Rp 2,8 Triliun](#) – Kompas.com, October 9, 2017
- [Mendes: Jumlah Pendamping Desa Belum Memadai](#) – Antaranews.com, October 10, 2017
- [Aher: PLD Harus Jadi Pengawas yang Baik](#) – Tempo.co, October 9, 2017
- [Bangun Desa Mandiri, Pemprov Sumut Latih 233 Pendamping Desa](#) – Koran Sindo, October 10, 2017

6. VILLAGE GOVERNANCE

The government of Grobogan District in Central Java instructed village governments to make non-cash payment for all transactions above Rp 5 million starting Jan. 1, 2018, in accordance to the Minister of Home Affairs' circular.

In Aceh Tenggara District, Aceh, a dispute occurred between the District Inspectorate and Lawe Sigala-gala Subdistrict Head. The inspectorate accused the Subdistrict head of intervening in the audit process in Lawe Loning Aman village by repeatedly asked the audit to be dropped and proposed that the audit findings be resolved through deliberation. In Aceh Tenggara, the inspectorate found irregularities in five villages. Four village heads have returned the money, while the audit in Lawe Loning Aman Village is still ongoing.

In West Java, Village Consultative Body (BPD) of Karyajaya Village in Garut District demanded the district government to dismiss the village head for the lack of transparency in managing Village Fund. The BPD Head said his office had not been to the discussion on the 2017 annual village budget.

Sources:

- [Lawe Loning Aman Bermasalah](#) – Serambi Indonesia, October 14, 2017
- [Camat Membantah](#) – Serambi Indonesia, October 14, 2017
- [Pembelanjaan Daerah Didorong Secara Nontunai](#) – Suara Merdeka, October 10, 2017
- [Warga Desa Karyajaya Laporkan Kadesnya](#) – Pikiran Rakyat, October 12, 2017

7. HEALTH

Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) in Indonesia continues to decline over the past five years, although it still stands at 306 deaths per 100,000 births. The Minister of Health said that currently, 86 percent of births take place at health facilities. The government aims to reduce the ratio to 276 deaths per 100,000 births by 2019.

In East Java, five districts (Banyuwangi, Probolinggo, Sidoarjo, Jombang, and Malang) recorded zero maternal mortality rate out of 370 pregnancies last year. However, the nutritional status of children under five is still poor, with 26 in 100 children under five are malnourished.

The Ministry of Health sets the accreditation of community health centers (*puskesmas*) as one of the priority programs next year. In 2017, only 1,507 out of 9,000 *puskesmas* are accredited as type A.

In Aceh, Bireuen District Health Office asked villages to allocate at least 10 percent of Village Fund for health sector, especially for village-run services such as community health posts (*poskesdes*), integrated service post for mothers and infants (*posyandu*) and health center for the elderly.

Sources:

- [Dinkes Sosialisasi Dana Desa Untuk Kesehatan](#) – Serambi Indonesia, October 12, 2017
- [Angka Kematian Ibu Masih Tinggi](#) – Media Indonesia, October 11, 2017
- [Kader Bumil Risti Berkontribusi Tekan Aki](#) – Jawa Pos October 12, 2017

8. EDUCATION

The government will support the activities of Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization for Regional Early Childhood Care Education and Parenting (SEAMEO CECCEP) in Indonesia. The organization was established on July 27, 2017 at the 49th SEAMEO Conference in Jakarta with the aim of implementing universal early childhood education for children from poor families, rural areas, marginalized groups, and children with special needs.

Sources:

- [PAUD Di Perdesaan Menjadi Perhatian Serius](#) – Media Indonesia, October 11, 2017

9. ADDITIONAL NEWS

- **EAST JAVA:** The Geospatial Information Agency (BIG) invited hundreds of village heads in Pacitan District, East Java, to participate in village borders mapping. The village heads were asked to conduct field verification of satellite imagery maps produced by the agency ([Petakan Ulang Batas Desa](#) – Jawa Pos, October 10, 2017)
 - **SOUTH SUMATRA:** Seven villages in Musi Rawas Utara District are no longer categorized as underdeveloped villages, leaving six other villages with underdeveloped status. ([Desa Tertinggal di Muarataru Berkurang](#) – Koran Sindo, October 11, 2017).
 - **EAST NUSA TENGGARA:** Villagers in Naimana, Belu District, complained about the quality of roads built using the 2017 Village Fund by a private contractor ([Baru Selesai Dikerjakan, Talud](#)
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[dan Drainase di Desa Naimana-Malaka Sudah Hancur, Ini Penyebabnya](#) – Kupang.tribunnews.com, October 10, 2017)

- **EAST JAVA:** Over 600 villagers of Kersoharjo (Ngawi District) participated in the auction of a 7-hectare village land (TKD) ([Ratusan Warga Berebut 7 Hektare Bengkok](#) – Jppn.com, October 11, 2017).

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