

WEEKLY MEDIA MONITORING

HEADLINES

- **The Minister of Villages, Development of Disadvantaged Regions, and Transmigration said the Village Fund would be increased from Rp60 trillion to Rp85 trillion by 2019**, but village governments must really show readiness to optimally absorb the fund and improve accountability.
- **Eligible village-owned enterprises (BUMDes) are now allowed to register as fuel distributors in rural areas**, in accordance with the Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources (ESDM) Regulation No. 13/2018 on Fuel Distribution.
- **In several districts, residents filed complaints to prosecutors or district heads on alleged village fund misuse** involving village heads and village officials.
- **The National Development Planning Board (Bappenas) will hold the 2018 Summit on the Eradication of Stunting on March 28**, inviting 137 districts/cities government. Representative of Sintang District in West Kalimantan, whose stunting rate is over 44 percent, will share their experience in addressing the issue.
- **The Interfaith Forum for the Prevention of Stunting said stunting is not only a problem faced by children from poor families**. Stunting rate among middle-class families reaches 29 percent, generally due to poor parenting.
- **As of February 2018, the Ministry of Forestry and Environment issued 21 decrees** on the recognition of customary forests, covering a total area of 22 million hectares.

1. VILLAGE FUND ALLOCATION AND DISBURSEMENT

Minister of Villages, Disadvantaged Regions Development, and Transmigration said the Village Fund would be increased from Rp60 trillion to Rp85 trillion by 2019, but village governments must really show readiness to optimally absorb the fund and improve accountability.

In South Sumatra, Village Phase 1 has been disbursed to 2,291 villages. Meanwhile, 561 villages in three districts have not received the fund – 252 villages in Ogan Komering Ulu Selatan, 82 villages in Musi Rawas Utara, and 227 villages in Musi Banyuasin.

In the city of Kotamobagu, North Sulawesi, only three villages have submitted the 2018 Village Budget (APBDes) to the district government, a requirement to claim the village fund. Starting this year, the Budget Draft must be verified by a subdistrict government team before being submitted to the district level.

In Purworejo District, Central Java, only an average of 5 percent of the village fund were allocated for community empowerment programs, much lower than the 30 percent set out in the regulation.

Sources:

- [Jokowi Naikkan Dana Desa Jadi Rp 85 Triliun di 2019, Ini Syaratnya](#) – Liputan6.com, Mar. 21, 2018
- [DPMD Tungggu Usulan APBDes 15 Desa](#) – Koran Sindo, Mar. 23, 2018
- [Dana Desa Masih “Mandul”](#) – Sumeks.co.id, Mar. 21, 2018
- [561 Desa Belum terima Dana](#) – Media Indonesia, Mar. 19, 2018
- [561 Desa di Sumsel Belum Cairkan Dana Desa](#) – Jawapos.com, Mar. 19, 2018
- [DD untuk Masyarakat Miskin Baru Terserap 5 Persen](#) – Krjogja.com, Mar. 22, 2018

2. CORRUPTION AND ANTI-CORRUPTION MEASURES

In Banten, Serang District Head is set to dismiss Puloapanjang Village Head, who has been named as suspect in a village fund corruption case last month.

In Batubara District, North Sumatra, Suka Jaya Village Head has disappeared for one month, reportedly to avoid the investigation on village fund misuse in 2016 and 2017.

In Rejang Lebong District, Bengkulu, the police are investigating a Rp900 million corruption in the road construction project in Air Mundu Village.

In Central Java and East Nusa Tenggara, local media reported that residents filed complaints against village heads and officials on alleged village fund corruption, to district prosecutors and district head.

In Central Java, residents of Tlogorejo Village in Demak District urged the prosecutor to investigate an allegation of village fund corruption amounting to Rp423 million. In Kendal District, residents of Jambearum Village staged a protest in front of Kendal District Head Office demanding an investigation of village fund corruption involving the village head.

In East Nusa Tenggara, in response to a demand by Baudok villagers, Belu District Attorney Office will soon name the suspect in a case of cattle procurement markups. In the neighboring Timor Tengah Selatan District, Tuasene villagers urged the prosecutor to investigate the alleged corruption case reported last February.

Sources:

- [Kades Puloapanjang Segera Dipecat](#) – Radar Banten, Mar. 21, 2018
 - [Warqa Tlogorejo Kembali Datangi Kejari Demak](#) – Suara Merdeka, Mar. 23, 2018
 - [Jaksa Segera Tetapkan Tersangka Kasus Dugaan Penyimpangan Dana Desa Baudaok](#) – Kupang.tribunnews.com, Mar. 23, 2018
 - [Aroma Dugaan Korupsi di Desa, Masyarakat Tuasene Tagih Janji Kejari](#) – Kupang.tribunnews.com, Mar. 22, 2018
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- [Kades Menghilang, Pelayanan Terganggu](#) – Waspada, Mar. 20, 2018
- [Polisi Selidiki Dugaan Penyimpangan Dana Desa](#) – Antaraneews.com, Mar. 21, 2018
- [Warga Desak Dugaan Penyelewengan Dana Desa Diusut](#) – Suara Merdeka, Mar. 24, 2018

3. VILLAGE GOVERNANCE

In Karanganyar District, Central Java, the disbursement of Village Fund and Village Fund Allocation through a single government account method had delayed the payment of village officials' salaries since January 2018.

In Ponorogo District, East Java, village officials have not received their salaries in the last three months because the 2018 Village Budget Draft (RAPBDes) has not been finalized. A similar case was reported in 48 villages in Banyumas District, Central Java.

Sources:

- [Imbas "Single" Rekening, Perangkat Desa ini Dua Bulan Tak Gajian](#) – Krjogja.com, Mar. 22, 2018
- [Kades di Ponorogo Belum Gajian Tiga Bulan, Ada Apa?](#) – Detik.com, Mar. 21, 2018
- [48 Desa Belum Cairkan ADD](#) – Suaramerdeka.com, Mar. 21, 2018

4. VILLAGE HEAD ELECTIONS

The Government of Timor Tengah Selatan District in East Nusa Tenggara received complaints about village head election dispute from 15 villages out of 85 villages holding simultaneous elections on March 13. A team has been formed to verify these reports.

In East Java, Sidoarjo State Administrative Court (PTUN) ordered the election of Sidokepong village head to be postponed after a candidate, who had not passed the written test, won the lawsuit against the election committee.

Also in East Java, Sidoarjo District Government conducted certification exam for 300 village election committees from villages that will hold e-voting.

In South Sumatra, police arrested seven suspects of St. Zakaria Church destruction in Mekarsari Village, Ogan Ilir District. The police said the attack had been motivated by village head election dispute. A suspect admitted to getting an order from Rantau Alai Village Head with a reward of Rp1 million.

Sources:

- [Pilkades Sidokepong Bermasalah](#) – Jawa Pos, Mar. 24, 2018
- [15 Desa Adukan Dugaan Pelanggaran](#) – Kupang Pos, Mar. 22, 2018
- [Sertifikasi Panitia Pilkades](#) – Jawa Pos, Mar. 20, 2018
- [Kades dan Kepsek Jadi Dalang Perusakan](#) – Kompas, Mar. 20, 2018

5. VILLAGE OWNED ENTERPRISES (BUMDes)

Eligible village-owned enterprises (BUMDes) are now allowed to register as fuel distributors in rural areas, in accordance with the Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources (ESDM) Regulation No. 13/2018. The cost to become an official fuel distributor is about Rp40 million.

In Manggarai Timur District, East Nusa Tenggara, only one out of 159 villages have established the BUMDes.

In Central Java, Banjarnegara District Government urged all BUMDes to submit a proposal to obtain financial grant from the provincial government. The grant ranges from Rp30 million to Rp50 million per year.

Source:

- [BPH Migas Ingin Dana Desa Buat Bangun Sub Penyalur BBM](#) – Liputan6.com, Mar. 19, 2018
- [Soal Peruntukkan Dana Desa Bagi Sub Penyalur BBM](#) – Jawapos.com, Mar. 19, 2018
- [Kontribusi BUMDes Belum Maksimal](#) – Suaramerdeka.com, Mar. 21, 2018
- [Baru Satu Desa di Matim Bentuk BUMDes](#) – Kupang Pos, Mar. 21, 2018

6. HEALTH

The National Development Planning Board (Bappenas) will hold the 2018 Summit on the Eradication of Stunting, inviting 137 districts/cities. Representative of Sintang District in West Kalimantan, which has the stunting rate of up to 44.1 percent, will share their experience in addressing the issue.

The Interfaith Forum for the Prevention of Stunting said stunting is not only the problem faced by children from poor families, as stunting rate among middle-class families reaches 29 percent, generally due to poor parenting.

The Central Java Government is set to reduce the number of chronic malnutrition cases from 25 percent to 20 percent by 2019.

In Subang Regency, West Java, no less than 7,000 children suffer from malnutrition, and 76,000 others are prone to malnutrition.

Banten Provincial Health Office recorded 1,004 cases of malnourished children, mostly in Serang District (200 children) and Lebak District (135 children).

Source:

- [Kabupaten Sintang akan Jadi Pembicara Utama Summit Stunting Tingkat Nasional](#) – Pontianak.tribunnews.com, Mar. 20, 2018
- [Balita Kalangan Ekonomi Menengah Rentan Stunting](#) – Media Indonesia, Mar. 25, 2018
- [2019, Jumlah Penderita Gizi Buruk Ditarget Turun Menjadi 20 Persen](#) – Suaramerdeka.com, Mar. 22, 2018
- [Di Subang, 7.000 Anak Alami Gizi Buruk](#) – Pikiran Rakyat, Mar. 21, 2018
- [Dinkes Banten Berkomitmen Tangani 1.004 Penderita Gizi Buruk](#) – Indopos.co.id, Mar. 20, 2018

7. EDUCATION

A report recently issued by the World Bank said that despite relatively high per capita income, the quality of education in Indonesia remains poor. The Bank recommended the government to simplify the delivery of curriculum materials, improve teacher selection process, and conduct regular and standardized evaluation of the learning programs.

Source:

- [Perbaikan Berbasis Kondisi Setiap Provinsi](#) – Kompas.com, Mar. 19, 2018

8. INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Minister of Forestry and Environment Siti Nurbaya said as of February 2018, the Ministry has issued 21 ministerial decrees on the recognition of customary forest with the total area of 22 million hectares.

The Ministry is currently processing about 6.25 million hectares of land and 13 proposals to obtain customary forest status, located in Kalimantan (3.6 million ha), Maluku and Papua (1.15 million ha), Sulawesi (1 million ha), Sumatra (50,000 ha), as well as Bali and Nusa Tenggara (120,000 ha).

Source:

- [Pengakuan Hutan Adat Beri Kepastian Hukum](#) – Bisnis Indonesia, Mar. 19, 2018
- [Pengakuan Hutan Adat Terus Dikebut](#) – Media Indonesia, Mar. 19, 2018
- [Beri Kepastian Hukum dan Keadilan untuk Masyarakat dan Hutan Adat](#) – Suara Pembaruan, Mar. 19

9. ADDITIONAL NEWS

- **WEST JAVA:** In Bekasi District, most of the 18 hectares of land owned by villages have not been certified. Last year, none of the villages registered their assets in the village land certification program ([Segera Sertifikatkan Tanah Kas Desa](#) – Pikiran Rakyat, Mar. 24, 2018).
- **CENTRAL JAVA:** Village heads and District Prosecutors Office of Batang District signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on village financial supervision ([Cegah Korupsi, Kades Tandatangan MoU dengan Kejaksaan](#) – Suaramerdeka.com, Mar. 20, 2018).
- **MALUKU:** Ambon Legislative Council proposed the recruitment of village apparatus with the background on accounting and engineering to improve the utilization of Village Fund Allocation ([Pengelolaan ADD Masih Butuh Regulasi](#) – Ambon Express, Mar. 19, 2018).
- **WEST KALIMANTAN:** Sintang District Government requested companies to coordinate with village governments before implementing their corporate social responsibility (CSR) programs to avoid an overlap with Village Fund program ([Penyaluran CSR Perusahaan Harus Koordinasi dengan Masyarakat dan Pemerintah](#) – Pontianak.tribunnews.com, Mar. 21, 2018).

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