

WEEKLY MEDIA MONITORING

HEADLINES

- **The Ministry of Villages, Disadvantaged Areas Development and Transmigration aims to reduce the number of underdeveloped villages from 20,000 to 15,000 by 2019.**
 - **The Minister of Villages, Disadvantaged Areas Development and Transmigration said during a Ramadan visit to West Java that the Village Fund could be used to finance activities at religious schools to combat religious radicalism, if agreed upon in the village meeting.**
 - **In Papua, chaos ensued during the Village Fund distribution in Tomagipura Village, Tolikara District** on May 28, leaving three villagers and ten policemen wounded. The incident followed a clash between two people claiming to be the legitimate village head.
 - **Head of the National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas) said the high stunting rate at 37.2 percent would keep the country from benefiting from the demographic bonus in 2030**, when the productive age group is estimated to reach 68 percent of the total population.
 - **The Indonesian Teachers Association (PGRI) supports the government's plan to take over the management of teachers from local governments.** A centralized system could be the solution to the problem of uneven teacher distribution. Overall, the country lacks nearly one million public school teachers.
 - **Central government is mediating a dispute over 157,858 hectares of customary land in Rokan Hilir District, Riau**, between Melayu Hamba Raja indigenous group and five palm oil companies.
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1. VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT

The Minister of Villages, Disadvantaged Areas Development and Transmigration said the government is set to reduce the number of underdeveloped villages from 20,000 to 15,000 by 2019.

During the fasting month, the Ministry of Villages, Disadvantaged Areas Development and Transmigration embarked on a “Ramadan Safari” to five districts in West and Central Java. During a visit in West Java, the Minister said the Village Fund could be used to finance activities at religious schools to fight religious radicalism, if agreed upon in the village meeting.

Sources:

- [Mendes Optimistis Mengentaskan 5.000 Desa Tertinggal](#) – Metrotvnes.com, May. 28, 2018
- [Jelajah Ramadan Kementerian Desa Sambangi 5 Kabupaten dan Kota](#) – Tempo.co, May. 30, 2018
- [Dana Desa Bisa Cegah Radikalisme](#) – Antaranews.com, May. 30, 2018

2. VILLAGE FUND ALLOCATION AND DISBURSEMENT

In Papua, chaos ensued during Village Fund distribution in Tomagipura Village, Tolikara District, on May 28, leaving three villagers and ten policemen wounded. The incident followed a clash between two people claiming to be the legitimate village head.

Also in Papua, the distribution of Village Fund in Intan Jaya District was halted as the situation has not returned to normal following local election conflict last year, when many officials fled to the neighboring Nabire District.

In Bandung Barat District, West Java, ten villages have not received Village Fund Phase 1 due to incomplete realization reports, while other villages are about to receive Village Fund Phase 2.

Sources:

- [Pembagian Dana Desa Ricuh, Satu Orang Tertembak](#) – Gatra.com, May. 29, 2018
- [Pembagian Dana di Tolikara Ricuh](#) – Kompas, May. 30, 2018
- [Pemerintahan Intan Jaya Masih Lumpuh](#) – Kompas.com, May, 30, 2018
- [Dana Desa tahap II di Bandung Barat Cair, ini Jumlahnya](#) – Pikiran-rakyat.com, May. 29, 2018

3. CORRUPTION AND ANTI-CORRUPTION MEASURES

In Timor Tengah Utara District, East Nusa Tenggara, police named the village head, secretary, and a resident of Noenasi Village as suspects of the kidnapping of the son of a district prosecutor. The police later found that the alleged crime was related to an investigation over Village Fund corruption case of Rp 400 million in the village.

In West Kalimantan, Kubu Raya District Head asked the inspectorate to audit of Village Fund Phase 1 in dozens of villages. The district government has recently channelled Village Fund Phase 2 of Rp 22 billion to 165 villages.

Also in West Kalimantan, police in Landak District is investigating Village Fund corruption case in Tahu Village.

Sources:

- [Wanita Penculik Anak Terdakwa Korupsi](#) – Kupang Pos, May. 31, 2018
- [Belasan Desa Diduga Salah Gunakan ADD](#) – Serambi Indonesia, May. 31, 2018
- [Kepala DSPMPD Sebut Kades Tahu Sudah Diperiksa Inspektorat](#) –Pontianak.tribunnews.com, May. 28, 2018

4. EX-PNPM PROGRAM

The Ende District Attorney, East Nusa Tenggara, blocked Rp300 million of PNPM Mandiri fund in Kelimutu Subdistrict, after the manager was brought to trial for allegedly embezzling the fund.

Source:

- [Kejari Ende Blokir Dana Rp 300 Juta](#) – Kupang Pos, May. 30, 2018

5. HEALTH

National Development Planning Minister/Head of the National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas), Bambang Brodjonegoro said, about 9 million children under five (37.2 percent) are stunted. Bambang said such high stunting rate would keep the country from benefiting from the demographic bonus, where the productive age group (15-64 years) is estimated to reach 68 percent of the total population by 2030.

The Minister added, stunting also causes 2-3 percent of economic loss of the gross domestic product (GDP) or around Rp260-390 trillion per year. When they reach adulthood, stunted children might earn 20 percent less income than normal growing children.

This year, stunting prevention program is focused in 100 districts and will be expanded to 160 districts in 2019. The Minister called on the development partners and non-governmental organizations to provide supports through capacity building and campaign programs targeting village officials, community health centres (*puskesmas*) officials and the community.

Sources:

- [Bappenas: Stunting Bisa Akibatkan Bonus Demografi Sia-Sia](#) – Antaranews.com, May. 28, 2018
- [Cegah Stunting Butuh Dukungan Warga dan Organisasi Masyarakat](#) – Liputan6.com, May. 28, 2018
- [Kepala Bappenas: 1 dari 3 Balita di RI Derita Gizi Buruk](#) – Liputan6.com, May. 28, 2018
- [Bappenas: Stunting Bisa Picu Kerugian Ekonomi 2 Persen dari PDB](#) – Tempo.co, May. 28, 2018

6. EDUCATION

The Indonesian Teachers Association (PGRI) supports the central government's plan to take over the management of teachers from local governments. A centralized teacher management system could

solve the problem of uneven distribution, as these teachers must be willing to be posted in any district or province. Currently, primary and junior high school teachers are managed by city/district governments, while high school/vocational teachers are managed by the provincial government.

As of 2017, Indonesia has about three million teachers, comprising 1.4 million civil servant teachers (49 percent), 719,354 contract teachers (23.8 percent), and religious teachers managed by the Ministry of Religious Affairs. In total, Indonesia lacks 988,133 public school teachers.

Source:

- [Guru PNS Agar Dikelola Pusat](#) – Kompas.com, May. 30, 2018

7. INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

The central government is mediating a dispute on over 157,858 hectares of customary land in Rokan Hilir District, Riau, between Melayu Hamba Raja indigenous group and five palm oil companies. The government urged the firms to allocate 20 percent of the Land Use Rights (*Hak Guna Usaha*, HGU) and corporate social responsibility (CSR) funds for a partnership program with the indigenous people.

Source:

- [Fasilitasi Penyelesaian Tanah Ulayat di Riau](#) – Koran Tempo, May. 31, 2018

8. ADDITIONAL NEWS

- **EAST NUSA TENGGARA:** In Kupang City, 28 percent of the children are having intestinal worms problem ([28 Persen Anak Menderita Cacingan](#) – Kupang Pos, May. 28, 2018).
- **SOUTH SUMATERA:** In Penukal Abab Lematang Ilir (PALI) District, the head of the Village Consultative Body (BPD) of Semanggus Village reported the village head to the District Legislative Council (DPRD) for forging his signatures on a village budget document ([Oknum Kades Semangus Dilaporkan](#) – Sumeks.co.id, May. 29, 2018).

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