

TARIKH	15 OKTOBER 2025 (RABU)	SURATKHABAR	BH / UM / NST / TS / HM / KOSMO
TAJUK ARTIKEL	RADIATION TRACES FOUND AT CLOVE FARM		
M/S	18 (STARASEAN+)	KATA KUNCI	RADIOACTIVE ISOTOPE,
BIDANG	NUCLEAR	CAESIUM-137, CLOVE, SUMATRA, INDONESIA, FARM	

18 StarAsean+

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Radiation traces found at clove farm

Probe under way after US FDA detects radioactive Caesium-137 in spices

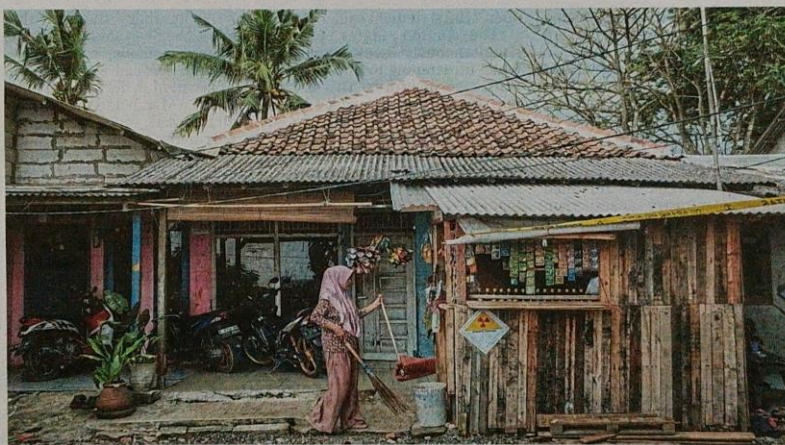
Indonesia LOCAL authorities have found traces of radioactivity at a clove farm on Sumatra island, a government spokesperson said, as Jakarta expanded an investigation launched after the US health authority detected Caesium-137 contamination of spices from Indonesia.

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently said it had detected the presence of Caesium-137 in a sample of cloves from PT Natural Java Spice during screening after the radioactive isotope was also detected in August in a sample of frozen shrimp from Indonesia.

The Indonesian government then launched an investigation, with inspection teams sent to a processing facility and a farm on Java island and another farm on Sumatra, task force spokesperson Bara Hasibuan said yesterday.

He said the team only found traces of radioactivity at the clove farm in Lampung, Sumatra, without disclosing further details, adding that the government had banned the farm from selling its cloves as a preventive measure.

"Until there is a conclusive finding, we requested that the cloves from the farm are not being sold," Bara said, adding that Indonesia's Nuclear Energy Regu-



Risky zone: A warning sticker labelled 'Danger radiation' is seen on the wall of a kiosk in front of a house next to the Modern Cikande Industrial Estate, where the radioactive isotope Caesium-137 was detected, in Sukatani, Banten province. — AFP

latory Agency, or Bapeten, was testing samples from the farm.

"We must determine the source and how come the cloves there are contaminated."

The finding comes after authorities detected traces of Caesium-137 in at least 22 facilities at the Cikande industrial estate, about

60km west of Jakarta.

The government has tightened restrictions in the area and has carried out inspections of vehicles for potential contamination.

It has also suspended imports of scrap iron and steel, reportedly the source of contamination, until a monitoring system for radio-

active materials is "fully strengthened", environment minister Hanif Faisol Nurofiq said in an Instagram post.

The FDA has banned products from the two Indonesian companies until they are able to demonstrate that they had resolved issues that allowed the conta-

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Bara Hasibuan

mination to occur, Bapeten said.

The agency also said shrimp and spices from certain regions of Indonesia would require import certification from late October, based on the risk of potential contamination with Caesium-137.

The FDA issued a recall in August after the radioactive isotope was detected in shrimp exported by the company PT Bahari Makmur Sejati.

The agency said long-term exposure to even low doses of Caesium-137 is linked to an elevated risk of cancer.

The radioactive isotope, which is created via nuclear reactions, is used in a variety of industrial, medical and research applications. — AFP

DISEDIAKAN OLEH

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