

The Effect Of Food Prices Rising On Security Stability: Case Study Of Indonesia

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Abstract— Rice, as a fundamental component of food production in Indonesia, holds a critical position in fulfilling the basic needs of the population. While the authorities in the food sector assert that the national rice supply is currently adequate, concerns arise due to the escalating trend in rice prices. Anticipating an anticipated further increase in the future, effective measures must be implemented to prevent potential disturbances within the community. This research employs qualitative methods with a descriptive approach to analyze the impact of rising rice prices on security stability, subsequently influencing national stability. Despite assertions of sufficient rice availability, the prevailing issue is the upward trajectory of rice prices. The study aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the repercussions resulting from this increase, particularly concerning security stability. Elevated rice prices have the potential to trigger social unrest, impacting the overall stability of the nation. The research sheds light on the intricate relationship between rising food prices and national security, emphasizing the need for proactive government interventions to ensure a harmonious balance between supply and demand. Furthermore, the paper extends beyond analysis to propose recommendations from various perspectives, addressing policies related to meeting the food requirements of the community. These recommendations emphasize the importance of a holistic approach, considering socio-economic factors and community welfare. In conclusion, this research contributes valuable insights to the discourse on the intricate interplay between food prices, security stability, and national well-being, underscoring the necessity for preemptive and comprehensive governmental actions to mitigate potential challenges.

Keywords— stability, food price, security stability.

I. INTRODUCTION

Food problems for a nation-state are the main underlying problems, compared to other primary needs such as housing and clothing needs. This does not mean that these two needs other than food are not considered important, but that food needs have a strategic influence on people's social life. This because, if these food needs are not met or in difficult conditions, it can cause negative excesses in people's lives. The excesses that arise can be in the form of social turmoil as well as economic turmoil itself. In broader relations, food availability and people's purchasing power capabilities affect national stability, especially in the field of security.

National stability is the condition of stability in the fields of ideology, politics, economy, socio-cultural aspects, and defense and security. This condition is crucial for a country in implementing national development. Governance is the key to the realization of national aspirations, goals, and interests through national development that is evenly implemented across the entire homeland. Grounded in the constitutional mandate and the potential threats faced dynamically over time in accordance with the development of the strategic environment, national stability must be the primary consideration in nation-building (Heru Kusmanto, 2016). National stability is influenced by the stable conditions of other aspects formulated systematically from the trigatra (three natural aspects) and pancagatra (five social aspects). Trigatra encompasses geography, natural resources, and population. Meanwhile, pancagatra includes the resilience of ideology, politics, economy, socio-cultural aspects, as well as

defense and security. All of these aspects have strategic value in realizing national stability. Food resilience plays a crucial role in achieving human well-being to support the creation of stable national security. The governance system serves as the linchpin in ensuring the harmonious interplay of these elements, aligning with constitutional principles and adapting to evolving threats. As the nation navigates dynamic challenges, a focus on national stability remains paramount in fostering an environment conducive to sustainable development. The strategic importance of each aspect, both from the natural and social perspectives, underscores the intricate tapestry that must be woven to secure the stability and prosperity of the nation.

The presence of the state in realizing social justice in the context of people's welfare is implemented through the fulfillment of food needs. The meaning of food fulfillment can be interpreted as the availability of food in quantity and quality that meets the needs, distributed at affordable prices and safe for consumption by the community. Thus, the strategic value of food does not only cover the household sphere but also the national scope. But in fact, Indonesia is experiencing ups and downs in food security due to food scarcity. From historical facts, it is known that there was once chaos related to the availability of food, especially rice, which occurred at the end of the Old Order and New Order eras. This was an excess of the people's food scarcity against security stability, which resulted in the decline of the government at the time. This problem certainly affects national resilience not only in terms of economy, but also political, socio-cultural, and even state defense and security.

In Indonesia, rice is the main food commodity because this type of food is a staple food for most Indonesians. So it becomes natural that food problems such as rising rice prices can develop into multidimensional problems. Rising rice prices can trigger social insecurity that has the potential to jeopardize national security stability (Erianto, 2022). Because people who are on the poverty line will certainly have difficulty in meeting basic needs approach in the form of basic food. The World Bank study also stated that the increase in domestic commodity prices, triggered by movements in global commodity prices, is expected to increase the poverty rate by 0.2 percentage points. (English B. K., 2022)

The Minister of Trade, Zulkifli Hasan (September 2022) said in the media that his party did not deny the increase in rice prices and became more of the government's attention. In this regard, it was conveyed that although the price of rice increased by Rp 100, - it was considered dangerous, because it would have an impact on the inflation rate in Indonesia. From the price increase of Rp 100 alone, it will have an impact on inflation up to 3.3 percent more.

As a result of the increase in the price of rice, it also affects the welfare of households who previously could meet almost all their needs, but nevertheless after the price of staples increased they began to limit it. Basically, this is very disturbing to the ketenteraman of his household, because what should be that society can put aside secondary and tertiary needs, in reality must make more efforts in prioritizing the fulfillment of primary needs in their daily lives.

It also has an impact on industrial workers, including industry which cuts purchasing budgets so that many workers experience layoffs. Facts show that many business people go bankrupt due to price increases in raw materials or products sold.

For the government, the problem caused by the price increase is the responsibility of the government to overcome it, namely the number of poor people who have increased their suffering due to the price increase. Furthermore, more and more factories or businesses and businesses that go bankrupt, resulting in a reduction in workers so that they can be unemployed, therefore it is a macroeconomic problem that is a problem for the government.

Overall, as a result of these conditions, people will protest to demand the government, not only reduce the price of rice or other needs but also demand a slumped economy that occurs, so it can be concluded that the price increase will have a negative impact on a country which includes consumers, producers and the government itself

This situation shows that socioeconomic inequality in Indonesia is a result of the dynamics of food security that is not directly proportional to the ability of the community to meet basic needs. If this problem continues to occur and is not handled appropriately and efficiently, it has the potential to cause societal turmoil which boils down to the emergence of threats that disrupt the stability of national security.

Although Indonesia is widely known as an Agrarian Country, the facts related to food problems in Indonesia show that food management patterns in Indonesia are still not optimal. This situation deserves attention for the government, considering that the population continues to increase with a wide distribution of population and geographical coverage. So that Indonesia needs the availability of food in sufficient quantities and evenly distributed in accordance with consumption adequacy standards and logistics operational requirements (Gapari, 2021, p. 16). The government needs to strive so that food commodities can be fulfilled

in accordance with ideal food availability indicators. This is intended so that the national ideal of creating prosperity for all Indonesians can be realized and the stability of national security is guaranteed. Based on the urgency and complexity of food problems in Indonesia, this research was conducted to examine various aspects that affect the increase in rice prices on national security stability.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Stability Theory : Stability or stable position is a position where there is a clear relationship between the position and the strength needed to maintain the position. According to Jack C. Plano stability is a condition of a system whose components tend to remain in or return to a relationship that is already steady. Stability can also be interpreted as a condition that does not undergo fundamental changes or chaos due to something that occurs at certain limits. In the context of security, stability becomes an element or pillar that determines the level of productivity (competitiveness) of a country (Meirinaldi, 2019, p. 238). The existence of an altered condition can give rise to instability caused by interrelated and mutually influencing factors.

The Concept of Food Security : In the Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 18 of 2012 concerning Food, food is defined as: "Everything that comes from biological sources of agricultural products, plantations, forestry, fisheries, animal husbandry, furniture, and water, whether processed or unprocessed which is intended as food or beverages for human consumption, including food additives, food raw materials, and other materials used in the preparation process, processing, and/or manufacturing of food or beverages". Food security is a condition for the fulfillment of food for households which is reflected through the availability of food that is quite good in quantity and quality, safe, equitable and affordable (Wijaya, 2018, p. 68).

Food security is strongly influenced by the growth and needs of the population as well as the availability of natural resources and their management. Food security contains five elements that must be met, namely: 1) oriented towards households and individuals; 2) available and accessible in the time dimension at any time; 3) emphasizing household and individual food access both physically, economically, socially; 4) orientation to the fulfillment of nutrition; and 5) aimed at healthy and productive living. In the context of national defense and security, food security will have an impact on Indonesia's sovereignty politically, be independent in the economic field, and realize a higher, developed and prosperous quality of human life.

National Security Concept : National security is a national interest of a dynamic nature. National security is influenced by internal and external factors. Internal factors are domestic factors such as economic development, education, public welfare, political dynamics and interaction between peoples. While the external factor is the dynamics of changes in the strategic environment. The dynamics of global security greatly affect a country's national security. Stable national security is described as a condition for the smooth implementation of national development to realize national goals (Indonesia K. P., 2015, p. 19).

National security can be viewed from two perspectives. First, a domain perspective that looks at the national security spectrum consists of external defence, internal security, public order, and disaster management. Second, a national security perspective that includes state security, public security, and individual security. National security must be supported by public policies that lead to the goal of ensuring the safety and security of the country through the use of economic, military, and diplomatic powers in both peacetime and war.

III. DATA AND METHODOLOGY

The method employed in this research is the qualitative literature study method with a descriptive approach. A qualitative literature study is conducted by gathering literary sources, both primary and secondary. This research classifies data based on the research formula (Darmalaksana, 2020). The data for this study are sourced from secondary data obtained through a literature review of books, journals, and documents related to the research topic. This literature review is also intended to aid researchers in constructing a theoretical foundation and a framework of thinking regarding the issues being investigated. Subsequently, the acquired data are described and analyzed to draw conclusions. The aim of this research is to ascertain the impact of rising rice prices on the stability of national security.

IV. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

Indonesia is an agricultural country with abundant natural resources aimed at realizing the prosperity of the people. The essence of the use of natural resources in Indonesia is contained in the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia Article 33

paragraph 3, which states that: "The earth, water and the wealth in it are controlled by the state and used for the greatest prosperity of the people". Natural resources in principle have not only economic value. From a national defense point of view, the availability of natural resources is a benchmark for national security stability.

Natural resources in their main function, are used to meet the needs of human life, especially as food. In Indonesia, the most basic and main food ingredient is rice. Rice is the main food commodity with strategic value in influencing the welfare of the Indonesian people. Around 98% of the Indonesian population makes rice the primary need to carry out life and life. Rice becomes a commodity with inelastic demand which means that changes in rice prices do not cause changes in the amount of consumer demand. As a primary need, the disruption of rice production and distribution greatly affects people's lives. Even on a certain scale these circumstances can give rise to turmoil capable of disrupting the stability of national security.

In its development, Indonesia faces a worrying food problem dynamic. In 2022, Indonesia faces food challenges where food prices, especially rice, experience a significant spike. Based on contemporary data released by the Central Statistics Agency, rice inflation reached 0.54% (mtm) in September 2022, while in August 2022, the average rice price reached Rp. 11,603/ kg or 1.11% higher when compared to the average rice price in July 2022. The increase in rice prices at the consumer level is due to the increase in grain and rice prices at the farmer and rice milling levels. This condition occurs due to low production in the famine season, thus pushing the price of grain and rice above the Government Purchase Price (COGS (English K. K., 2022)).

The increase in food prices, especially rice as a basic need of the community, can have an impact on all aspects of life which include the trigatra and pancagatra aspects. As for what is meant by trigatra and pancagatra are as follows (Dirwan, 2020, p. 3):

(1) Trigatra is all aspects that have been attached to a country. Trigatra includes:

- Geography is everything that is on the surface of the earth and describes the characteristics of the territory of a country as a container and living space of the nation;
- Natural wealth, namely all natural resources and natural potentials that are in the territory of state power;
- Population is a human being who inhabits a place or territory.

(2) Pancagatra is a social aspect in national resilience that is dynamic. Pancagatra includes:

- Ideology is the foundation or set of principles that guide the life, direction and purpose of the nation;
- Politics is power or power exercised by government or non-government;
- Economic is all activities related to the production, distribution, and consumption of a commodity;
- Socio-cultural, namely the environment in people's lives that contains values with diversity in them;
- Defense and security are all efforts to maintain state sovereignty, territorial integrity, and national unity and unity.

The concept of trigatra is a consideration for the state in realizing the achievement of national security through food security. (Rhofita, 2022, p. 86) On the other hand, the pancagatra concept supports efforts to realize national security through food security policies and government cooperation with all relevant institutions and the community, in creating stability in the provision of food, especially basic food needs such as rice. This effort can be done through the management of food production and distribution appropriately and proportionally.

The increase in rice prices has resulted in consumers, especially people at the middle and lower economic levels, finding it difficult to reach these basic needs. This is certainly a burden for certain groups of people who spend an average of half of household income just to meet food needs, especially rice. The difficulty of meeting the basic needs of the community will have an impact on the obstruction of national development, caused by rice being a strategic commodity in national development. In general, the strategic value of rice can be viewed from two sides, namely: 1) as the main food that must be available in sufficient quantities to meet the living needs of the community; and 2) as a source of income and employment for the majority of society (Edy Siswanto, 2018, p. 93). That way the strategic value of rice will result in national security problems if its production and distribution are disrupted. Knowledge about agricultural land management can be optimally utilized through appropriate policies

to generate agricultural production. The results of a study conducted by Reni (Reni et al.2020) indicate that the high population growth rate has implications for consumption levels. There are numerous challenges and issues for sustainable food security, necessitating adjustments and policy changes in implementation. Supported by Edi Santosa's research in 2015, the current success achievements are relatively slow due to immature implementation (Edi Santosa 2015).

The aspect of national security is closely related to the economic aspect, including the food problem. The weakening of food security in Indonesia can be classified as a potential threat to national security. As is known that threats are not only interpreted as military threats, but also include multidimensional threats including food problems. The increase in rice prices is one of the indicators of weak national food security. This situation can cause chaos in the community due to unstable economic activity and can even have an impact on the presence of disease outbreaks because people who are at the poverty line have difficulty getting rice as the main need in carrying out life (Pinatih, 2020, p. 94).

The Indonesian state has abundant natural resources, at this time and perspective in the future. These resources can be used to achieve various national goals, high living standards, public security, and so on. Efforts in the management of these resources must certainly be considered for national needs in proportion. One of the main functions is to realize social welfare. Therefore, the state must maximally allocate national resources, especially food, appropriately. National security from an economic point of view, depends largely on three main things namely: 1) the quantity of national resources available; 2) the share or proportion of national resources allocated; and 3) the efficiency of the use of national resources (Supriyatno, 2014, p. 233).

People in developing countries want the fulfillment of basic needs for survival and livelihood, in this case, of course, what is highlighted is the price of rice commodities on the market without fluctuating price disturbances. In connection with the problem of increasing rice prices, basically the Logistics Affairs Agency (Bulog) has a food policy strategy based on three pillars of food security development, namely (BULOG, 2019):

1. The pillars of availability are implementing a food purchase policy with the provisions of the Government Purchase Price and Reference Purchase Price;
2. The pillars of affordability are equitable distribution of national stocks, distribution of Prosperous Rice Social Assistance, and other food, market operations, and sales through internal and external networks;
3. The pillar of stability is to maintain price stability at the farmer and consumer levels.

However, the dynamics of the global strategic environment and in agriculture always open up opportunities for food problems such as rising rice prices. This situation on some scale will be unstoppable and eliminate potential threats as a result of food security instability in Indonesia. However, there are at least several strategies that can be carried out to maintain national food stability in the future, including:

1. Optimizing the absorption of domestic production to suppress price increases on the upstream side as a foundation for the formation of price stability on the downstream side;
2. Optimizing the equitable distribution of stocks owned by Bulog to anticipate the need for stabilization activities so that the government has readiness to intervene in the general market;
3. Implementing Supply Availability and Price Stabilization (KPSH) through network expansion and distribution points up to village / village office points, settlements, and stalls / shops at the village level;
4. Increase the intensity of cooperation with various agencies and organizations in the provision of quality and cheap staple food commodities;
5. Increasing commercial activities as one of Bulog's instruments in increasing public access to cheap and quality staple food;
6. Optimizing production mapping and consumer preferences to improve the accuracy of procurement and distribution or sale of staple food commodities such as rice.

Based on international agreements, one of the sustainable development goals or what is called the 2030 SDGs is food security which is aimed at (Sopandi, 2022) :

1. End poverty;
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture;
3. Ensure healthy lives;
4. Water and sanitation (air dan sanitasi);
5. Sustainable consumption and production; and
6. Combat climate change.

In order to realize the welfare of the people while maintaining the stability of national security, the implementation of national food must be directed to the above goals. As stated in the Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 18 of 2012 concerning Food, it is stated that the implementation of food includes planning, implementing, and supervising activities in the provision, affordability, consumption of food and nutrition as well as food safety. The series of efforts to organize food must be carried out in a coordinated and integrated manner to avoid food problems or at least minimize the impact if there is an increase in food prices, especially rice at the national level.

V. CONCLUSION

Based on the above, the following conclusions can be drawn. First, in the course of history, the Indonesian nation has experienced several ups and downs regarding food problems, especially the increase in rice prices. This situation occurs due to two factors, namely the dynamics of the strategic environment and the factor of low agricultural production. As a result of these conditions, it encourages price increases at the farmer level which results in price increases at the consumer level. The problem of increasing rice prices is a strategic issue because rice is the main food commodity in Indonesia, so the problem of increasing rice prices has the potential to spread to other sectors and is multidimensional.

Second, the implementation of food must be directed to the goal of realizing the welfare of the community. Stable socioeconomic conditions will have an impact on creating national stability. In order to realize this, a public policy is needed that regulates the proper management of the food sector, supported by optimal policy implementation and an increase in the intensity of good cooperation between related parties. This is because the food problem is not only a household problem, but also a national issue that is important to get common attention.

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