**CHRONOLOGY**

- **10 Dec 2019**: China’s ships were detected passing Indonesia’s marine near Natuna Island.
- **15 Dec 2019**: China’s ships shut down their Automatic Identification System (AIS) Radar so that it could not be detected by Indonesia’s Coast Guard (Bakamla).
- **19 Dec 2019**: Bakamla sent KM Tanjung Datuk ship to drive away China’s ships.
- **23 Dec 2019**: 50 China’s ships accompanied by 2 China’s coast guard ships & a frigate China’s navy warship came back to Indonesia’s EEZ near natuna.

**INDONESIA’S POINT OF VIEW**

According to UNCLOS, North Natuna Sea was located inside Indonesia’s continental shelf and Indonesia’s EEZ on the south of Indonesia-Vietnam border.

**CHINA’S POINT OF VIEW**

Chinese government first published an atlas, containing a 11-dash line to indicate the geographical scope of their authority over South China Sea in the postwar era.

**WHAT HAS INDONESIA’S GOVERNMENT DONE?**

Indonesia’s Minister of Foreign Affairs strongly protested the China coast guard for trespassing Indonesia’s EEZ & continental shelf, as well as contravening Indonesia’s law enforcement.

On Dec 30, Indonesia’s Minister of Foreign Affairs summoned China’s ambassador in Jakarta & sent a diplomatic notes for the protest.

On Jan 10, Joko Widodo met Toshimitsu Motegi, Japan’s Foreign Minister, to strengthen tourism & fisheries investment agreement in Natuna, as well as to provide technical support for Indonesia’s coast guard.

Joko Widodo also met Adam Boehler, CEO of the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), to discuss future investments in fisheries and maritime sector including research, natural conservation and oceanography.

**WHAT SHOULD BE THE NEXT STEPS?**

1. Strengthening Indonesia’s Coast Guard (Bakamla) power with proper vessel & equipment.
2. Integrated monitoring by Bakamla & other responsible institutions (TNI AL, Water Police, Coast Guard of Ministry of Transportation), involving local fishermen.
3. Developing Natuna’s oil & gas resources.
4. Optimizing fisheries resources in Natuna.

**LESSON LEARNED**

Indonesia-Malaysia dispute on Sipadan Ligitan Islands. In 1998, International Court of Justice (ICJ) decided that both Island, which are rich of oil & gas resource, belonged to Malaysia.

**SPECCULATIONS**

Increasing of China’s gas demand encourages them to find additional gas supply.

Petrochina discoursed to acquire Mahakam, East Natuna, East Kalimantan, Attaka & Kasuri.

**WHY IS NATUNA SO SEXY?**

Natuna area is widely popular for its shallow fishing area.

There is a potential to develop special economic zone in East Natuna.

There are 19 oil & gas working areas in West Natuna Block with both exploration & production status.

Own a massive oil and gas resource, & probably the biggest Indonesia ever has.

The problem in developing D-Alpha Natuna block is the high CO₂ content of its natural gas which requires about USD 24 billion to develop the area.

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Indonesia’s government through Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs issued the most updated Indonesia’s map. The map was created based on the Indonesia-Singapore & Indonesia-Philippines Agreements.

China’s government acknowledged South China Sea border which includes East Natuna & South Sokang. They also claimed that North Natuna is their traditional fishing ground.

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