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Japan to provide \$1.8m in aid to expand port



Cambodia News | May, 30 /2019

Prime Minister Hun Sen yesterday said the Japanese government has pledged to provide \$1.8 million in grant aid to develop a freight container station in Sihanoukville Port Special Economic Zone. Mr Hun Sen, now in a four-day visit to Tokyo to attend Nikkei's 25th International Conference on the Future of Asia, said the grant aid agreement will be signed tomorrow in the presence of the countries' prime ministers. In addition, Japan will provide 339 million yen (\$3.1 million) to develop Cambodia's human capital through scholarship programmes. The new port facility will be designed for "less than container load" purposes, Lou Kim Chhun, director general of Sihanoukville Autonomous Port, told Khmer Times yesterday. He explained that multiple companies will be able to use the same container, which will reduce costs. A timeline for the project and details regarding the area it will occupy have not been disclosed. Mr Kim Chhun said JICA will soon conduct a feasibility study on the project, look for consultants to design it, and prepare the documentation needed to conduct the bidding process. In August 2017, Cambodia and Japan signed more than \$23 billion yen (\$203 million) in official development assistance (ODA) loan agreements for a new container terminal at the port. Mr Hun Sen said the project will help Cambodia become a shipping hub in Asean. The project, scheduled for completion in 2023, will increase the

port's container handling capacity to 900,000 TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) per year, two times the current capacity, Mr Hun Sen said. "The project will enable the port to accommodate larger vessels that have become mainstream in international marine transportation," he said. "This will lead to a reduction in transportation costs." The Japanese government, through the agency JICA, has granted Cambodia \$380 million in concessional loans from 1999 to 2019 for the development and renovation of the port. Cargo traffic at Sihanoukville Autonomous Port, the Kingdom's only deep-sea port, saw 16 percent growth during the first quarter of the year.

Source: <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50609009/japan-to-provide-1-8m-in-aid-to-expand-port/>

Magwe on track to see more investments this year



Myanmar News | May, 29/2019

Magwe Region received K1.5 billion (US\$966,000) in investments between last October and April this year, says Regional Minister for Planning and Development U Zaw Min. The investments, all from local businesses, created 134 local jobs between October 2018 and April 2019. In the 2017-2018 fiscal year, the region received six domestic investments totalling K1.57 billion and one foreign investment of US\$800,000, creating 277 jobs in the process. For the period from April to September 2018, foreign investments totalled US\$2.39 million while domestic investments totalled K2.8 billion. "Last year, Magwe ranked fifth among regions and states in terms of

investments received,” said U Zaw Min. The investments were in industry, livestock, agriculture and other businesses, with the priority being on agriculture and livestock, he said. Since 1988, Magway Region has 26 investments totalling US\$28 million and K68.56 billion. After the NLD Government took the office, the Myanmar Investment Law was enacted in 2016 and under to the law, investment committees were established in all regions and states and given the authority to approve certain investments. This has helped channel needed funds to the areas outside of Yangon.

Source: <https://www.mmtimes.com/news/magwe-track-see-more-investments-year.html>

Vietnam set to import more electricity from China, Laos



Vietnam News | May, 29/2019

HANOI, May 29 (Xinhua) -- Vietnam plans to import more electricity from China and Laos in the coming years as its power supply is running out, Vietnam News Agency reported on Wednesday.

Annual electricity imports from China and Laos are expected to increase to 3,000 megawatt (MW) by 2025 and 5,000 MW by 2030 from the current about 1,000 MW, the agency quoted Le Van Luc, deputy director of the Electricity and Renewable Energy Authority under the Vietnamese Ministry of Industry and Trade, as saying. Now, many power projects in Vietnam are lagging behind schedule. Almost all big and medium-sized hydropower sources have been

used, and there remain only a few small ones for exploitation.

Therefore, hydropower will account for only 12.4 percent of all electricity supply in the country by 2030. That will add a further complication to the supply shortage, according to the authority.

Power supply sources that can be put into use between 2016 and 2030 have total capacity of about 78,300 MW, more than 17,500 MW lower than the expected figure in a revised national electricity development plan. Most of the shortage will fall in the 2018-2022 period. In particular, electricity reserves will be almost used up in 2018 and 2019, and power shortages will occur from 2021 to 2025, the agency quoted many local electricity experts as saying.

Source: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-05/29/c_138100358.htm

Vietnam's Jan-May coffee exports to fall 13.1% y/y-govt data



Vietnam News | May, 29/2019

HA NOI, May 29 — Vietnam's coffee exports in the first five months of 2019 would likely fall 13.1% from a year earlier to 767,000 tonnes, while rice exports would decline 5.3%, preliminary government data showed on Wednesday. The country typically releases statistics data before the end of the reporting period and figures are revised later. COFFEE Coffee exports from Vietnam will likely fall an estimated 13.1% in the first five months of this year from a year earlier to 767,000 tonnes, equal to 12.78 million 60-kg bags, the General Statistics

Office said in a report on Wednesday. Coffee export revenue for Vietnam, the world's biggest producer of the robusta bean, will likely decline 23% to \$1.31 billion in the five-month period, the report said. The country's coffee shipments in May are estimated at 135,000 tonnes and valued at \$220 million, it said.

RICE Rice exports in the January-May period from Vietnam were forecast to fall 5.3% from a year earlier to 2.79 million tonnes. Revenue from rice exports in the period was expected to drop 20% to \$1.19 billion. May rice exports from Vietnam, the world's third-largest shipper of the grain, totalled 700,000 tonnes, worth \$297 million.

ENERGY Vietnam's January-May crude oil exports were seen rising 8.6% from the same period last year to an estimated 1.7 million tonnes. Crude oil export revenue in the five-month period is expected to increase 1.4% to \$879 million. Oil product imports in the first five months of this year were estimated at 3.72 million tonnes, falling 34.8% from the same period last year, while the value of product imports fell 38% to \$2.32 billion. Vietnam's January-May liquefied petroleum gas imports were seen rising 7.5% from a year earlier to 623,000 tonnes.

Source: <https://tuoitrenews.vn/news/business/20190529/vietnam-s-janmay-coffee-exports-to-fall-131-y-y-govt-data/50142.html>
