

Highlight News / April 01/2021



- Broad money surges to KHR 136.5 trillion
- Cambodia exported over \$6 billion worth of industrial products in 2020
- China backs rural infrastructure development, poverty alleviation
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Broad money surges to KHR 136.5 trillion



Cambodia News | 31 March, 2021

The National Bank of Cambodia yesterday released a data on the money supply of the nation in 2020. According to the National Bank of Cambodia (NBC)'s statistics, at the end of 2020, broad money surged to KHR 136.5 trillion, up by 15 percent compared to the previous year. The currency outside depository corporations reached KHR 13.5 trillion, an increase by 13 percent, while the transferable deposits were recorded at KHR 25.4 trillion, up 7 percent, it added. At the same time, the other deposits rose by 18 percent to KHR 97.6 trillion. Heng Panha – AKP

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50832236/broad-money-surges-to-khr-136-5-trillion/>

Cambodia exported over \$6 billion worth of industrial products in 2020



Cambodia News | 31 March, 2021

Cambodia's export of industrial products, including garment products, were valued at \$6.37 billion in 2020, a year-on-year decrease of 43 percent, data from the Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation showed. The report said that the export of garment, footwear, and travel goods was recorded at only \$3 billion, down from \$9.32 billion in 2019. The non-garment products are electronic appliances, leather products, rubber and plastic, bicycle, and food and drinks. According to the

report, some 235 new industrial factories were opened last year, down 12 percent from a year earlier, bringing the total number of factories in the country to 1,864. There were 101 industrial factories closed down in 2020, up 50 percent from the previous year. In 2019, Cambodia exported industrial products, including garment products, worth \$11.18 billion, a year-on-year increase of 14 percent. Chea Vannak – AKP

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50832215/cambodia-exported-over-6-billion-worth-of-industrial-products-in-2020/>

China backs rural infrastructure development, poverty alleviation



Laos News | 01 April, 2021

Laos and China have launched the first phase of a Chinese-aided rural infrastructure development and poverty alleviation project in Luang Prabang and Vientiane provinces. The project will initially be implemented in these two northern provinces and will provide clean water in 17 villages, build seven community hospitals, install electricity in 16 villages, and provide digital television for 30 villages. Implementation will take at least 18 months and be supported by an agreement between senior officials from the two countries. The preparations for project implementation were arranged by the Laos-China Cooperation Commission and the Chinese project supervision teams. The official launch of the project took place in Vientiane on Tuesday, led by Minister and Head of the President's Office, Mrs Khemmani

Pholsena, who is also President of the Laos-China Cooperation Commission, and Chinese Ambassador to Laos, Mr Jiang Zaidong. Representatives of line ministries, target provinces and project contractors were also present at the ceremony. The Chinese aided project has eight components and was agreed to by President Xi Jinping during his state visit to Laos in 2017. The four main priorities of the project, described in short as “4X100”, comprise the installation of clean water systems in 100 villages, construction of 100 dispensaries or community hospitals, supply of electricity for households in 100 villages, and the installation of satellite digital television in 100 villages. To minimise difficulties in implementing the 400 projects all at once, it was decided to divide them into different phases, batches and focused targets. This will ensure the efficiency of project implementation in every province of Laos. The first projects will take place in the provinces of Luang Prabang and Vientiane. After the completion of this 18-month operation, the next batch of projects will be carried out in other provinces. In her speech at the ceremony on Tuesday, Mrs Khemmani thanked the government of China for funding Laos’ rural development and infrastructure and advised the project contractor to ensure the effectiveness of implementation through high-quality construction to bring benefits to rural communities.

Source : https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContent_China64.php

MoALI Union Minister discusses mixed crop plantation in Chaung Ma Nge Dam area



Myanmar News | 31 March, 2021

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation organized a meeting over the establishment of mixed crop plantation and comprehensive development in Chaung Ma Nge Dam area yesterday. During the meeting, Union Minister U Tin Htut Oo discussed livestock breeding to raise the income of villagers in addition to agriculture, the use of modern techniques and farming machinery in agro sectors, local manufacturing industry and power supply. Chaung Ma Nge Dam supplies water to 4,200 acres of summer paddy this year. The dam is 91,770-acre feet of F.T.L and can store 40,870-acre feet of water currently. The dam completed in 2006-2007 can supply water to 7,219 acres of farmlands and also provide electricity to villages via one 50 kilowatt turbine. The Union Minister and party also inspected the dam area. They instructed the necessary things, including job opportunities, for the local people to raise the living standards on the morning of 28 March.—MNA

Source : https://cdn.myanmarseo.com/file/client-cdn/gnlm/wpcontent/uploads/2021/03/31_Mar_21_gnlm.pdf

Newly-established firms down in Q1



Vietnam News | 31 March, 2021

HÀ NỘI — Việt Nam had 29,300 newly-established enterprises with total registered capital of VNĐ447.8 trillion in the first quarter of this year, according to the General Statistics Office (GSO). These figures were down 1.4 per cent in the number of newly registered enterprises but up 27.5 per cent in the registered capital year on year. The higher capital was due to an increase of 36.8 per cent in the number of enterprises with registered capital at over VNĐ100 billion. During the first quarter, 40,300 enterprises stopped business, a year-on-year increase of 15.6 per cent. Of which, 23,800 were temporarily closed, up 28.2 per cent, and 5,200 have permanently ceased to do business, a surge of 26.4 per cent, while 11,300 others are completing dissolution procedures. The majority of enterprises temporarily suspending their business and dissolving were small-scale and vulnerable businesses due to negative impacts, according to the GSO. Meanwhile, 44,000 enterprises resumed their operation in the first three months of this year. The GSO's survey on business trends of the manufacturing and processing industry showed that many enterprises expected their production and business in the second quarter of 2021 to be better than the first quarter. Of which, 51 per cent of surveyed

businesses said that the business situation would be better than the first quarter while 34.1 per cent of them said the business situation would be stable. About 14.9 per cent of enterprises forecast more difficulties in doing business than the first quarter. Foreign-invested enterprises in this industry are the most optimistic with 86.2 per cent forecasting stable and better business performance in the second quarter. The ratios in non-State owned enterprises and State-owned enterprises are 84.8 per cent and 83.4 per cent, respectively. The survey also reported that 55.1 per cent of enterprises believed that high competitiveness of domestic goods was the main factor affecting their production and business activities in the first quarter. Other factors included low domestic market demand, difficulties in finance, lack of raw materials and human resources, high interest rates of loans, and outdated technology and equipment. About 29.6 per cent of enterprises said the business situation in the first quarter of 2021 was better than that in the fourth quarter of 2020 while 39 per cent of them saw stable business situation. About 31.4 per cent of businesses faced difficulties in production and business. VNS

Source : <https://vietnamnews.vn/economy/915721/newly-established-firms-down-in-q1.html>

E-commerce opportunities for Vietnamese retailers



Vietnam News | 31 March, 2021

The Vietnam E-Commerce Association (VECOM) in partnership with Google and partners announced a series of Retail University activities to promote e-commerce for retailers this year. The programme aims to support small- and medium-sized enterprises and individual business households in e-commerce. VECOM Chairman Nguyen Thanh Hung said Vietnam's e-commerce expanded by nearly 15% last year, reaching nearly US\$13.2 billion, and will keep growing this year and till 2025. According to the Vietnam Internet Statistic 2020, Vietnam is home to over 68 million social media users, ranking sixth among 30 countries. It is a "golden opportunity" for retailers, online sellers and traditional enterprises to improve digital business and marketing skills. Hung added that the Retail University 2020 activities attracted nearly 1,400 trainees from businesses nationwide and over 700 participating firms. Following the programme, retailers offered positive feedback, saying that their orders surged by over 57% and consumer base up 60%. Director of VISA for Vietnam and Laos Dang Tuyet Dung said amid the COVID-19 pandemic, small- and medium-sized enterprises need to quickly switch to digital transformation and set up multi-channel trade while ensuring that payment channels are protected. At the event, the VNPost Express JSC also pledged to introduce and help online sellers launch the "order

completion" service to bring benefits to both sellers and buyers, thus helping consumers minimise operating cost, increase delivery speed and deal with post-sale contingencies.

Source : <https://vov.vn/en/economy/e-commerce-opportunities-for-vietnamese-retailers-846985.vov>
