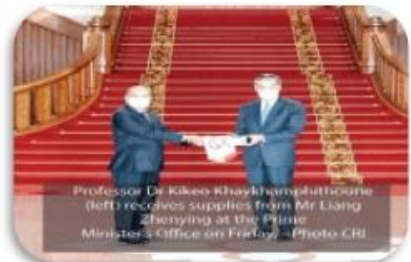


Highlight News / June 7, 2021



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ADVISORY INSTITUTE FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT BY TCC (AITI)

Two new investment projects approved by CDC



Cambodia News | 5 June, 2021

The Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC) has approved two new investment projects worth a total of \$10.6 million. Impak (Cambodia) Co., LTD will invest \$5 million and produce a range of travel bags and luggage. Wing Cheng Packaging Co., Ltd will invest \$5.6 million to produce cardboard boxes, paper boxes and bags. The two projects will be located in Ang Snuol district, Kandal province and Khan Pursenchey, Phnom Penh. They are expected to create around 840 jobs within the local communities.

Source: <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50868705/two-new-investment-projects-approved-by-cdc-2/>

Cambodia sees a surge in fresh chilli export



Cambodia News | 4 June, 2021

Cambodia's fresh chilli export saw a dramatic rise during the first five months of this year, according to the statistics shared recently by Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Veng Sakhon. From January to May 2021, 56,507 tonnes of fresh chillies have been exported, a year-on-year increase of about 95 percent. Meanwhile, the Kingdom exported 600 tonnes of dried chillies, a decline of 50 percent compared to the same period last year. The biggest market for Cambodian chillies is Thailand, followed by the United Arab Emirates. Chilli is grown everywhere in Cambodia, especially in the provinces

along the Mekong, Bassac, and Tonle Sap Rivers, including Kandal, Kampong Cham, Kampong Chhnang, etc. Cambodia has been working hard to diversify its exported products, particularly the agro products. Rice is a major one, followed by rubber, cassava, cashew nut, corn, fresh banana, pomelo, mango, pepper and so on. C. Nika – AKP

Source: <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50867931/cambodia-sees-a-surge-in-fresh-chilli-export/>

GX Foundation provides medical supplies for Covid response



Laos News | 7 June, 2021

The GX Foundation on Friday provided medical supplies worth more than US\$1 million to support Laos' response to the Covid-19 outbreak. The supplies included personal protective equipment for medical staff including gloves, glasses, face shields and masks. The supplies were presented to Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the National Taskforce for Covid-19 Prevention and Control, Professor Dr Kikeo Khaykhamphithoune, by the President of the GX Foundation, Mr Liang Zhenying. Dr Kikeo said the donated items were greatly appreciated and essential to help prevent the spread of Covid-19 and would protect healthcare staff during the course of their work. The donation reflects the cooperation between Laos and China under the Belt and Road Initiative. The GX Foundation has previously supported Laos' efforts to

contain the virus outbreak. Mr Liang met with Prime Minister Phankham Viphavanh, who thanked the foundation as well as the Chinese people for providing the supplies. Members of the GX Foundation have visited Vientiane and held a meeting on virus prevention and control for Chinese nationals living in Laos. They also visited government officials and ministry leaders to discuss cooperation in virus prevention and control. Established in 2018, the GX Foundation is a non-profit charitable organisation that provides medical and public health humanitarian assistance in the Belt and Road countries. The name GX is derived from the Chinese word pronounced “gong xiang” meaning “sharing”. It is a response to the call for “people to people” connectivity under the Belt and Road Initiative for International Cooperation. In September 2019, China and Laos signed a plan to build a community with a shared future by the People’s Republic of China and the people of Laos. As part of the plan, the GX Foundation signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Health on a 5-year cooperation project to provide free cataract surgeries for underprivileged people. Two mobile eye treatment centres have been created and will be put into use when the Covid-19 outbreak has been contained. Mr Liang noted that only a few cases of the virus had been recorded in Laos but, with the surge in new cases worldwide, the situation in Laos

was changing. Although the donation of equipment was not the primary mission of the GX Foundation, out of consideration for the friendship between China and Laos, the foundation had decided to lend a helping hand when a request was received from the Ministry of Health, he said. The foundation sourced ventilators, patient monitors, surgical masks, gowns, goggles and gloves weighing 20 tonnes which have been donated to the ministry. “This year is the 60th anniversary of China-Laos diplomatic relations, so the GX Foundation wanted to show support for the people of Laos,” Mr Liang said. “We hope the situation can soon be contained so that we can resume our cataract project and serve out our mission, as well as consolidate the friendship between the people of our two countries.”

Source:https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContenten_GX_108.php

MADB to disburse K5 bln monsoon crop loans for over 6,000 farmers in Myeik District



Myanmar News | 5 June, 2021

The Myanma Agricultural Development Bank (MADB) (Myeik branch) of the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Industry is implementing to provide K5 billion worth of agricultural loans for the monsoon rice crop season in order to cover 6,122 farmers in five townships in Myeik District. The MADB Myeik branch will disburse a total of 6,122 farmers (36,671

acres) monsoon crop loans, paying out K150,000 per acre. The growers can take out loans for a maximum of ten acres. The interest is set at 5 per cent like the rate of the previous years. The respective township branch will pay out the loan. The loans will cover 3,141 farmers in Myeik Township, 1,194 in Kyunsu Township, 1,651 in Taninthayi Township, 42 in Bokpyin Township, and 94 in Kawthoung Township. Those farmers who have already paid off the previous loan will be prioritized in the loan application process. The MADB Myeik branch has provided K34.2 million worth of loans to the farmers with 228 acres so far. MADB provides annual agricultural loans to small-scale farmers, intending to have food self-sufficiency and export competitiveness for Myanmar's agricultural products in order to boost exports, promote the interests of the farmers and enhance their socio-economy. — Khaing Htoo (IPRD)/GNLM

Source: <https://www.gnln.com.mm/madb-to-disburse-k5-blN-monsoon-crop-loans-for-over-6000-farmers-in-myeik-district/#article-title>

Lemon price constantly drops in Kya-in-Seikkyi

 Myanmar News | 5 June, 2021

But this year, the price of lemon was K40 per fruit, a drop by half this year compared to last year. The lemon trees are widely grown in Kya-in-Seikkyi township, Kayin State, and the lemon cultivation is successful. With the yield of lemons getting high in Kya-in-Seikkyi township, Kawkareik District, the local

farmers grow the fruit on a commercial scale and earn extra income for their family. As the lemons have yielded abundantly, the price of lemon has dropped naturally in this monsoon. But, the price of lemon is on the rise in summer. In the last monsoon, the lemon price hit K15 per one. But the price rose to K150 or K200 per fruit depending upon the size in summer. But this year, the price of lemon was K40 per fruit, a drop by half this year compared to last year. There are many lemon growers in Kya-in-Seikkyi township, and there are more than 10,000 acres of lemon plantations. The local growers send the fruit of the seasonal lemon annually to Mawlamyine town, Mon state and Yangon region through the fruit depots. — Myo Min Oo/GNLM

Source: <https://www.gnln.com.mm/lemon-price-constantly-drops-in-kya-in-seikkyi/#article-title>

transport Hai Duong exports lychee to Thailand for first time

 Vietnam News | 6 June, 2021

Hai Duong, June 6 (VNA) - Ameii Vietnam exported 10 tonnes of fresh lychee to Thailand by sea on June 5, marking the first time the fresh fruit of Vietnam hit the shelves in Thailand. Representatives of Ameii JSC said having Vietnam's fresh lychee accepted in Thailand is a huge feat as Thailand is a capital of fresh fruit in the region, and this showed that Vietnamese lychee can compete with other fruits. Each week, the company hopes to export over 20 tonnes of the summer fruit to supermarkets chain and stores in Thailand. According to Hai Duong

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, by May 31, the province had harvested and marketed about 29,000 tonnes of litchi. Of these, about 15,000 tonnes are exported to China, Laos and Cambodia./.

Source: <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/hai-duong-exports-lychee-to-thailand-for-first-time/202634.vnp>

Vietnam's online food shopping in surge



Vietnam News | 6 June, 2021

The demand for some categories drops in the first quarter of 2021, according to a latest report. Vietnamese consumers continue to increase the purchase of food, the essential category via online channels amidst the outbreak of Covid-19, local insiders have said. The latest data from the first quarter of 2021 conducted by e-commerce aggregator iPrice Group showed that the demand for online groceries continues to increase, while the need for the other categories drops. According to the study, traffic of online grocery websites increased by 13% in Q1, 2021. The growth rate remained constant from the end of 2020 when the social distancing measures were loosened. "Covid-19 can be considered a powerful catalyst in increasing online demand for essential items," the iPrice's report noted. The latest Asia Pulse #2 report released by the market research Kantar Vietnam also recorded the same result showing that the food sector continues to lead market growth in food-moving-consumption goods (FMCG) categories in

Q1 this year. Value spend growth in food was 10.6% and 9.8% in urban four key cities (including Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Cantho and Danang) and rural areas, respectively, in Q1, higher than that of the average growth of Asia and placing Vietnam among the leading Southeast Asian countries. The results were due to the fact that the economy continued to recover during the first three months, the consumer confidence on the economic outlook is higher than previous quarters, gradually being back to pre-Covid-19 level. Kantar Vietnam found that FMCG growth slows down in both urban four key cities and rural areas, yet still growing at faster pace than pre-Covid-19 time. In short term, FMCG value in Q1 seems on par with that of the same period last year which was an all-time high driven by Covid-19 impact. Nguyen Thi Nhu Ngoc, Senior Marketing Manager of Worldpanel Division, Kantar Vietnam, told Hanoitimes: "The online channel is increasing its share of retail value, outstripping more established channels in both urban and rural areas." During the period, the traditional channels such as street shops and wet markets have gradually lost its share, which happened long time ago because of the continued expansion of modern channels/ emerging channels such as minimarkets, online, specialty stores, she explained. "Consumers have more choices of shopping places and have a tendency to shop across channels for different shopping missions," Ngoc added. Last year, packaged foods were the most successful sector and is the main driver of the abnormal spike in the FMCG market throughout the

year of stay-at-home economy, according to Fabrice Carrasco, Managing Director for Vietnam & the Philippines, and Asia Strategic Projects Director of Kantar Worldpanel. According to Kantar's research, one third of Vietnamese online consumers switched from traditional channels are new to online shopping in the FMCG industry, becoming the main contributors to the growth of the online channel in the whole year of 2020. The online channel achieved an increase of 76% in terms of online transactions last year, which mainly came from new buyers leading the number of transactions in urban areas in Asia, outstripping the growth of South Korea and China, according to Kantar. According to the e-commerce aggregator, even though the measures to stop Covid-19 fluctuates growth in several categories, it also gives online groceries a boost.

Source: <http://hanoitimes.vn/vietnams-online-food-shopping-in-surge-317640.html>
