

Highlight News / June 30/2021



- India and Kingdom's trade talks heat up
- USAID initiates \$3-million Cold Chain Logistic System in Cambodia
- Ministry launches campaign to boost cattle exports to China
- Myanmar goods trade deficit with Singapore estimated at \$1.38 bln this FY
- Vietnam's GDP up 5.64 percent in H1: GSO
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India and Kingdom's trade talks heat up



Cambodia News | 29 June, 2021

Cambodia and India continue to move forward in the strengthening of their bilateral cooperation with the two nations having agreed on the draft of preferential bilateral trade agreement talks. This comes on the heels of figures having been released by the Indian embassy showing India's January to March exports to Cambodia reaching \$60 million, an increase of 71.7 percent over the same period last year. Cambodian exports to India totalled \$12.7 million, a 10.6 percent increase over Q12020. The embassy said the largest export category was buffalo meat, which accounted for \$14.7 million of Q12021 shipments to the Kingdom. The Cambodian government lifted a temporary ban on frozen meat and other frozen products from India last week. The Indian embassy said this will boost meat exports to Cambodia. The two nations agreed in principle to the possible establishment of a bilateral trade agreement during a recent meeting between Indian Ambassador Devyani Khobragade and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance, Aun Pornmoniroth. "Cambodia has come back to us with modifications in the draft preferential agreement proposed by the Indian side, which are under consideration and [we] expect to start negotiations soon," the embassy said. Ngoun Meng Tech, director-general of Cambodia Chamber of Commerce, said the pact would open wider markets

to Cambodia products. "India is a country with a huge population. If we have a bilateral trade pact, it will boost more products including agricultural products to India," Meng Tech said.

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50883358/>

[india-and-kingdoms-trade-talks-heat-up/](#)

USAID initiates \$3-million Cold Chain Logistic System in Cambodia



Cambodia News | 29 June, 2021

The U. S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has initiated a \$3 million-cold chain logistic system to help boost the agricultural development in Cambodia. The initiative was shared by Ms Veena Reddy, outgoing USAID/Cambodia Mission Director in a meeting here on June 28 with Veng Sakhon, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries. On the occasion, Ms. Reddy highly valued the development of Cambodia's agricultural sector during her four-year mission in the Kingdom. The outgoing mission director said the assistance from the USAID will be constantly continued to contribute to promoting the agricultural development in Cambodia. The \$3 million project of solar panel-run Cold Chain Logistic System is part of the assistance, she said, adding that it will boost the planting and transport of vegetable, fruits, fishes, and meat to the market ensuring the safety, quality, and price. Sakhon spoke highly of Ms. Reddy's contribution to boosting the agricultural development in Cambodia. The Minister said the Cold Chain Logistic System will enhance the standard of agricultural products in the

market locally and internationally. Chea Vannak –
AKP

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50883062/usaid-initiates-3-million-cold-chain-logistic-system-in-cambodia/>

Ministry launches campaign to boost cattle exports to China



Laos News / 30 June, 2021

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has ordered its relevant departments to do more to promote cattle farming, encouraging private operators to produce more cattle for export to China. Agriculture and Forestry Departments across the country have been told to launch a publicity campaign to inform farmers and producers about the official opening of the Chinese market for Lao cattle. The three-page order issued last week highlighted the opportunities and challenges for Lao cattle producers in strengthening cattle and buffalo production based on China's needs in terms of quantity and quality. Under an agreement signed between the governments of the two countries, Laos has been granted a quota of 500,000 cattle for export to China. On April 28, the first shipment of cattle from Laos arrived in China soon after the start of the Covid-19 outbreak, according to the CRI. According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, more than 2,000 cattle were shipped to China from April 28 to May 4 across the border in Sing district, Luang Namtha province, as part of a pilot project. The two sides are now preparing cattle and buffalo for the next

shipment. China has asked for animals that are four years old or less and that weigh at least 350kg. This is encouraging entrepreneurs to raise cattle on a large scale in compliance with the specified requirements. They must also ensure that their farms are disease free so that livestock can meet the quality and quantity requirements for export. Agriculture and Forestry Departments in all provinces have been instructed to provide training for farmers, entrepreneurs and anyone else interested in raising cattle for export to China. The ministry has also highlighted the importance of growing grass and other crops such as corn, soybeans, cassava and other high-nutrient food to feed cattle. The Department of Livestock and Fisheries has been advised to set up a network of village veterinarians across the country and to teach farmers and producers how to vaccinate their livestock and comply with all the standards set by China. The department will inspect and certify the quality of cattle based on the agreement signed with Chinese counterparts. Meanwhile, the ministry has banned the import of cattle to Laos for storage and later sale to China. The government is also promoting investment in international standard slaughterhouses, so that beef can be processed for export. One of the main challenges facing the government's plan to boost cattle production is the regular outbreak of livestock diseases, especially foot and mouth disease, which is common in Laos. In addition, the recent outbreak of lumpy skin disease has infected more than 11,000 cattle in 126 villages

of seven provinces. Since agriculture accounts for a projected 16 percent of GDP in 2021, the outbreak of livestock diseases will continue to affect the economy.

Source : https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeConten_Ministry_125.php

Myanmar goods trade deficit with Singapore estimated at \$1.38 bln this FY



Myanmar News | 29 June, 2021

The Myanmar Customs Department reported that imports surpassed exports in trade with Singapore, with exports reaching over \$117.78 million and imports valued at over \$1.5 billion. Myanmar trade deficit in goods with Singapore was estimated at US\$1.38 billion in the past seven months (Oct-Apr) of the current financial year 2020-2021, Myanmar Customs Department's statistics indicated. The value of Myanmar's bilateral trade with Singapore in maritime trade and border trade topped \$1.624 billion in the past seven months. The Myanmar Customs Department reported that imports surpassed exports in trade with Singapore, with exports reaching over \$117.78 million and imports valued at over \$1.5 billion. Singapore is Myanmar's second-largest trading partner in the region, after Thailand. It accounted for 10.56 pc of total trade in FY2016-2017 with an estimated trade value of \$3.4 billion, 11.59 pc in FY2017-2018 with a trade value of \$4.15 billion, 9.98 pc in the FY2018-2019 with \$3.5 billion and over 12 pc in the FY2019-2020 with \$3.8

billion respectively. Myanmar exports agricultural products such as broken rice, pulses, sesame seeds, onion, footwear, textile and clothing, minerals, and other products to Singapore, while it imports plastic, fuel oil, edible oil, transport equipment, chemical elements and compounds, wheat flour, pharmaceutical products, dairy product and consumer product. – KK/GNLM

Source : <https://www.gnlm.com.mm/myanmar-goods-trade-deficit-with-singapore-estimated-at-1-38-blN-this-fy/#article-title>

Vietnam's GDP up 5.64 percent in H1: GSO



Vietnam News | 29 June, 2021

Hanoi (VNA) – Vietnam's gross domestic product (GDP) expanded 5.64 percent in the first half of this year, the General Statistics Office (GSO) announced on June 29. The rate was higher than the figure of 1.82 percent recorded in the same period last year but lower than 7.05 percent and 6.77 percent in the corresponding periods of 2018 and 2019, respectively. The agro-forestry-fishery sector increased 3.82 percent; industry and construction, up 8.36 percent; and services, up 3.96 percent, the office said. In the second quarter, the country's GDP was up about 6.61 percent, as compared with 0.39 percent in the corresponding time last year, with the highest rise seen in the industry and construction sector (10.28 percent). The manufacturing and processing industry remained the driver of the national economy, with a growth rate of 11.42

percent. With an increase of 5.63 percent, wholesale and retail took the lion's share in the service sector. Financial, banking and insurance services saw a rise of 9.27 percent, while lodging and catering services decreased 5.02 percent. In terms of economic structure in the first two quarters, agro-forestry-fishery made up 12.15 percent; industry and construction, 37.61 percent; and services, 41.13 percent. The GDP growth reflected the drastic management of the Government and the Prime Minister, as well as the consensus of the entire political system, the business community, people nationwide and those working on the frontline of the COVID-19 combat. GSO General Director Nguyen Thi Huong said the fourth wave of COVID-19 outbreaks that began late April has posed major challenges to economic management and administration, as well as in ensuring social welfare./.

Source : <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/vietnams-gdp-up-564-percent-in-h1-gso/203791.vnp>

Expert believes inflation could fall below 4% this year



Vietnam News / 29 June, 2021

VOV.VN - With the consumer price index (CPI) increasing by 1.47% during the first half of the year, the lowest rise since 2016, it remains entirely feasible for the country to keep inflation below 4% this year, said Nguyen Thi Huong, general director of the General Statistics Office (GSO). The GSO official unveiled this information during a press conference

held on June 29 in Hanoi, adding that escalating prices of fuel and input materials, coupled with the rising price of electricity and water, has caused June's CPI rise of 0.19% compared to the previous month. She also attributed the six-month CPI increase to adjustments in the domestic price of petrol, thereby making the average price soar by 17.01% and the overall CPI increase by 0.61%. An upturn could also be seen in the price of domestic gas, which rose by 16.51% against the same period from last year, while the price of education services throughout the reviewed period recorded an rise of 4.47%. Meanwhile, the domestic price of rice witnessed an upward trend in line with the export price of rice, while a high demand for glutinous and plain rice during the Lunar New Year caused the price of rice during the reviewed period to increase by 6.97% on-year, making the overall CPI increase by 0.18%. Elsewhere, housing and construction materials rose by 0.63% to push the general CPI up by 0.12%. The price of materials for housing maintenance surged by 1.26% to fall in line with the price of input raw materials and fuel. However, there remains a number of factors which have curbed the CPI growth rate in the first half of the year. Notably, the price of food witnessed an annual fall of 0.39%, making the overall CPI decrease by 0.08%. Following the deployment of bailout package from the Government for individuals and businesses

impacted by COVID- 19, the average price of electricity also dropped by 3.06%, resulting in the general CPI falling by 0.1%. Moreover, the decline in people's travel and tourism demand due to the COVID- 19 impact has also made the price of package tours plunge by 2.85% compared to the same period from last year. Core inflation in June saw an increase of 0.07% over the previous month and 1.14% compared to last year's corresponding period, fuelling the six-month core inflation to inch up by 0.87% from the same period last year.

Source : [https://english.vov.vn/en/economy/expert-believes-inflation-could-fall-below-4-this-year-](https://english.vov.vn/en/economy/expert-believes-inflation-could-fall-below-4-this-year-869965.vov)

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