

- US top Cambodian export destination Jan-June
- Pig imports fall to 15 percent of demand as more turn to farming
- Covid infections hit daily high
- Thai-Myanmar border trade decreases
- ADB lowers Vietnamese growth forecast for 2021 to 5.8%
- Animal feed exports see surge in H1



export destination Jan-June



Cambodia News | 20 July, 2021

The US market topped export destinations for Cambodian products during the first six months of 2021 as the two countries confirmed their commitment to continue strengthening bilateral cooperation, especially in the field of trade. Figures from the Ministry of Commerce for the year's first semester showed that Cambodia exported \$3.019 billion worth of products to the US. That represented a 35 percent increase compared with the same period last year. The Kingdom imported \$173 million of goods from the US. That figure is 41 percent higher than results from the first half of 2020. Two-way trade rose by 36 percent to \$3.193 billion during 2021's first semester. Exports to the US accounted for about 36 percent of the Kingdom's total exports Jan-June. The Ministry of Economy and Finance's first semester report cited the Kingdom's total exports at \$8.201 billion. Other leading Cambodian export markets during the first six months of 2021 were the EU, China, Japan, Canada, the UK, Vietnam and Thailand. Cambodia's exports to the US were mostly garments and included goods such as footwear, bicycles and furniture. They were exported under the US Generalised System of Preferences (GSP). Lim Heng, vice-president of the Cambodia Chamber of Commerce, said yesterday that the trade preference acts a positive force in export growth to the US. "The trade war between the US and China pushing tariff increases has created

opportunities in Cambodia for foreign investors, particularly Chinese investors, to invest and increase production in Cambodia for export to the US," Heng said. Importers of the Kingdom's travel goods to the US are now required to pay import duties because the GSP preferential tariff system expired on Dec 31. While waiting for congressional approval, non-GSP import duties must be paid. They can be claimed back once the GSP is renewed. Ministry of Commerce Under-Secretary of State Penn Sovicheat said recently that the last year has seen the two countries enjoy a brisk growth in trade. "Exports to the US have continued to increase year-to-year," he said, adding that the Cambodian goods showing an increase in exports include clothes, travel goods and footwear. "Despite the pandemic, trade relations have maintained a good status. The US considers Cambodia to be one of its sources for imports and many US firms have increased their orders from Cambodia," said Sovicheat. Bilateral trade between the Kingdom and the US amounted to \$6.9 billion in 2020, which was up 17.89 per cent from 2019. The value of Cambodian goods exported to the US was \$6.5 billion in 2020. That figure rose 22.79 per cent from the \$5.3 billion recorded in 2019. Cambodia shipped garments, non-garment goods and agricultural products worth \$16 billion last year, a 14 percent increase compared with the 2019 results.

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50897620/us-top-cambodian-export-destination-jan-june/>

Pig imports fall to 15 percent of demand as more turn to farming



Cambodia News | 20 July, 2021

Cambodia is importing less pork as local farmers breed more pigs in order to take advantage of stable and higher prices for the commodity. The President of the Cambodian Livestock Raisers Association Srun Pov said pork imports have dropped during the Coronavirus pandemic as the domestic supply has risen sharply. “Currently, the supply of pigs in the local market from local farmers and breeders is about 85 percent... and the rest of the pigs are imported,” he said. Srun said there are more domestic pig farmers because a lot of people who lost their jobs during the pandemic have turned to raising livestock as an alternative, given the current high prices for pigs and other animals. However, some traders are unhappy because the government has restricted imports from abroad, he said. Others say importing too many pigs could hurt local farmers’ livelihoods and may lead to an outbreak of African swine fever, which is taking hold in neighbouring countries and could decimate the livestock industry as it did a few years ago. President of the Council of Cambodian Livestock Breeders, and Managing Director of M’s Pig ACMC Cambodia Ly Laville said pig importers should become pig farmers because it benefits the economy by increasing demand for raw materials for breeding and producing safer local pork.

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50897550/pig-imports-fall-to-15-percent-of-demand-as-more-turn-to-farming/>

Covid infections hit daily high



Laos News | 21 July, 2021

The 170 new cases of Covid-19 reported on Tuesday constitute the highest daily figure recorded in Laos since the start of the pandemic in March last year. The new infections bring the countrywide total to date to 3,710, while 1,222 people are currently in hospital for treatment and observation, according to the National Taskforce for Covid-19 Prevention and Control. All of the 170 new infections were identified in migrant workers returning to Laos from Thailand. Savannakhet reported the highest number of new cases with 98, followed by Champassak province with 38, Saravan province with 20, Vientiane with 10, and Khammuan province reported four new cases. Five deaths have been reported to date. The positive test results were obtained after 1,845 samples were tested for Covid. At least 2,006 people were admitted to quarantine centres across the country and samples taken from them have been sent for testing. There are 48 quarantine centres throughout Laos, where 6,044 people are currently accommodated. No more villages in Vientiane have been classified as red or yellow zones. The government has extended the partial lockdown until August 3, in a further attempt to reduce the number of infections and contain the virus outbreak. Health authorities advise everyone to act responsibly and to support the battle to prevent the virus spiralling out of control.

Meanwhile the vaccination programme is being expedited to ensure that 50 percent of the population is immunised by the end of this year. The Covid-19 taskforce says everyone must maintain social distancing, wear a face mask and comply with all the guidelines imposed by the government to lower the risk of contracting the virus. People who need to leave their homes are advised to wear a face mask, regularly wash their hands with soap, and avoid touching their mouth and eyes.

Source : https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContenten_Covid_140.php

Thai-Myanmar border trade decreases



Myanmar News | 20 July, 2021

Thai- Myanmar border trade has registered a decrease of US\$ 10 million between 1 October and 9 July in the current financial year, according to the Ministry of Commerce. Ministry of Commerce data shows that the value of Thai–Myanmar trade at all seven borders touched \$3.26 billion in the current financial year, which plunged from \$3.27 billion recorded in the year-ago period. Myanmar delivers goods to Thailand through its sea routes, as well as land borders. Seven border trade camps are open between the two countries, including Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Hteekhee, Mawtaung and Maesai. Apart from Tachilek and Myawady checkpoints, bilateral trade from the Myanmar-Thailand borders decreased in relation to the same period of the last year. The country exports

agricultural, forest and animal products, minerals, manufactured goods and other miscellaneous products to neighbouring Thailand. Its imports include medicines, cosmetics, food and beverages, stationery, footwear, clothing, machinery and other commodities. The total trade between Myanmar and four neighbouring countries between 1 October and 9 July reached over \$8.44 billion, decreasing by \$392 million over the same period last year. — ACM/GNLM

Source : <https://www.gnlm.com.mm/thai-myanmar-border-trade-decreases/#article-title>

ADB lowers Vietnamese growth forecast for 2021 to 5.8%



Vietnam News | 20 July, 2021

VOV.VN - The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has just released its growth forecast for the year, with Vietnam's growth revised down to 5.8% from the previous figure of 6.7% put forward in April. The ADB anticipates that economic growth for developing Asia will stand at 7.2% this year, compared with its forecast of 7.3% made in April. This is due to further COVID-19 outbreaks slowing the recovery in some regional economies, although the growth outlook for 2022 has been upgraded to 5.4% from 5.3%. According to ADB's assessment, with the global recovery spurring exports, Vietnamese GDP growth surged to 5.6% during the first half of this year from 1.8% in the same period from last year, this is despite disruption caused by a new wave of COVID-19 which broke out in late April. Most notably, the

relatively slow rollout of the nation's vaccination programme, along with the enforcement of prolonged social distancing measures in the country's largest growth regions, have had a significant impact on trade exchange and restrict economic activities this year. "Asia and the Pacific's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic continues, although the path remains precarious amid renewed outbreaks, new virus variants, and an uneven vaccine rollout," said Yasuyuki Sawada, chief economist of the ADB. "On top of containment and vaccination measures, phased and strategic rejuvenation of economic activities, for instance, trade, manufacturing, and tourism will be key to ensure that the recovery is green, inclusive, and resilient," Sawada concluded. East Asia's growth outlook for the remainder of the year has been raised to 7.5% from 7.4% in April amid a stronger-than-expected recovery by the newly industrialised economies, including Hong Kong (China), the Republic of Korea and Taiwan (China). The sub-regional growth forecast for next year remains at 5.1%, whilst the growth outlook for China is maintained at 8.1% for this year and 5.5% in 2022, amid steady performances by industry, exports, and services. Furthermore, projections for South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific for this year have been lowered as recent outbreaks are met with containment measures and restrictions, thereby hampering economic activity. Indeed, South Asia's growth outlook for the fiscal year has been lowered to 8.9% from 9.5%. The forecast for India has also

been downgraded by 1% to 10.0%. In addition, Southeast Asia's outlook for the year has been revised to 4.0% from 4.4%, while the projection for the Pacific has been lowered to 0.3% from 1.4%. However, the 2022 growth forecasts for these sub regions have been upgraded to 7.0%, 5.2%, and 4.0%, respectively.

Source : <https://english.vov.vn/en/economy/adb-lowers-vietnamese-growth-forecast-for-2021-to-58-875361.vov>

Animal feed exports see surge in H1



Vietnam News | 20 July, 2021

Hanoi (VNA) - Vietnam's animal feed exports hit nearly 523.88 million USD in the first six months of 2021, up 52.7 percent year-on-year, according to the General Department of Customs. China remains the biggest importer of Vietnam's animal feed, with turnover reaching 188.3 million USD in the reviewed period. In June alone, China spent 36.62 million USD on importing animal feed from Vietnam, up 47.3 percent from the same period last year. Vietnamese exports of animal feed to Cambodia in January-June rose 41.7 percent to 74.81 million USD, maintaining Vietnam's second largest importer. Meanwhile, the US surpassed India to become Vietnam's third biggest importer of livestock feed with turnover hitting 56.42 million USD, up 20.1 percent year-on-year. Notably, exports of to Thailand reached 15.55 million USD, increasing 100 percent compared to the same period last year. Last year, Vietnamese exports of animal feed to China topped 211.23 million USD,

a yearly increase of 16 percent. Meanwhile, the figures to Cambodia and the US hit 122.3 million USD and 114.5 million USD, year-on-year increases of 23 percent and 125 percent increases, respectively./.

Source : <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/animal-feed-exports-see-surge-in-h1/204933.vnp>
