

*Highlight News / September 22/2021*

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- Japan ranks Myanmar third-largest export country this FY
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ADVISORY INSTITUTE FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT BY TCC (Aiti)



## Phnom Penh Autonomous Port upgrades container handling capacity to 400,000 TEUs



*Cambodia News | 21 September, 2021*

The listed-Phnom Penh Autonomous Port (PPAP) launched its new container terminal on Monday, upgrading its full capacity in handling containers to 400,000 TEUs per year. The launching ceremony was presided by Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Public Works and Transport. The construction of the US\$18.4 million container terminal began in 2019 and completed in mid-2021, said Hey Bavy, Director General of Phnom Penh Autonomous Port. The terminal covers an area of 2.75 hectares. It is capable of handling 100,000 TEUs of containers per year, he said, adding that the budget for the investment expanding container terminal is from the PPAP's savings and from the issuance of securities. The PPAP completed the first and second phases of LM17 container terminal expansion project since 2012, by increasing the handling capacity to 300,000 TEUs per year, he said. "The number of containers handled at the port has significantly increased, so we have to build new infrastructure to handle the ongoing growth of container traffic at the port," Bavy said. In 2019, the PPAP handled some 290,000 containers. According to Hey Bavy, the PPAP also planned a new expansion project of container terminal by upgrading its capacity to handle 500,000 TEUs per year. The project is designed to start in 2022. With

ongoing growth of container traffic, the PPAP has set a goal of upgrading the handling capacity to 900,000 TEUs per year. Chea Vannak – AKP

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50938651/phnom-penh-autonomous-port-upgrades-container-handling-capacity-to-400000-teus/>

## Foreign businesses welcome seven-day quarantine suggestion



*Cambodia News | 21 September, 2021*

Foreign professionals say Cambodia's economy would be a big winner if the government adopted the prime minister's suggestion for a seven-day quarantine, especially if it applied to businessfolk as well as tourist visa holders. The country is currently closed to tourists from abroad and business visa holders have to quarantine for at least 14 days in a hotel. Mr Hun Sen said on Friday that fully-vaccinated tourists should be able to visit the Kingdom, while spending the first week travelling around the area near their hotels. "Those who have been vaccinated can visit Cambodia on arrival for seven days, not in a room: They can walk around the city," the prime minister said. The scheme could be considered more-like Thailand's sandbox programme than a quarantine. Fully-immunised tourists can visit Phuket, Koh Samui and other popular destinations and leave their hotels to roam the resort. Thailand also hopes to open the capital, Bangkok, to foreign visitors as early as this month. However, a spike in local Coronavirus infections has led local officials to suggest the date should be

pushed back to next month at the earliest. Travellers who have experienced two weeks in Cambodian hotels say the government should consider including Phnom Penh in any reopening plan, allowing business visitors to make the most of their stay. One regular business arrival in Cambodia, who is currently in a quarantine hotel, said he couldn't understand why he had to spend 14 days in isolation even after having two shots of AstraZeneca vaccine in Cambodia and two shots of Moderna in his home country of Canada. "This quarantine is not productive," he said. "A seven-day sandbox scheme would be deluxe. Guys don't mind working that way. I'm trying to do meetings by Zoom but the internet's so poor it's frustrating. If they could cut it to four days for the fully vaccinated, like they did in Argentina for a while, it would be great but if they do the seven-day sandbox that's fantastic too. If they put a wrist monitor on me and said I could go one-kilometre from the hotel I would make reservations in restaurants and have four to five meetings a day. It would benefit the economy," said the man, who did not wish to be named. "The economy would benefit greatly if business travellers and investors could come more freely to Cambodia. If we can welcome them again for physical meetings, site visits, introductions and as guests who usually spend well during their stays this could play an important role in the economic recovery. Such a message could perfectly illustrate that Cambodia is an open country with a fast modernising economy," said EuroCham Cambodia Chairman Tassilo Brinzer. "Other

countries with equally high vaccination rates are already opening up, although the relative vulnerability of the healthcare system requires ongoing vigilance. I am sure the Royal Government is weighing all arguments and facts very carefully." Others simply want family members to be able to visit more easily. Cambodia has vaccinated more than three quarters of the population and Phnom Penh has one of the highest per-person vaccination rates in the world.

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50938538/foreign-businesses-welcome-seven-day-quarantine-suggestion/>

## Bokeo-Xayaboury Bridge Over 66 Percent Complete



*Laos News | 21 September, 2021*

The Konteun-Huaykeo Bridge, which spans the Mekong River to link Bokeo and Xayaboury provinces is more than 66 percent complete. Bokeo newspaper reports that Head of the Bokeo Department of Public Works and Transport, Mr. Khamphet Phommasing, says the bridge pillars have now all been installed. The 503-meter bridge connects Paktha District in Bokeo province with Khop District in Xayaboury province over the Mekong River. The concrete and steel bridge is eight meters wide, with 1.8-meter-long walkways on either side. Construction of the project began in October 2017, funded by the Lao government at over LAK 180 billion, to be completed within 36 months, according to Mr. Khamphet. "Construction of the

Konteun-Huaykeo Bridge on National Road No. 2243 has experienced delays due to a number of difficulties, including financing constraints, the project site's remote location, and an abnormal Mekong River level," said Mr. Khamphet. "We are now attempting to speed up construction to meet our new deadline," Mr. Khamphet added, saying it should open for public use next year. After completion, the bridge will be critical for the region's economic growth by increasing the flow of products, providing a shortcut for vehicles passing through the area, and facilitating commerce between Laos and Thailand. It will also significantly cut travel time from Vientiane to Bokeo via Xayaboury.

Source : <https://laotiantimes.com/2021/09/21/bokeo-xayaboury-bridge-now-over-66-percent-completed/>

## Japan ranks Myanmar third-largest export country this FY



*Myanmar News | 21 September, 2021*

Myanmar's export items to Japan are garments, marine products, rice, black sesame, green gram, rubber and other products. In return, it imported machines and machine equipment, electronic equipment, fertilizers, chemical products, medicines, automobiles, and other products. The value of trade between Myanmar and its development partner Japan exceeded over \$1.049 billion in the current FY and Japan is placed as Myanmar's third-largest export partner, the Ministry of Commerce's data showed. Myanmar's exports to Japan in the past ten months (October-July) of the

current financial year 2020-2021 touched about US\$768 million while import was valued at only \$281.4 million, according to the data of the Ministry of Commerce. Myanmar's export items to Japan are garments, marine products, rice, black sesame, green gram, rubber and other products. In return, it imported machines and machine equipment, electronic equipment, fertilizers, chemical products, medicines, automobiles, and other products. Bilateral trade values have registered \$1.92 billion in the last FY2019-2020, \$1.89 billion in the FY2018-2019, \$1 billion in the 2018 mini-budget period, \$1.92 billion in the 2017-2018FY, \$2 billion in the 2016-2017FY and \$1.84 billion in the 2015-16FY, respectively. This FY, three enterprises from Japan were approved to make initial investments of \$518 million into the country, according to the data of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA). Japan has made up over 34.7 per cent of total FDI in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone. The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) offers loans such as ODA loans and two-step loans intending to bring about socio-economic development in Myanmar. — KK/GNLM

Source : [https://www.gnlm.com.mm/japan-ranks-myanmar-third-largest-export-country-this-fy/?\\_\\_cf\\_chl\\_managed\\_tk\\_\\_=pmd\\_6TWYMCUi3RM5JgxKjHymCjuLm\\_A\\_yPQOvBsl04InqxE-1632277432-0-gqNtZGzNAvujcnBszRNI](https://www.gnlm.com.mm/japan-ranks-myanmar-third-largest-export-country-this-fy/?__cf_chl_managed_tk__=pmd_6TWYMCUi3RM5JgxKjHymCjuLm_A_yPQOvBsl04InqxE-1632277432-0-gqNtZGzNAvujcnBszRNI)

## Thai packaging firm eyes \$353-mln expansion in Vietnam



Vietnam News | 21 September, 2021

Thai company SCG Packaging has announced plans to invest \$353 million to expand in Vietnam. It will build a new plant in the northern province of Vinh Phuc, which will increase its capacity by 74 percent to 870,000 tons of packaging paper a year when it goes on stream in 2024. It will be operated by Vina Kraft Paper, a joint venture with Japan's Rengo Company in which SCGP holds 70 percent. Vietnam is both a big consumer and exporter in the region, making it a big draw for multinational investors, CSGP's chief executive, Wichan Jitpukdee, said. The country's demand for packaging paper and related products is expected to grow at 6-7 percent a year in 2021-24, SCG Packaging estimates.

Source : <https://e.vnexpress.net/news/business/companies/thai-packaging-firm-eyes-353-mln-expansion-in-vietnam-4359690.html>

## Viet Nam's power company seals contract for hydropower project in Nepal



Vietnam News | 21 September, 2021

HÀ NỘI — Việt Nam's Power Engineering Consulting Company 1 (PECC1) on Monday signed a contract to provide assessment and design services to Tanahu hydropower project in Nepal. The contract was inked with a joint venture between Việt Nam's Sông Đà Corporation and Nepal's Kalika

Group. The Tanahu project aims to meet power demand particularly during dry winter months, minimise fossil fuel-based power generation, stabilise Nepal's electricity supply system, and reduce transmission losses. Under the freshly signed deal, PECC1 will update and assess hydrometeorological conditions; and perform technical design and construction drawing for a series of items, including a 140m concrete dam, the highest of its kind in Nepal to date, and a spillway to discharge flood water. Speaking at the ceremony, PECC1 General Director Nguyễn Hữu Chính said the event marks a milestone in the sides' cooperation, pledging its best human resources serving the project. — VNS

Source : <https://vietnamnews.vn/economy/1035893/viet-nams-power-company-seals-contract-for-hydropower-project-in-nepal.html>