

Highlight News / November 04/2021



- In just one day, Cambodia exported more than 41,000 tons of agricultural products, main to Vietnam
- Consumer loan demand rebounds 38 percent in third quarter, CBC says
- Republic of Korea provides US\$9 million for rural development.
- Old rice paddy fetches K8,000 per basket in Bamauk Township
- Nike to expand operations in Vietnam
- Five provinces set to welcome back int'l tourists this month



In just one day, Cambodia exported more than 41,000 tons of agricultural products, main to Vietnam



Cambodia News | 03 November, 2021

According to the National Phytosanitary Database obtained from the General Department of Agriculture, in the first day of November, the total export of agricultural products reached 41,671.20 tons to 10 countries. Among them, the most exported products are: 16,000,000 tons of rice to Vietnam, Three fresh potatoes 11,250,000 tons to Vietnam and Thailand, 3,570.58 tons of fresh mangoes to Vietnam, China and Thailand, 3,532.96 tons of fresh bananas to China, 2,500,000 tons of soybeans to Vietnam, Vietnam and Thailand remain key markets for Cambodian agricultural products and for November 1, Vietnam has emerged as the biggest export market. Cambodia's agricultural exports include rice, dried cassava slices, fresh cassava, cassava flour, cassava waste, cashew nuts, corn, soybeans, fresh bananas, grapefruit, fresh mangoes, mango syrup, coconut oil, pepper, tobacco and mixed vegetables.

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50964166/in-just-one-day-cambodia-exported-more-than-41000-tons-of-agricultural-products-main-to-vietnam/>

Consumer loan demand rebounds 38 percent in third quarter, CBC says



Cambodia News | 03 November, 2021

There has been a surge in demand for consumer credit, according to Credit Bureau Cambodia (CBC),

with a 38 percent rise in applications for mortgages, credit cards and personal finance in the third quarter of the year. Applications for home loans rose by 39 percent, with 38 percent increases in personal finance and credit card applications compared with the previous quarter. "The consumer credit market in this quarter saw significant improvement, showing relatively higher demand, after the slowdown in the previous quarter", said CBC Chief Executive Officer Oeur Sothearoath. Consumer credit applications fell 34 percent in the second quarter of the year, with Coronavirus lockdowns limiting travel and spending for much of the period. The value of applications rose 45 percent in the July-September quarter, after falling 38 percent in the previous three months. The number of personal loan accounts crept up by 1.65 percent, bringing the total to 1.32 million accounts. Eight out of ten accounts were for personal finance loans with mortgage accounts making up just over one in ten and credit counts a little lower. The majority of customers held only one account with a single financial institution. The quality of loans improved slightly, with just 2.56 percent of the total being more than 30 days overdue (30+ DPD), compared with 2.57 percent in the second quarter. That was mainly driven by a large drop in overdue loans in the region covering Kampot, Kep, Preah Sihanouk and Koh Kong provinces, although they rose in other parts of the country. Overdue credit card payments were the biggest contributor to 30+ DPD at 5.17 percent of the total. CBC provides credit information and analysis to banks, microfinance

institutions and other lenders in Cambodia, allowing them to manage credit risk. It was launched in 2021 with the support of the National Bank of Cambodia, the Association of Banks of Cambodia, the Cambodian Microfinance Association and the International Finance Corporation.

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50963864/consumer-loan-demand-rebounds-38-percent-in-third-quarter-cbc-says/>

Republic of Korea provides US\$9 million for rural development.



Laos News | 04 November, 2021

The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry signed a Record of Discussion online on November 1 to initiate the Integrated Rural Development Project in Champassak, Saravan and Xekong provinces. The 5-year project is being implemented until 2025 with a total budget of US\$9 million. The project aims to develop participatory rural community for the successful implementation of the Sam Sang (Three Builds) directive of the government of Laos in line with the fundamentals of the Saemaul Undong (SMU, The New Village Movement) model. In particular, the project aims to create rural income generation, improve infrastructure, strengthen the capacity of communities and officials, and increase agricultural knowledge to guarantee food security in the Southern provinces, the KOICA Office in Laos stated. In addition, the project will build a training

center for capacity building in terms of agricultural production, processing and marketing for agricultural development. Speaking at the online signing ceremony, Acting Country Director of the KOICA Office, Mr Sangjun Kim, highlighted the successful features and lessons learned through the rural community development project from 2014-2021 and emphasized the need for the active participation of government officials and village residents. In ensuring the effectiveness of the project. Acting Director General of the Department of Rural Development and Cooperatives, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Mr Khamouane Khamphoukeo, stressed the importance of and urgent need for funding investment in remote rural areas.

Source : https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContent_Republic216.php

Old rice paddy fetches K8,000 per basket in Bamauk Township



Myanmar News | 03 November, 2021

The old paddy is offered at K8,000 per basket in Bamauk Township, Katha District of Sagaing Region, allowing the farmers to earn a healthy profit. The rice crop was earlier priced at only K4,000 per basket. This year, the traders bought the rice crop at K6,500-8,000 per basket and so, the farmers are doing financially okay. "The brokers purchased the paddy with the oversized basket last year and the farmers

do not earn a handsome profit with the input cost. The rise in price this year allows them to earn for livings. The fresh rice crop is priced K5,000 per basket for now," said U Min Oo, a farmer from Sinkan village. This year, about 80 to 100 baskets are reaped per acre. There are more than 4,000 farming acres in Bamauk Township. The residents prefer Chin 3 paddy varieties, according to the Agriculture Department. The floor price of the paddy which meets the prescribed criteria: 14-per-cent moisture content and a fixed percentage of impurities such as sand, weed, and small stones are set at K540,000 per 100 baskets (one basket is equivalent to 46 pounds). The committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Interests of Farmers has notified the brokers of purchasing the rice at K540,000 if the price will fall below the floor price. — Ni Toe/GNLM

Source : <https://www.gnln.com.mm/old-rice-paddy-fetches-k8000-per-basket-in-bamauk-township/#article-title>

Nike to expand operations in Vietnam



Vietnam News | 03 November, 2021

VOV.VN - Nike is committed to investing and expanding production in Vietnam, Chief Sustainability Officer Noel Kinder told Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh at a meeting on the sidelines of the 26th UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow on

November 2. Kinder informed Chinh that more than 100 Nike factories in localities have resumed production following a hiatus caused by the prolonged COVID-19 outbreak. He thanked the Vietnamese Government, its ministries, agencies and localities for their timely support to businesses in combating COVID-19 and restoring production. PM Chinh inquired into the firm's operation in Vietnam, saying the government had previously adopted tough administrative measures to curb the spread of the virus, which had partly affected production and business. Now when the vaccination coverage is increasing, Vietnam has gradually reopened its economy, he said. Kinder shared the view that the current situation has improved a lot, and that the firm is planning to expand operations in Vietnam. Last month, Vietnamese officials hit back at rumours that Nike had planned to move production out of Vietnam. Phan Thi Thanh Xuan, Vice Chairwoman and General Secretary of the Vietnam Leather and Footwear Association (Lefaso), said the information was not correct. "The complicated developments of COVID-19 in Vietnam have affected production of enterprises in the garment-textile and footwear sector, and Nike has moved a number of orders to other countries. But there was no such thing that Nike was moving production out of Vietnam," she affirmed. According to Xuan, 88 out of Nike's 112

factories in Vietnam are located in the Southeast region, which produce many best-selling Nike-branded sneaker products. Pham Tuan Anh, deputy director of the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MoIT)'s Industry Agency, echoed Xuan's rejection, recalling a recent meeting between the Vietnamese Prime Minister and FDI businesses, during which the CEO of Nike affirmed that Nike would not leave Vietnam. MoIT statistics show the first nine months of 2021 saw the footwear industry rake in US\$13.33 billion from exports, a year-on-year rise of 9.8%.

Source : <https://english.vov.vn/en/economy/nike-to-expand-operations-in-vietnam-902390.vov>

Five provinces set to welcome back int'l tourists this month



Vietnam News | 03 November, 2021

HCMC – The central Government has approved reopening international tourism services in five major tourist destinations this month, with no mandatory quarantine required for incoming foreigners. Phu Quoc City (Kien Giang Province), Khanh Hoa Province, Quang Nam Province, Quang Ninh Province and Danang City have been chosen to carry out a pilot scheme to welcome back foreign visitors as approved by Deputy Prime Minister Pham Binh Minh. The decision came after the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism proposed the scheme to the Government, the Government Office announced. The scheme will be executed in three phases. In the first phase starting from November,

all-in tours will be offered and foreigners will fly on charter or international commercial flights to designated areas in the five cities and provinces mentioned above. During the second phase starting from January next year, more tourists from more markets can join the pilot scheme. International tourists can travel to other tourist sites in the five localities after completing their seven-day tour to the first destination. The third phase will fully reopen to international tourists, depending on the Covid-19 situation and the results of the resumption of international tourism in the first and second phases. Tourists, including foreigners and overseas Vietnamese, must meet the following conditions: proof of full vaccination or proof of recovery from Covid and a negative RT-PCR test result taken within 72 hours before departure. Besides, they are required to have Covid-19 travel insurance coverage with a minimum level of US\$50,000 each and buy all-in tours from local travel firms. No vaccine mandate will be required for children aged below 12 who accompany their parents or guardians. The governments of the five localities must vaccinate all residents and employees active in the tourism sector against Covid and issue detailed guidelines on welcoming international tourists. Vietnam has closed its borders since the Covid pandemic hit the country in March last year.

Source : <https://english.thesaigontimes.vn/five-provinces-set-to-welcome-back-intl-tourists-this-month/>