

Highlight News / November 09, 2021



- Weekend domestic tourism still active in Cambodia but far cry from when it was open for foreign tourism
- A total of 13,963,921 people have received the first dose of COVID-19 vaccines since the first dose was administered on February 10
- Govt to push businesses to boost production for Chinese market
- From October to the end of September of the 2020-2021 fiscal year, just over \$ 3.791 billion in foreign investment in Myanmar
- Nearly 96 percent of firms in HCM City's IPs resume operations after social distancing
- Standard Chartered: Vietnam- a priority destination among emerging economies
Vietnam's rice export price outstrips Thailand's



ADVISORY INSTITUTE FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT BY TCC (AITI)

Weekend domestic tourism still active in Cambodia but far cry from when it was open for foreign tourism



Cambodia News | 08 November, 2021

The flow of tourists visiting the country continues to increase. Cambodia received a total of 174,543 visitors, including 169,532 national tourists and 5,011 domestic foreign guest. from November 6-7. According to Thong Khon, Minister of Tourism, the main tourist destinations included: Preah Sihanouk Province – 37,641 guests, Phnom Penh – 35,210 guests, Kampot Province – 16,501 guests, Siem Reap Province – 15,100 guests, Pursat province – 10,447 guests. Khon noted that although there are no national holidays, the flow of domestic tourists is still active every weekend. He said that tourist resorts and destinations across the country have opened to receive tourists, while tourism businesses that have been suspended in the past are also preparing to receive tourists as well as ready to receive tourists during the upcoming Water Festival as well. In order to prevent the spread of Covid-19, the Minister of Tourism observed that both business owners and tourists have a better understanding and have actively participated in the implementation of various measures, especially the “3 do not and 3 prevent” measures.

Source: <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50966669/week-end-domestic-tourism-still-active-in-cambodia-but-far-cry-from-when-it-was-open-for-foreign-tourism//>

A total of 13,963,921 people have received the first dose of COVID-19 vaccines since the first dose was administered on February 10



Cambodia News | 08 November, 2021

The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of National Defense, as of the night of November 7, vaccinated 13,963,921 people with COVID-19 vaccines throughout the country, striving to reach the 14.5 million people slated to be vaccinated soonest possible. The number of people vaccinated in four different age segments include: Adults aged 18 and above -10,035,265 people Adolescents aged 12 to 18 – 1,795,757 people, Children aged of 06 to 12 – 1,952,768 people, 5 years – 180,131 people The most successful of these four campaigns appears at current to be the children aged six to 12 who crossed the 100 percent vaccinated rapidly (first dose) and also rapidly approaching the completion of the two course vaccine doses at close to 1.8 million children. The vaccination of five year old children has also taken off at an amazing speed and in just seven days has reached 50.19 percent of the targeted 304,317. Cambodia has fully vaccinated a higher percentage of its 16 million plus population than any other Asian nation. More than 82 percent of Cambodians had received at least two doses as of November 3, according to ourworldindata.org. In global terms the Kingdom was number five, behind only the UAE, Portugal, Cuba and Chile. The Reuters Coronavirus Tracker puts Cambodia’s vaccination rate even

higher than ourworldindata.org, at 84.4 percent of the population, or more than 27.8 million doses. Plans are underway to vaccinate children aged three and four in the near future to fulfil the government's plan of fully-vaccinating 91 percent of Cambodians.

Source: <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50966706/a-total-of-13963921-people-have-received-the-first-dose-of-covid-19-vaccines-since-the-first-dose-was-administered-on-february-10/>

Govt to push businesses to boost production for Chinese market



Laos News | 9 November, 2021

The government is set to hold talks with business operators to encourage them to produce more of the goods required by Chinese buyers, Prime Minister Phankham Viphavanh told the National Assembly (NA). The premier was responding to questions raised during the ongoing second ordinary session of the NA's 9th legislature. Assembly members inquired about the government's plan to promote commercial production associated with the Laos-China railway, which is scheduled to come into service next month, to drive the economy. The government will hold talks with the Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry with the aim of encouraging businesses to invest in and produce nine categories of goods for which the Chinese government has given Laos an export quota. "We will figure out what the Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry plans to do and what it

wants from the government to facilitate production," he told lawmakers. He added that the government is ready to consider and offer supporting policies to maximise potential in this regard. Laos has received a quota to export cattle, rice, bananas, cassava, tea, watermelons, beans and rubber latex to China, according to a previous report. PM Phankham said China has allocated Laos a huge quota of cattle and rice for sale to its markets but that in reality Laos is able to supply very little of these products. He underlined the need for Lao entrepreneurs to partner with Chinese counterparts on the cultivation of crops for export to China, saying this would ease export procedure requirements. In fact, the government has been pushing for higher production for export to China for several years, but investment in this regard falls far short of enabling quota figures to be met. China has given Laos an annual quota of 50,000 tonnes of Lao rice and 500,000 cattle but producers have been able to supply fewer than 20,000 tonnes of rice and only about 2,000 cattle. "We can export more than 2,000 cattle, but we have no more cattle to export," the PM told Assembly members. He also told Assembly members that the government recently presented a plan to promote investment along the Laos-China railway to the Politburo. The premier told the session he had asked his deputy in charge of economic affairs, Dr Sonexay Siphandone, to finalise the plan and present it to NA members so

they could encourage businesses to invest in the production of goods.

Source: https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContent_Govt_to219.php

From October to the end of September of the 2020-2021 fiscal year, just over \$ 3.791 billion in foreign investment in Myanmar



Myanmar News | 08 November, 2021

From October to the end of September of the 2020-2021 fiscal year, just over \$ 3.791 billion in foreign investment entered Myanmar, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration. Foreign investment inflows in the 2020-2021 fiscal year, including increased sectoral investment, were \$ 9.988 million in the agricultural sector, \$ 19.698 million in the livestock and fisheries sector; \$ 286.023 million in the manufacturing sector; \$ 3121.323 million in the energy sector; \$ 133.5 million in the transport and communications sector; \$ 81 million in the hotel and tourism sector; \$ 8 million in real estate; The industrial estate sector received \$ 28.21 million and the other sector received \$ 103.656 million, bringing the total foreign investment to \$ 3791.398 million. The Myanmar Investment Commission has approved a total of 245 new ventures for foreign investment in the 2019-2020 fiscal year with a total investment of \$ 4.235 billion, and has approved a total investment increase of \$ 1.291 billion for 110 existing projects, including a

capital increase of \$ 5.56 billion. The Thilawa SEZ, on the other hand, allowed \$ 163.277 million in investment from eight foreign-invested enterprises, allowing \$ 5.689 billion in foreign investment in the 2019-2020 fiscal year, according to a summary report by the Myanmar Investment Commission for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. According to the Myanmar Investment Promotion Plan, foreign investment is expected to reach \$ 8.5 billion from the 2021-2022 fiscal year, but those targets have been revised due to the COVID-19 epidemic. Myanmar is implementing a 20-year Myanmar Investment Promotion Plan aimed at becoming a middle-income country by 2030.

Source: <https://news-eleven.com/article/217365>

Nearly 96 percent of firms in HCM City's IPs resume operations after social distancing



Vietnam News | 08 November, 2021

HCM City (VNA) – Nearly 96 percent of enterprises at 17 processing and industrial zones in Ho Chi Minh City have resumed operations after over one month after social distancing measures were lifted, according to the HCM City Export Processing and Industrial Zones Authority (HEPZA). More than 230,500 workers, or 80 percent of the total number, have returned to work. Notably, the rate hit 95-100 percent at some factories. Businesses are currently recruiting more labourers, HEPZA Director Hua Quoc Hung said, adding that many factories are stepping up operations to meet demand and handle

orders of their partners at home and abroad, particularly those in the year-end months. The number of workers at the processing and industrial zones of the southern hub fully vaccinated against COVID-19 has reached 94.4 percent so far, showing that the city's workforce has met requirements to bolster operations and production in the new normal. The firms also stopped operating in the 'three-on-site' and 'one route-two destinations' models while continuing to apply COVID-19 prevention and control measures in the new normal and boost economic recovery. Earlier, HEPZA set up a temporary concentrated quarantine establishment at a research facility of the Institute of High Technology at the HCM City University of Technology (HUTECH). The facility is designed to receive COVID-19 patients with mild symptoms or asymptomatic patients. There are two other quarantine sites at Thu Duc city's Linh Trung 2 processing zone and Cu Chi district's Dong Nam industrial park./.

Source: <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/nearly-96-percent-of-firms-in-hcm-citys-ips-resume-operations-after-social-distancing/214060.vnp>

Standard Chartered: Vietnam- a priority destination among emerging economies Vietnam's rice export price outstrips Thailand's



Vietnam News | 08 November, 2021

VOV.VN - Standard Chartered Bank has identified the nation as one of the priority destinations among

emerging economies due to its development potential and open-door policy. These remarks were made by Jose Vinals, group chairman of the bank, during the course of a dialogue with Vietnamese Minister of Industry and Trade Nguyen Hong Dien held within the framework of Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh's recent trip to COP26 in Glasgow, the UK. Minister Dien stated that the country will devise necessary institutions in a bid to reinforce the internal strength of the national economy and raise the competitiveness of Vietnamese enterprises. These institutions will thereby help businesses to take full advantage of various free trade agreements (FTAs), particularly in export activities whilst meeting the needs of the domestic market. Furthermore, the Vietnam Ministry of Industry and Trade will move to speed up digital transformation in all production fields and trade, whilst also pursuing a sustainable development model. Vietnamese industrial policy orientations include seeking cleaner, greener production and using energy in a more economical and efficient manner. This is in addition to the development of basic and supporting industries based on achievements of Industry 4.0. Minister Dien incentivised investors to build projects in line with the nation's overall industrial development strategy. In response, Vinals highlighted Standard Chartered's investment ability to promote technology transfer whilst simultaneously contributing economic benefits to the country. Moreover, there remains an opportunity for the nation to become one of the world's important factories, with the country able to

participate intensively in the global value chain. He went on to express his confidence that his bank's investment strategy is compatible with Vietnamese priority development areas. Standard Chartered is one of the first five international banks to be present in the nation, officially operating a local branch back in 2009. Standard Chartered Bank was voted the best priority bank in Vietnam by International Finance Magazine in 2017 and 2018, the best e-retail bank in Vietnam in 2018 and 2019, and the best foreign retail bank in Vietnam in 2021.

Source: <https://english.vov.vn/en/economy/standard-chartered-vietnam-a-priority-destination-among-emerging-economies-903554.vov>
