

Highlight News / November 29, 2021



- Bangkok-Phnom Penh flights by Thai Air Asia to resume in December
- Cambodia registers \$39 billion in FDIs during first six months
- Laos On Alert for Omicron Covid-19 Variant
- Fresh black-eyed peas enter Mandalay market at high price
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ADVISORY INSTITUTE FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT BY TCC (AITI)

Bangkok-Phnom Penh flights by Thai Air Asia to resume in December



Cambodia News | 26 November, 2021

Following Cambodia's announcement of quarantine-free entry for vaccinated foreign travellers, AirAsia recently announced the resumption of its international flight service from Bangkok (Don Mueang) to Phnom Penh, Cambodia, starting Dec 22 with three flights weekly on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. All-in fares for BIG members start at 1,690 baht per trip, available for booking from Nov 18-28 for travel from Dec 22–March 25. Promotional seats are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Cambodia is allowing quarantine-free visits for individuals who are fully vaccinated in accordance with World Health Organization requirements no less than 14 days prior to departure and that have a negative RT-PCR test for Covid-19 (received at least 72 hours prior to travel). Travellers will need to submit a negative rapid test result on arrival that takes about 15 minutes to administer. A 14-day quarantine still applies to non-vaccinated travellers. <https://www.bangkokpost.com/travel/2221335/bangkok-phnom-penh-flights-to-resume>

Source:<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50977872/bangkok-phnom-penh-flights-by-thai-air-asia-to-resume-in-december/>

Cambodia registers \$39 billion in FDIs during first six months



Cambodia News | 15 November, 2021

Cambodia licensed new foreign direct investments totalling \$39 billion in the first semester this year, a year-on-year increase of 9.6 percent, the National Bank of Cambodia's statistics showed today. China was the largest source of registered foreign investment with \$17.3 billion or 44.2 percent of the total registered investment capital. South Korea ranked second with registered investment capital of \$4.1, followed by Vietnam and Singapore with \$2.5 billion and \$2.4 billion, respectively. The FDIs from other countries were Japan \$2.3 billion, Malaysia \$1.8 billion, Thailand US\$1.8 billion, UK \$1.3 billion, Canada \$1 billion, and another \$0.8 million from the US. The licensed FDIs cover mainly agriculture, manufacturing, finance, hotel and restaurants, construction, hydropower dams and real estate. The finance sector accounted for 21.9 percent of licensed investments or \$8.5 billion, followed by manufacturing with 20.9 percent or \$7.8 billion.

Source:<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50978345/cambodia-registers-39-billion-in-fdis-during-first-six-months/>

Laos On Alert for Omicron Covid-19 Variant



Laos News | 29 November, 2021

The National Taskforce for Covid-19 Prevention and Control says the country is on high alert for the new

Omicron variant. The Taskforce said yesterday that the World Health Organization (WHO) had warned countries of the new B.1.1.529 variant of Covid-19, dubbed "Omicron," which was first recorded in South Africa on 24 November. According to a statement by the Taskforce yesterday, the new variant could be much more transmissible than previous variants of the virus. The WHO says this variant has a large number of mutations, some of which are concerning, while preliminary evidence suggests an increased risk of reinfection with this variant. The number of cases of Omicron appears to be increasing in almost all provinces in South Africa. The Laos Taskforce has urged residents to take extra precautions against Covid-19, saying that the variant could appear in the population at any time. It has also urged everyone to be vaccinated as soon as is possible. Meanwhile, the Taskforce says it will begin testing to see which variants are present among Covid-19 patients in Laos. The government and relevant authorities will hold a meeting to discuss the Omicron variant and decide if new measures should be implemented in response to the threat.

Source: <https://laotiantimes.com/2021/11/29/laos-on-alert-for-omicron-covid-19-variant/>

Fresh black-eyed peas enter

Mandalay market at high price



Myanmar News | 27 November, 2021

The harvest time is earlier than the previous years. It fetched K120,000 per three-basket bag last year, whereas the price climbed up to K152,000 per bag this year. The newly harvested black-eyed peas are flowing into the Mandalay market at a high price. The harvest time is earlier than the previous years. It fetched K120,000 per three-basket bag last year, whereas the price climbed up to K152,000 per bag this year. The opening price is pretty high this year, according to Soe Win Myint depot. "The bean is also known as Nadaw bean as it is usually harvested in the early Nadaw month (ninth month on the Myanmar Calendar). Some regard this as a gem as it allows the farmers to earn well every year. It is mostly delivered to external markets; India, China, Japan and European countries. European countries prefer black-eyed beans. Furthermore, the border post is going to resume its operations on a trial run soon. Consequently, Chinese buyers are going to purchase for sure", Soe Win Myint, an owner of the depot elaborated. It is primarily produced in Kyaukse, Madaya, Singu, Wundwin, Thaedaw, Monywa, Pakokku, Salin, Sinphyukyun, Hinthada, Zalun and Kayan Thongwa townships. Myanmar has shipped more than 48,336 tonnes of black-eyed peas to the international trade partners as of 20 August in the current financial year 2020-2021 since October 2020, generating a revenue of US\$26.7

million, Myanmar Customs Department's statistics showed. — Min Htet Aung/GNLM

Source: <https://www.gnlnm.com.mm/fresh-black-eyed-peas-enter-mandalay-market-at-high-price/#article-title>

New foreign investment approvals seen hitting US\$30 billion this year



Vietnam News | 15 November, 2021

HCMC – Vietnam attracted US\$2.72 billion in new foreign investment approvals in November, raising the total in the January-November period to US\$26.46 billion. The figure for all of 2021 is projected to reach US\$30 billion. The US\$30 billion level is considered feasible as investors from the United States, Europe, Japan, South Korea and Singapore have expressed their confidence in Vietnam's investment environment and post-Covid-19 economic recovery. According to statistics from the Foreign Investment Agency under the Ministry of Planning and Investment, from January to November, foreign investors registered to invest nearly US\$14.1 billion in nearly 1,600 projects, up 3.76% in the total registered capital but plunging 31.8% in the number of new projects. Meanwhile, 877 existing projects added US\$8 billion, down 16.6% in the number of projects but rising 26.7% in capital compared with the same period last year. In addition, foreign investors conducted nearly 3,500 transactions to contribute funds and acquire shares in local firms with total capital of some US\$4.4 billion, dropping 40.4% and 33%, respectively, over the

year-ago period. Foreign investors injected capital into 18 sectors, with the processing and manufacturing sector attracting the most capital, at more than US\$14 billion, accounting for 53% of the registered capital. The electricity production and distribution sector came in second with over US\$5.7 billion. In the 11-month period, 100 countries and territories invested in Vietnam. Singapore was the biggest investor with over US\$7.6 billion, making up 28.7% of Vietnam's total foreign investment approvals. It was followed by South Korea with US\$4.36 billion and Japan with US\$3.7 billion. However, only US\$17.1 billion of foreign investment was disbursed in the 11-month period, down 4.2% year-on-year.

Source: <https://english.thesaigontimes.vn/new-foreign-investment-approvals-seen-hitting-us30-billion-this-year/>

Vietnam boats advantages in foreign investment attraction



Vietnam News | 28 November, 2021

Hanoi (VNA) – Vietnam is assessed to have plenty of room to compete for foreign direct investment (FDI) against major competitors in the current global production shift, said Nguyen Bich Lam, former Director General of the General Statistics Office. In an inclusive interview with the Vietnam News Agency, Lam cited the 2021 investment report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) which said in 2020, Vietnam attracted 16 billion USD of FDI, entering the top 20 countries in

the world in terms of FDI attraction for the first time. Despite COVID-19, in the first ten months, 23.74 billion USD worth of FDI were poured into 18 sectors in Vietnam, with processing and manufacturing obtaining the lion's share of the sum, at 53.7 percent or 12.74 billion USD. This meant that foreign investors are placing great trust in Vietnam as part of the global supply chain. Also in the period, 7.09 billion USD were added to existing FDI projects in the nation, up 24.2 percent year-on-year, while foreign capital contribution and share purchase reached 3.63 billion USD. In the ten months, Vietnam reeled in 267.93 billion USD worth of export turnover, up 28.2 percent annually. Of the sum, the FDI sector contributed more than 196.7 billion USD, an annual increase of 20.3 percent. The foreign-invested sector's import value, meanwhile, reached nearly 176.9 billion USD, up 31.3 percent over the same period last year and accounting for 65.7 percent of the country's total. Regarding Vietnam's advantages in attracting foreign investment, Lam said the macro environment and politics are stable, the economy is dynamic, and the consumption market is expanding with abundant supply sources. He also listed consistent policies for foreign investment attraction and improving business climate. In addition, Vietnam is a member of many large-scale multilateral and bilateral trade agreements such as the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP); Vietnam – EU Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA); and Vietnam's several bilateral trade agreements with the US, the

Republic of Korea, Japan, and the UK. Lam noted that in order to effectively attract and maintain foreign investment in Vietnam, the Government and relevant ministries, sectors, and localities need to implement a number of solutions. Specifically, in the coming time, the Government should to review and promptly adjust foreign investment policies to keep up with fluctuations of the global economy and changes in FDI attraction strategies of other countries. He also stressed the necessity to build and maintain such competitive advantages as open investment conditions and transparent legal system; to consolidate the stable macro foundation; and to have the right strategy in handling the COVID-19 epidemic and speed up the vaccination process./.

Source: <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/vietnam-boats-advantages-in-foreign-investment-attraction/216208.vnp>
