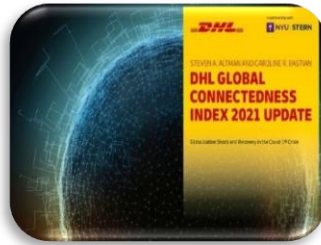


*Highlight News / December 09/2021*



- Cambodia, Philippines boost business and economic cooperation
- Major trade pacts, FTAs bolster Cambodia's GCI ranking
- Lao Airlines, bus station have no plans to compete with railway
- 2021-2022 (Mini Budget) Within a month and a half, overseas by sea and border
- Vietnamese animal feed imports continue to rise
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## Cambodia, Philippines boost business and economic cooperation



*Cambodia News | 08 December, 2021*

The Cambodia Chamber of Commerce and the Philippine Chamber of Commerce have agreed to promote and strengthen business and economic cooperation. The two parties signed a Memorandum of Understanding recently. Kith Meng, President of Cambodia Chamber of Commerce and AMB. Benedicto V. Yujuico, President of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce were the signatories. The virtual MoU signing was held during the 3rd Meeting of the Cambodia-Philippines Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation (JCBC) and witnessed by Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and Honorable Teodoro L. Locsin Jr., Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines. The MoU is aimed to promote and strengthen business and economic cooperation between Cambodia and the Philippines in various fields such as ICT and innovation, agriculture, manufacturing, franchising, tourism, services, and SME development, read a press release. "Both chambers will regularly exchange information, organise trade and investment mission, hold seminar and conferences, organise exhibitions and arrange business matchings," it added. Both chambers agreed to establish a Philippines-Cambodia Business Council based in the Philippines and Cambodia-Philippines Business Council in

Cambodia that will meet to discuss, plan, and implement joint initiatives. Chea Vannak – AKP

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50984602/cambodia-philippines-boost-business-and-economic-cooperation/>

## Major trade pacts, FTAs bolster

### Cambodia's GCI ranking



*Cambodia News | 08 December, 2021*

Cambodia has exceeded expectations with an unexpectedly strong showing in the latest Global Connectedness Index (GCI). The GCI is an annual study that looks into and measures how individual countries contribute to globalisation. The ranking is based on international trade, people flows, capital, information, among other factors. The study was conducted by DHL, one of the world's leading logistics and international courier companies. "It examines key developments within these four dimensions and considers the impact of current trends as well as future drivers in each area," the DHL website said. "The special 10th anniversary report highlights positive relationship between global connectedness and economic prosperity and reveals key lessons for boosting connectedness," it added. The latest study, which was released early this week, involved 169 countries and territories from Asia, North America, South America, Africa, Europe and Oceania. Cambodia was ranked 46th globally in the 2021 GCI. The Kingdom is ranked fifth among countries in Southeast Asia, after Singapore (2nd globally), Malaysia (16th), Thailand (30th) and Vietnam (38th). Singapore, Vietnam and Cambodia

far exceeded their expectations, according to DHL. Cambodia was ranked 49th in the same survey two year ago. Cambodia's surprise showing in the study was largely attributed to its membership in regional and other international trade blocs and free trade agreements (FTAs) with South Korea, China and other countries. Cambodia is part of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (RCEP), which will take effect early next year. The Kingdom also entered into an FTA with China and South Korea this year. The Cambodia-China FTA will take effect starting January 1, 2022. Cambodia will also be part of a proposed FTA between ASEAN and Canada. The agreement was discussed during an online meeting in June between business leaders and diplomats from Canada and the 10 countries that comprised ASEAN. An FTA between Cambodia and the Eurasian Economic Union or EAEU is under consideration, according to local media reports.

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50984476/major-trade-pacts-ftas-bolster-cambodias-gci-ranking/>

## Lao Airlines, bus station have no plans to compete with railway



*Laos News | 09 December, 2021*

Lao Airlines and the Northern Bus Station in Vientiane do not plan to make any changes to their services or ticket prices in a bid to attract customers and lure them away from travel on the Laos-China railway. At present, more people are turning up at railway stations than at airports and bus stations, with train travel being cheaper than flights and much

faster than travel by bus. Director of Lao Airlines' Commercial Department, Mr Noudeng Chanthaphasouk, told Vientiane Times the opening of the Laos-China would not have much effect on the airline's operations, adding that people were wanting to use trains right now because it was something new and the trains were fast. Lao Airlines has few customers these days after cutting flights because of the Covid-19 outbreak, but people are continuing to travel by air because it is fast and easy, Mr Noudeng said. The national flag carrier has no plans to run a promotion campaign to attract more customers. However, if demand slumps the airline will cut the number of scheduled flights. But if passenger numbers return to previous levels, the number of flights will be increased, he added. Describing the situation at the Northern Bus Station, an official in charge of operations, who asked not to be named, said customer numbers had dropped dramatically because of the Covid outbreak. Fewer people were making trips to the provinces and those who could afford it were now travelling by train. However, the bus station still has regular customers and is open for service despite the large number of people preferring to make journeys by train. There are no plans to reduce ticket prices to attract more customers because fuel is expensive, the bus station official said. People turned up in droves at Vientiane train station last weekend when the Laos-China

railway officially opened for service on December 4. Many people are keen to take a ride on the train and sample the novel experience of travelling rapidly through the Lao countryside on an elevated track. The opening of the 426-km railway is a milestone for Laos and should be a game changer as the country strives to become an integral part of regional supply chains and integrate itself economically with the rest of the world. Built according to Chinese technical standards, the railroad connects Vientiane with Kunming in China over a distance of 1,035 kilometres. Trains can travel at a top speed of 160 kilometres per hour. This means the journey time between Vientiane and Kunming is just 10 hours, including the time taken for customs clearance.

Source : [https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeConten\\_LaoAirlines241.php](https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeConten_LaoAirlines241.php)

## 2021-2022 (Mini Budget) Within a month and a half, overseas by sea and border



*Myanmar News | 08 December, 2021*

In the one-and-a-half month 2021-2022 (Mini Budget), more than \$ 77 million was earned from seaborne and cross-border exports, and more than \$ 75 million from seaborne trade, according to the Ministry of Commerce. 2021-2022 (Mini Budget) From October 1 to November 19, more than 169,827

tons of pulses were exported by sea and across the border, earning \$ 144.04 million, according to the Ministry of Commerce. From October 1 to November 19 of the 2021-2022 fiscal year, 160,792,537 tons were exported by sea and \$ 135.546 million. Of the 9,034,826 tonnes exported from the border, \$ 8.458 million was worth US \$ 144.04 million from the total export of 169,827.363 tonnes. From October to the end of September of the 2020-2021 fiscal year, pulses exports amounted to US \$ 966.407 million. A total of \$ 150.707 million was raised from the border, \$ 604.3 million. The Indian government has signed an MOU to import 250,000 tonnes of pulses and 100,000 tonnes of pulses from Myanmar through the private sector from fiscal year 2021-2022 to fiscal year 2025-2026, according to the Ministry of Commerce. The two sides have been negotiating since 2016 to sign the GtoG Memorandum of Understanding (Draft) on Pulses and Pulses Trade Cooperation between Myanmar and India. At present, a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Pulses and Pulses Trade between Myanmar and India is being signed under the GtoG program to promote pulses and pulses trade between Myanmar and India, depending on the volume and consumption needs of Myanmar and India. The agreement was signed between the two governments on June 18. According to the MoU, the

Indian government will import 250,000 tonnes of pulses and 100,000 tonnes of pulses from Myanmar annually through private trade between the next five years, 2021-2022 to 2025-2026 (April to March), according to the Ministry of Commerce. The G to G MOU will not affect the annual international bean quota issued by the Government of India, and Myanmar bean exporters will be able to participate in the international quota. In the 2019-2020 fiscal year, more than 1.6 million tonnes of pulses were exported, earning nearly \$ 1.2 billion, down from more than 23,000 tonnes from the previous year, but increased to nearly \$ 190 million, according to the Ministry of Commerce. Last fiscal year, 1.63 million tonnes of pulses were exported, earning only \$ 1.026 billion, according to the Ministry of Commerce. Myanmar produces locally sourced legumes. Green peas The three main types of pulses are pulses. Among them, pulses and green peas are mainly exported to India, while green peas are mainly exported to China and some European countries. Myanmar produces over 11 million acres of pulses annually, accounting for more than 35% of the total production of pulses and pulses. In Myanmar, a total of 11.45 million acres of pulses are cultivated annually for 18 varieties of pulses. Standing 25 percent; Pulses account for 15% and lentils for 8%.

Source : <https://news-eleven.com/article/22150>

## Vietnamese animal feed imports continue to rise



*Vietnam News | 08 December, 2021*

**HÀ NỘI** — Việt Nam is the largest corn importer in Southeast Asia and is forecast to be the fifth-largest importer in the world, opening the door for foreign animal feed suppliers to expand their trade in the country. According to the General Department of Customs (GDC), the import turnover of animal feed and raw materials reached nearly US\$4.14 billion in the past 10 months, up 29 per cent on the same period in 2020. The GDC estimates that this number will continue to grow, providing opportunities for corn and fermented by-products (DDGS) exporters around the world to increase their trade with Việt Nam. In the first 10 months of 2021, the biggest importer was Argentina with 35 per cent of the market, reaching \$1.45 billion, up 11.4 per cent over the same period in 2020. The US followed with 16.7 per cent, reaching \$692.36 million thanks to a sharp increase of 66.3 per cent over the same period. Accounting for 11.8 per cent of the total, imports from Brazil also increased sharply by 42.2 per cent, reaching \$487.37 million. In the same period, the import of the products from the EU market increased sharply by 47.4 per cent, reaching \$337.76 million. Import from the Southeast Asian market increased by 18 per cent, reaching \$297.29 million. According

to the latest report by the Foreign Agricultural Service of the USDA, aquaculture, shellfish or other species are becoming increasingly in-demand in Việt Nam, creating more opportunities for feed ingredient exporters to enter the country. Along with corn, US livestock and aqua feed exports like dry cereal flour and DDGS have grown rapidly over the past decade. Việt Nam is currently one of the leading importers of this product from the US, especially of DDGS as an animal feed ingredient with high protein and energy content. Currently, Việt Nam is the largest corn importer in Southeast Asia and is forecast to be the fifth-largest corn importer globally in 2021 and 2022, said the report. It is forecast that Việt Nam's import demand for corn and grain by-products for animal feed will triple over the next ten years. Corn will account for the majority, while the rest will be wheat and barley, reflecting the trends of the meat industry. Although overall meat production in Việt Nam decreased in 2019, due to the impact of Asian Swine Flu on pork production, chicken and beef production both increased during this period. It is forecast that per capita meat consumption in Việt Nam will also increase. According to USDA, besides the recovery of pork production and the expansion of beef and poultry production, Việt Nam's growing aquaculture industry will present greater opportunities for corn and DDGS exporters. Nguyễn Thanh Sơn,

Chairman of the Vietnam Poultry Breeding Association, said the animal feed industry had the highest growth and development on average over the past ten years. Sơn said: "The industry has grown by 13-15 per cent per year in both volume and value. This is also the most profitable industry. Many big companies are rushing into the animal feed industry because it is a lucrative market." Ông Xuân Chinh, Deputy Director of the Department of Livestock Production under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), said the animal feed production industry is vital, accounting for 65-70 per cent of the value and production, which greatly affects the price of livestock products. Chinh said: "Every year we need between 32-33 million tonnes of animal feed of all kinds, of which more than 7 million tonnes are produced by farmers using raw materials and mixing according to the instructions of the agricultural industry. The remaining, including animal and aqua feed, is produced by enterprises. "The Vietnamese animal feed industry is the best in Southeast Asia and 10th in the world in terms of technology, according to Chinh. Besides investment in technology, businesses are also spending more on factories and production workshops. Large enterprises and corporations such as CP and Deheus are building production plants in the Northwest and Central Highlands, and other foreign enterprises will invest in modern equipment and



production lines. Chinh said: “Việt Nam is a great potential market in terms of husbandry as it is not only to meet the demand for meat and eggs for 97 million people in the country, but it also plans to export livestock products. Exported livestock products have brought in about \$1 billion in value.” Chinh also discussed why Việt Nam does not produce feed but imports it instead. He said: “It is an economic issue. Việt Nam is more suitable for growing rice and rice sells better than corn, which is feed material.” Chinh calculated that one kilo of corn is valued at about VNĐ7,000-8,000, compared to between VNĐ12,000 and VNĐ13,000 for the same amount of rice. However, Chinh said that his department would produce a draft project to develop the animal feed processing industry between 2021 and 2030, including solutions that take advantage of agricultural by-products to produce feed. Part of these plans would be to shift about 500,000 hectares of inefficient rice land into biomass corn for production as a short term solution. In the medium and long term, Chinh said Việt Nam must be active in the seed development of corn and soybean as they are feed materials, as well as developing larger fields and applying technologies in their production. Chinh said the Land Law must be revised to fit with the growing demand. — VNS

Source : <https://vietnamnews.vn/economy/1094879/vietnamese-animal-feed-imports-continue-to-rise.html>

## Vietnamese startups succeed in attracting large investment amounts



*Vietnam News | 08 December, 2021*

Despite the severe COVID-19 pandemic, the Vietnamese startup ecosystem is witnessing an impressive growth, with various startup projects being successful in gaining millions of dollars of capital this year. In June 2021, KKR – a leading global investment firm that manages multiple alternative asset classes – announced its investment of US\$100 million in EQuest, a Vietnamese educational startup. Similarly, in September 2021, goods shipping startup Ninja Van successfully attracted over US\$500 million in the Series E funding round from such investors as Geopost/DPDgroup - the parcel delivery network of GeoPost, BCapital Group, Monk's Hill Ventures and Zamrud – the investment fund of the Nation of Brunei. This amount is used to expand operations domestically and internationally. Another promising startup named Momo, member of Online Mobile Services JSC. (M\_Service) was able to complete its Series D funding round to gain more than US\$100 million from investors globally. Nitin Saigal, Co-founder cum Chief Investment Officer of Kora Management, shared that it is a pleasure to work with Momo to provide excellent financial services to citizens nationwide via its 120,000 stations. Lately, VNG Corporation has announced its investment of US\$22.5 million in startup Tello – a Business-to-Business (B2B) e-commerce platform. This helps

Telio to grow sustainably and expand its commercial activities. In addition, VNG aids Telio to increase its popularity on Zalo platform so that its agencies find it easier to digitalize as well as tracking orders. Statistics reveal that the total value of investment deals in Vietnamese innovative startups since the beginning of 2021 is over US\$290 million. Before that, in the Vietnam Innovative Startup Investment Fund Forum held at the end of 2020, 33 investment funds committed to pour more than US\$810 million in innovative startups nationwide in a five-year period from 2021. A similar report from Do Ventures and Vietnam National Innovation Center (NIC), during the first nine months of this year, the total capital for Vietnamese startups reached US\$600 million, with expectations to increase to US\$1 billion – the highest ever. “Startups are always in thirst of investments, especially during their incubation period. To earn that capital, these startups need to show off their development potential. In spite of the negative impact of the pandemic on social and economic aspects, investment funds in the world still maintain their search for promising startups”, informed Huynh Kim Tuoc, Director of Saigon Innovation Hub.

Source : <https://english.vov.vn/en/economy/vietnamese-startups-succeed-in-attracting-large-investment-amounts-910165.vov>

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