

Highlight News / April 04, 2022



- Cambodia receives \$2.4 billion worth of FDI in first three months of 2022
- Cambodia's agricultural exports up 3.41 percent in Q1
- India funds four development projects in Laos
- Strong demand drives tamarind price up in Mandalay market
- Vietnam to import coal from Australia amid power shortage fears
- Thailand, Vietnam tighten ties to achieve \$25bn in trade value



ADVISORY INSTITUTE FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT BY TCC (AITI)

## Cambodia receives \$2.4 billion worth of FDI in first three months of 2022



*Cambodia News | 03 April , 2022*

In the first three months of 2022, from January to March, the Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC) approved a total of 43 investment projects under an investment of more than \$2.4 billion. A report from the Council for the Development of Cambodia said that the 43 investment projects, most comprised establishment of garment factories, processing plant for fruit packaging, project to produce tires and many other projects. Oknha Lim Heng, Vice President of the Cambodian Chamber of Commerce, emphasized that the approval of the new project is a good sign for Cambodia. The tycoon expressed optimism that the implementation of the Cambodia-China, Cambodia-Korea Free Trade Agreement, as well as the implementation of the Comprehensive Trade Agreement (RCEP), while Cambodia still has the EBA as well as the GSP with the European Union, the United States and Britain also believes that investment is still on the rise. Tycoon Lim Heng said that while some countries in the region that enjoy the same tariffs as Cambodia are facing political crises as well as the spread of Covid-19, orders from those countries are turning to Cambodia. Create new factories in Cambodia.

Source:<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501051822/cambodia-receives-2-4-billion-worth-of-fdi-in-first-three-months-of-2022/>

## Cambodia's agricultural exports up 3.41 percent in Q1



*Cambodia News | 03 April , 2022*

Some 2,354,906 tonnes of agricultural products, besides milled rice and paddy rice, have been exported to foreign markets during the first three months of this year. The figure represents an increase by 3.41 percent compared to the same period in 2021, according to a report from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries. Cambodia exported 64 types of agricultural products, apart from milled rice and paddy rice, to different countries around the world, generating an estimated income of nearly \$874 million. The exported agricultural products included mainly cassava, cashew nuts, corn, fresh banana, pomelos, mangoes, pepper, and chili. Cambodia exported 170,539 tonnes of milled rice from January to March, 2022, netting more than \$145 million. The update was shared on April 1 by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF), stressing that the total milled rice export increased by 10.96 percent compared to the same period in 2021. Of the exported milled rice, 120,422 tonnes or 70.61 percent were fragrant rice, while white rice accounted for 26.63 percent or 48,827 tonnes, and parboiled rice 0.76 percent or 1,290 tonnes. China remains the biggest market importing 88,646 tonnes of Cambodian milled rice, followed by EU countries and ASEAN nations buying 47,674 tonnes and 17,310 tonnes of the product respectively.

Source:<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501051821/cambodias-agricultural-exports-up-3-41-percent-in-q1/>

## Thailand sends fruit to China using Lao railway



*Laos News | 04 April, 2022*

The Government of India is providing US\$184,677 to finance four projects relating to the improvement of facilities in the health, trade and education sectors in Laos. The funding has been made available under the Quick Impact Projects of the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation Framework. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the projects was signed last week, attended by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Ting Souksan and the Ambassador of India to Laos, Mr Dinkar Asthana. Under the agreement a healthcare centre will be built in Viengxay Village, Phouvong district, Attapeu province, and new classrooms will be built at Kalangphou Primary School in Nong district, Savannakhet province. Another project will improve organic coffee production and diversification of the rural economy and capacity building of locals in Namvang village, Viengphouka district, Luang Namtha province, while the fourth project will see the construction of new classrooms at Kaleum Secondary School in Xekong province. Speaking at the MOU signing ceremony, Mr Ting said the Indian government placed great importance on cooperation with Laos within the framework of

bilateral and multilateral cooperation, in particular by contributing to Laos' socio-economic development and improving the quality of life of local people. The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs promised that Laos would continue to work closely with India as the co-chair of the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation Framework Summit in 2022. India, as a partner in the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation Framework, announced the launch of the Quick Impact Project in 2012, by allocating US\$1 million a year to member states to implement small-scale projects at a cost not exceeding US\$50,000 per project. Since the establishment of the Quick Impact Projects in 2012, Laos has approved 11 projects, valued at US\$532,677 in total. The projects help deliver tangible results that improve people's living standards across the sub-region, in Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

Source:[https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContent\\_Indai\\_65\\_22.php](https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContent_Indai_65_22.php)

## Strong demand drives tamarind price up in Mandalay market



*Myanmar News | 02 April, 2022*

Mandalay market sees brisk buying of tamarind on the back of strong demand by foreign and domestic markets, resulting in the price rise as well. Last year, during the pre-Thingyan Festival, the price of seeded tamarinds was K1,000 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes), while the seedless ones fetched

K2,200 per viss. This year, the seeded tamarind is worth K1,800 per viss, and the prices of seedless ones stand at K3,600 per viss, said the Soe Win Myint depot owner in Mandalay. "This year, tamarind businesses are thriving. The yield is also expected to drop. The competitive buying between the domestic dealers and the foreign trade partners hikes the price up. Furthermore, the price is likely to remain higher due to the low inventory," he elaborated. Tamarinds are yearly sent to China, India and Bangladesh. The central Myanmar region (Kyaukpadaung, Popa, Pakokku, Myaing, Yamethin, Zeepingyi and Pinlebu towns) is the primary producer of tamarinds. They are abundantly supplied to the market during Myanmar Thingyan New Year Festival. Myanmar shipped US\$9.6 million worth of 20,662 metric tons in the 2021-2022 Financial Year, which was an increase of 9,796 tonnes (estimated value of \$5.6 million) compared to the 2020-2021FY. Tamarind trees are primarily found in the central Myanmar regions – Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway. They can be harvested only once a year in summer. Myanmar people use tamarind in traditional cuisine besides making traditional medicines. It is also a commercially valued export item. — Min Htet Aung, KK/GNLM

Source: <https://www.gnlm.com.mm/strong-demand-drives-tamarind-price-up-in-mandalay-market/#article-title>

## Vietnam to import coal from Australia amid power shortage fears



*Vietnam News | 02 April, 2022*

Vietnam wants to import around five million tonnes of coal from Australia amid a domestic shortage that has forced power plants to cut production. Apprising Australian ambassador Robyn Mudie about this on Friday Minister of Industry and Trade Nguyen Hong Dien sought his help to link up Vietnamese companies with their Austrian counterparts so that they could start buying the coal this month. Australia is one of the world's biggest coal exporters. The trade ministry is also looking for sources in South Africa. National utility Vietnam Electricity (EVN) said this week that several thermal power plants in the northern and central regions are cutting down production to 60-70 percent due to a coal shortage. It also warned of the risk of power shortages from this month. But the trade ministry has said there will be no power shortages this year. It is mobilizing around 3,700 megawatts from other coal- and gas-fired plants and renewable and hydropower sources. EVN said that by 2025 another 5,500 megawatts of renewables is needed to ward off power shortages. It has also called for incentives for rooftop solar. The company is seeking the government's permission to build wind power plants in the north. Most plants now are in the central and southern regions. Coal-fired plants accounted for 43.6 percent of total power generation in February, according to EVN. Vietnam promised to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 at

the U.N. Climate Change Conference in the U.K. last November.

Source:<https://e.vnexpress.net/news/economy/vietnam-to-import-coal-from-australia-amid-power-shortage-fears-4446631.html>

## Thailand, Vietnam tighten ties to achieve \$25bn in trade value



*Vietnam News | 03 April, 2022*

Thailand and Vietnam have pledged to tighten economic cooperation in a bid to push the value of bilateral trade to US\$25 billion by 2025. The resolution was made at a discussion between the Thai ambassador to Vietnam, Nikordej Balankura, and Vietnam PM Pham Minh Chinh in Hanoi on March 31. The two met to discuss economic cooperation at bilateral, sub-regional and multi-national levels. At the discussion, Nikordej also proposed and won the premier's promise that shipping Thai fruits to China via Vietnam would be made easier. He said the premier promised full cooperation in allowing Thailand to use Vietnam as a conduit to China. The ambassador also asked the premier to open the door to investments in Vietnam, especially in the alternative energy sector. He said more Thais are interested in investing in Vietnam and so far, a third of the investments made by Thais have been in the energy sector. He added that allowing Thais to invest in the clean energy sector will also help Vietnam achieve its net-zero carbon emissions goal by 2050. The ambassador said Thailand hopes to be among the top five foreign investors in Vietnam

soon. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh congratulated Thailand for successfully setting up the ThaiCham, or chamber of commerce and industry, in Vietnam to assist and drive bilateral investments. The two sides also discussed cooperation in the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS). Nikordej proposed that Thailand and Vietnam link up supplies for industries in both countries. The prime minister, meanwhile, also pledged support for Thailand during the hosting of the Apec Summit in November.

Source:<https://www.nationthailand.com/business/40>

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