

Highlight News / May 12, 2022



- \$90 million-worth electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure in three provinces inaugurated
- Cambodia, Sri Lanka to promote tourism cooperation
- Occupational Opportunities - the first “dream camp fighting underemployment”
- Myanmar-Thailand border trade down by \$12.79 mln in April
- Many Vietnam-Laos border gates reopen as pandemic subsides



Advisory Institute for Trade and Investment by TCC (AiTi)



\$90 million-worth electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure in three provinces inaugurated



Cambodia News | 11 May, 2022

The Ministry of Mines and Energy has inaugurated substation transmission lines and distribution networks in Koh Kong, Kampong Cham, and Kratie provinces, built within the framework of a joint project with the French Development Agency (AFD). The ceremony was held on May 10 at a power substation in Neang Kok village, Pak Klang commune, Mondul Seima district, Koh Kong province, under the presidency of Suy Sem, Minister of Mines and Energy, Jacques PELLET, French Ambassador to Cambodia., and Koh Kong Provincial Governor Mrs. Mithona Phouthorng. Suy Sem said that the electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure will make the transmission system in the western and southern regions of Cambodia into a network to help strengthen each other with stability and sustainable transmission of electricity within the country. The Royal Government of Cambodia signed an agreement with the French Government on a \$70 million concessional loan and \$1 million grant from the European Union for capacity building through the AFD and the Electricité du Cambodge (EDC) 's contribution of 15.41 million euros (approximately \$15.9 million) to implement the electricity

transmission and distribution network extension project in the three provinces and capacity building for EDC staff. Chea Vannak – AKP

Source: <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501073276/90-million-worth-electricity-transmission-and-distribution-infrastructure-in-three-provinces-inaugurated/>

Cambodia, Sri Lanka to promote tourism cooperation



Cambodia News | 11 May, 2022

Cambodia and Sri Lanka on Tuesday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on tourism cooperation, paving the way for the two sides to promote direct flights and tourism exchanges. Speaking before the signing ceremony, Cambodia's Tourism Minister Thong Khon said that under the MoU, both sides will try to promote direct flights or charter flights. Currently there are no direct flights operating between the two countries and air passengers have to take a transit flight in Thailand, Malaysia or Singapore before arriving in Cambodia. "Both sides have agreed to organize Buddhist tourism events in the future," he said, adding that the two sides have also agreed to further explore the potential for their tourism cooperation. Khon said Cambodia is ready to welcome tourists from all over the world. The kingdom has reopened its borders to fully vaccinated travelers without quarantine since last November and reinstated the visa on arrival scheme for all international travelers since March after most of the country's population have been vaccinated against COVID-19. Cambodia has so far

provided at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine to almost 15 million people, or 93.7 percent of its 16 million population, said the health ministry, adding that 14.23 million people, or 89 percent of the population, have been fully vaccinated with two required shots. Cambodia has reported no new COVID-19 cases since last Saturday and currently there are still 22 active cases recorded in the country, said the health ministry. Since the pandemic hit Cambodia in January 2020, it has registered a total of 136,262 confirmed cases with 133,184 recoveries and 3,056 deaths, the ministry added. China.org.cn

Source: <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501073247/cambodia-sri-lanka-to-promote-tourism-cooperation/>

Occupational Opportunities - the first “dream camp fighting underemployment”



Laos News | 12 May, 2022

A recruitment agency 108Jobs, also the most visited job portal in Laos, in celebration of its 10th anniversary in December 2021, recently has launched 108M-Lab, a social and employment innovation lab. The lab aims to disrupt the issue of unemployment and underemployment, especially in youth. 108M-Lab, during January to April 2022, introduced its first initiative called Occupational Opportunities (O2) to train and coach a group of new salesperson, which is high in demand but low in

supply. Years of hiring data on www.108.jobs has made it clear. Mr Keovisouk Dalasane, who is the founder and Managing Director of 108Jobs, told Vientiane Times the company’s ultimate goal for this 3-month long Sales theme is for the participants to learn and actually sell, saying “learn, work, and sell practically”. “We provide guidance and closely follow up practices with the participants by discussing common issues and solutions with peer learning and coaching approaches. In addition, participants can use the knowledge gained for job searches and apply the sales skills to the real-world work,” he said. The O2 programme focuses on fixing the skills gap, skill mismatch issues for both job seekers and employers in the job market, such as sales skills and digital skills, both are with highly sought-after but low in supplying from the formal educational institutions. This training in sales is delivered by experts from Katalyst Partners, who guide trainees through the real-world sales experience of best practices. The participants practice their sales skills by actually selling the products from Thaan Fun Organic Farm, Yodxam Enterprise and 108Jobs’ services. 14 participants, including 11 young women participated in the first Occupational Opportunities camp. 108Jobs and its affiliated business group are working hard to promote more employments and job creation via its newly founded social innovation lab: the 108M-Lab.

Cooperation, collaboration and supports from general public, development partners are more than welcome. Please contact 020 54129234 via phone / WhatsApp.

Source: https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContent_Occupational89.php

Myanmar-Thailand border trade down by \$12.79 mln in April



Myanmar News | 11 May, 2022

THE value of Myanmar's bilateral trade with the neighbouring country Thailand through land border has registered a decrease of US\$12.798 million in April of the current financial year 20222023 as against a-year ago period, statistics issued by the Ministry of Commerce indicated. The ministry reported that exports surpassed imports in trade with Thailand this year, with exports reaching over \$240.4 million and imports valued at over \$92 million, totalling \$332.47 million. During the corresponding period of the past FY2020-2021, Myanmar-Thailand border trade touched a high of \$345.27 million. There are seven border posts between Myanmar and Thailand through Tachilek, The Myawady Trade Zone, Myawady, Kawthoung, Hteekhee and Myeik. Except for Kawthoung, Myeik and Myawady, the remaining border crossings showed a slight increase in the trade this FY. The value of border trade stood at \$10.677 million via Tachilek, \$134.848 million via Myawady, \$18.1 million via Kawthoung, \$4.655 million via Myeik and \$163.4 million via

Hteekhee. Myanmar exports the corn to Thailand through Myawady and Tachilek land border. Additionally, exports of natural gas from the Taninthayi Region contributed to the enormous increase in border trade with Thailand in the previous years. Myanmar primarily exports natural gas, fishery products, coal, tin concentrate (SN 71.58 per cent), coconut (fresh and dried), beans, and bamboo shoots to Thailand. It imports capital goods such as machinery, raw industrial goods such as cement and fertilizers, and consumer goods such as cosmetics and food products from the neighbouring country. — KH/GNLM

Source: <https://www.gnlm.com.mm/myanmar-thailand-border-trade-down-by-12-79-mln-in-april/>

Many Vietnam-Laos border gates reopen as pandemic subsides



Vietnam News | 11 May, 2022

HCMC – Several border gates between Vietnam and Laos, such as Lao Bao, La Lay and Nam Can, returned to normal operations on May 9. At the Lao Bao international border gate in Huong Hoa District, Quang Tri Province, on the morning of May 9, truck drivers from Vietnam only needed to show proof of their Covid vaccination status to be eligible to enter Laos. Earlier, a driver exchange was required at the border gate to prevent the spread of Covid-19, reported news site VnExpress. Similarly, others who want to enter Laos for work only need to show proof of full vaccination. Those without a Covid vaccination certificate should have a negative test result taken

within 48 hours. The resumption of normal trading activities also applies to the La Lay international border gate in Dakrong District in this central province. The border gate reopening has facilitated the travel of local residents and tourists. Also, removing the driver exchange mandate has helped reduce the time needed for customs clearance and eased the traffic congestion facing National Highway 9 near the Lao Bao border gate. Besides, local people in Huong Hoa District can now go to Laos easily to do business. At the Nam Can international border gate in the north-central province of Nghe An, entry and exit procedures in Laos have been relaxed as well. On the morning of May 9, the provincial border guards conducted entry and exit procedures for over 30 people. An official of the Nam Can international border gate forecast that the travel demand through the border gate will rise further in the next few days. Before the pandemic, an average of 100-120 people, along with tens of vehicles transporting materials and farm products, passed through the border gate per day.

Source: <https://english.thesaigontimes.vn/many-vietnam-laos-border-gates-reopen-as-pandemic-subsides/>
