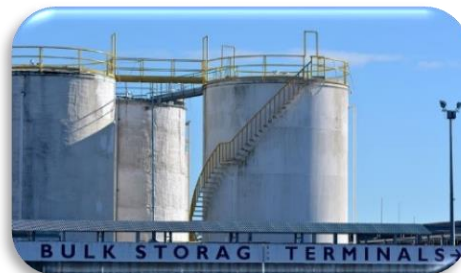


*Highlight News / October 12/2022*



- Cambodia's trade reach \$41 billion, increase of 18 percent in first 9 months
- Cambodia imports oil, gas products worth \$2.84 billion in first 9 months
- Laos, Thailand mull plans for Vientiane-Nong Khai railway
- The value of exports from the Myawady border trade station continues to decrease, and the value of exports from the same period last year decreased by more than 115 million dollars.
- Nearly 360 million USD allocated for North-South Expressway project's phase 2
- Vietnam spends over US\$6.8 billion importing petroleum over nine months



## Cambodia's trade reach \$41 billion, increase of 18 percent in first 9 months



*Cambodia News | 11 October, 2022*

Cambodia's foreign trade volume reached \$41 billion in the first nine months of 2022, up 18 percent from \$34.76 billion in the same period last year, an official report showed on Monday. The kingdom's total exports were worth \$17.25 billion during the January-September period this year, up 22.1 percent year-on-year, and total imports hit \$23.76 billion, up 15.2 percent, according to the General Department of Customs and Excise's report. Cambodian Ministry of Commerce's Undersecretary of State Penn Sovicheat attributed the growth to the full resumption of socio-economic activities in Cambodia, free trade agreements, and a rise in global demand. "There is no doubt that the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) trade pact and the Cambodia-China Free Trade Agreement (CCFTA), which both entered into force earlier this year, have given a big boost to our trade growth," he told Xinhua. "Under the two free trade agreements, we're confident that our exports to international markets, especially to China and other RCEP member countries, will be bigger, especially the exports of potential agricultural products such as rice, bananas and mangoes, industrial products, and processing goods," Sovicheat said. The RCEP comprises Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore,

Thailand and Vietnam, as well as China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand. Joseph Matthews, a senior professor at the BELTEI International University in Phnom Penh, said that the RCEP has injected new impetus into Cambodia's international trade growth. All member countries have reaped and will continue to reap the benefits of RCEP, especially Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and Myanmar, he told Xinhua. "In my personal view, in the post-COVID-19 pandemic era, the RCEP will be a driving force for trade and investment in all member states," Matthews said. Xinhua

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501166339/cambodias-trade-reach-41-billion-increase-of-18-percent-in-first-9-months/>

## Cambodia imports oil, gas products worth \$2.84 billion in first 9 months



*Cambodia News | 11 October, 2022*

Cambodia imported oil and gas products worth \$2.84 billion in the first nine months of 2022, up 66 percent from \$1.71 billion in the same period last year, according to a report from the General Department of Customs and Excise on Monday. The report did not mention the volume of oil and gas the Southeast Asian country imported during the January-September period this year. Currently, Cambodia relies solely on oil and gas imports as its seabed's oil and gas reserves have not been tapped yet. Minister of Mines and Energy Suy Sem has said recently that the demand for oil products in Cambodia is projected to rise to 4.8 million tons in

2030, up from 2.8 million tons in 2020. "Further investments in this sector are needed in order to respond to this growing demand," he said. Xinhua

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501166331/cambodia-imports-oil-gas-products-worth-2-84-billion-in-first-9-months/>

## Laos, Thailand mull plans for Vientiane-Nong Khai railway



*Laos News | 11 October, 2022*

Officials from Laos and Thailand met in Vientiane last week to discuss the construction of a railway that will link Vientiane and Nong Khai province and also connect to the Laos-China Railway. Laos' Minister of Public Works and Transport, Mr Viengsavath Siphandone, held talks with Thailand's Minister of Transport, Mr Saksayam Chidchob and his delegation when Thailand's Department of Rail Transport outlined the progress of work on the project. The two sides discussed railway passenger and freight connectivity, the possibility of using the old railway bridge, and the installation of a common control area at Thanaleng in Vientiane and at Nong Khai and Na Tha stations in Thailand. The meeting also considered the construction of a new bridge across the Mekong. The Lao and Thai delegations discussed the design of the new bridge and railway as well as the scope of the project. In addition, they discussed cooperation in human resource development. Mr Viengsavath recommended that the minutes of the meeting be compiled to form the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding, to formalise the

outcome of the talks. According to a report in the Thai newspaper The Nation, the project will involve the construction of a railway linking Nong Khai to Vientiane, where it will connect to the China-Laos Railway which runs to Kunming in China. The extended railway will be a boon for tourists and cross-border trade between the three countries. Under the first phase of the project, the Thailand-Laos Railway will have four stations – Na Tha and Nong Khai in Thailand and Thanaleng and Vientiane Khamsavath in Laos. In the second phase, the track will be extended south to Udon Thani and Nakhon Ratchasima stations in Thailand, with two trains running daily from Nakhon Ratchasima to Vientiane Khamsavath and back. The final phase will see the route further extended to Bang Sue Grand Station in Bangkok, with two return trips a day between Bangkok and Vientiane Khamsavath.

Source : [https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContent197\\_Laotai.php](https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContent197_Laotai.php)

**The value of exports from the Myawady border trade station continues to decrease, and the value of exports from the same period last year decreased by more than 115 million dollars.**



*Myanmar News | 11 October, 2022*

According to trade figures released by the Ministry of Economy and Commerce, the value of exports from the Myawady border trade station continues to

decrease and is more than \$115 million lower than the value of exports in the same period last year. According to local traders, the export of Myanmar agricultural products to Thailand has decreased since the change in trade policy, where the value of exports is entered in dollars and withdrawn in kyats. From April 1 to September 30, 2022, the amount of trade from Myawati border station was 1157.554 million US dollars, compared to the trade amount of 1229.062 million US dollars in the same period last year. The current trade volume is 71.508 million US dollars less than the same period last year, according to the information released by the Ministry of Economy and Commerce. As of September 30 of the current fiscal year, exports worth US\$432.603 million have been exported from Myawati border station, compared to US\$548.319 million in the same period of the previous year. In the fiscal year 2020-2021, in the bilateral trade between Myanmar and Thailand, the export value of the Myanmar side was over 3287 million dollars, while the import value of the Thai side was only over 1980 million dollars, according to the Ministry of Economy and Trade. From October 1st to the end of September in the fiscal year 2019-2020, Myanmar's exports were valued at \$3095.988 million. It is known that the value of imports from Thailand was 2021.925 million dollars and the trade volume was 5117.913 million dollars.

Source : <https://news-eleven.com/article/238700>

## Nearly 360 million USD allocated for North-South Expressway project's phase 2



*Vietnam News | 11 October, 2022*

Hanoi (VNS/VNA) - The Ministry of Transport has allocated nearly 8.6 trillion VND (359.3 million USD) for the second phase (2021-2025) of the North-South Expressway's eastern section. Specifically, investment in the North-South Expressway project - phase 2 totals 120 trillion VND (5 billion USD), of which 47.2 trillion VND (1.97 billion USD) is taken from the State budget for the medium-term public investment plan of the 2021-2025 period and 72.5 trillion VND (3.04 billion USD) is from the State budget for infrastructure investment development under the National Assembly's Resolution on fiscal and monetary assistance for the socio-economic recovery and development programme. Up to now, the Government has allocated to the Ministry of Transport 47.2 trillion VND (1.97 billion USD) for 2021-2025 medium-term public investment capital and it will be disbursed in 2023. Currently, the ministry has allocated 257 billion VND (10.8 million USD) for investment preparation and more than 8.33 trillion VND (349 million USD) for site clearance in 2022. Localities are actively preparing by approving plans of compensation, support, resettlement and disbursement to meet the required progress. Regarding site clearance, localities have carried out 95% of measurements in the field, 87% of inventories of land assets and are actively building

resettlement areas, compensation plans and site clearance projects in order to hand over 70% of the site area for construction and installation bidding packages by November 20, 2022, and hand over all remaining areas in the second quarter of 2023 at the request of the Government. Backfill soil for the projects in the Mekong Delta region, which ensure quality embankments, is mainly in the provinces of An Giang and Dong Thap, but the limited reserves and exploitation capacity do not meet the needs of the project. Therefore, the Government assigned the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to study the use of sea sand for traffic works and coordinate with the Ministry of Transport and localities in the region to review and evaluate the overall sand supply resources in the region as well as increase exploitation capacity of existing mines, open new ones, and consider exploiting sand in sand dunes to prioritise supply for the project. The second phase of the expressway project consists of 12 component projects with a total length of 723.7km, of which the Ha Tinh-Quang Tri section is 260.9km, Quang Ngai-Nha Trang is 352.1km and Can Tho-Ca Mau is 110.9km./.

Source : <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/nearly-360-million-usd-allocated-for-northsouth-expressway-projects-phase-2/239834.vnp>

## Vietnam spends over US\$6.8 billion importing petroleum over nine months

VOV.VN - The past nine months of the year saw Vietnam import over 6.5 million tonnes of petroleum worth US\$6.833 billion, up 22.7% in volume and 131.8% in value year on year, according to the General Department of Vietnam Customs. In September alone, petroleum businesses spent US\$616.1 million on importing 627,652 tonnes, up 34.8% in volume and 27.8% in value compared to the previous month. The Republic of Korea was the largest supplier in nine months, delivering more than 2.5 million tonnes worth US\$2.745 billion, representing a 91.62% rise in volume and accounting for 39.16% of Vietnam's total petroleum imports. Meanwhile, China emerged as Vietnam's major petroleum importer, purchasing more than 627,000 tonnes in nine months for US\$676 million, representing a 2.3-fold rise in volume and a 4.42-fold rise in value year on year. Despite an increase in petroleum imports, many retail petrol stations have recently scaled down operations due to a shortage of supply sources. They complained that incorrect calculations in discount rates by petroleum trading enterprises affected their operations. At present, the retail prices of E5 RON 92 and RON 95 gasoline stand at VND20,732 and VND21,443 per litre, respectively, while diesel oil, kerosene, and mazut oil were traded at VND22,208/litre, VND21,688/litre, and VND14,094/kg, respectively. The government is scheduled to adjust petroleum prices on October 11



afternoon, with the retail prices likely to bounce back following four consecutive decreases.

Source : <https://english.vov.vn/en/economy/vietnam-spends-over-us68-billion-importing-petroleum-over-nine-months-post976490.vov>

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