

Highlight News / November 22, 2022



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Advisory Institute for Trade and Investment by TCC (AiTi)



Stock trading in red in Q3 amid low market liquidity



Cambodia News | 21 November, 2022

The quarterly data of securities market operations shows that the trading value and volume in Cambodia's stock exchange decreased in the third quarter of this year compared to the previous period as the market has been negatively affected by the slowdown of the economy, low market liquidity, according to the top official of the country's regulator. The trading volume of the equity market has fallen sharply by 78.59 percent to 6.47 million shares in the July-September period of this year from 30.19 million shares in the same period of last year, which results in the trading value slipping 79.89 percent to \$15.49 million from \$77.99 million, while average daily trading volume and value have decreased by 79.90 percent and 81.13 percent respectively, according to the data shown in the Securities Trading Statistical Bulletin for the quarter 3 of 2022. The third quarterly report for this year also shows that the number of shares that investors have ordered to buy and shareholders ordered to sell has gone down by 47.06 percent and 47.74 percent respectively, while the number of investors has fallen by 19.92 percent to 5,755 persons in the quarter 3 compared to 7,187 persons in the previous period and the market capitalisation has decreased slightly by 5.18 percent to about \$1.75 billion from \$1.86 billion. Sou Socheat, Director General of Securities and Exchange Regulator of Cambodia (SERC) told Khmer Times on Friday that the share trading figures are expected to bounce back in quarter 4 as some of the companies will give dividends in the final quarter of this year, while trading will be more active

than the third quarter as "My First Stock" event has provided free investor ID and then the trading activities is believed to increase. "Though, another reason that most figures are in red is because there is low market liquidity [as] most investors after buying the stock, they would hold them to get dividend instead of trading it in the market," Socheat said, adding that the decrease in the trading value and volume in stock exchange in the quarter 3 compared to the previous period has been partially caused by the impact of the slowdown of the economy. Socheat added that promoting market liquidity requires the participation of all key stakeholders, the regulator and or the exchange alone cannot boost the trading activities in the market. Therefore, it requires all of our effort in organizing campaigns and activities to promote the understanding of the capital market to attract more participants to the market. Kim Sophanita, director of CSX's market operations department, told Khmer Times that she agreed that the trading volume and value declined in the third quarter. However, she added that the decrease was not a potential concern as it is still at a similar level compared to the rest of the quarters except the quarter 2 in which "extra big trade" occurred such as \$43 million trading by Acleda Bank Plc. "The red colour means the decline, but it is not a bad thing as in the previous quarter there was big trading by negotiation. That's why the trading by negotiation between sellers and buyers made trading boom potentially in the previous quarter, but in the third quarter, there were not such big transactions as it operates with the auction trading strongly well as usual at a similar level," Sophanita added. Currently there are two types of securities stock and bond, traded in the Cambodia Securities Exchange

(CSX). For the equity market, there are nine listed companies of which seven companies are listed on the Main Board and two companies listed on the Growth Board. Whereas for the bond market, there were seven listed companies issued corporate bonds, according to Sovcheat.

Source:<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501188119/stock-trading-in-red-in-q3-amid-low-market-liquidity/>

Cambodia-Korea trade zooms 16% to \$920 million



Cambodia News | 21 November, 2022

The bilateral trade between Cambodia and South Korea reached \$920 million in ten months of 2022, a year-on-year increase of 16.3 percent, according to a report from the Korea International Trade Association (KITA). In the January-October period, Cambodia exported \$341 million worth of goods to Korea, up 20.7 percent as compared to the same period last year. Cambodia imported \$579 million worth of products from the East Asia nation, up 8.1 percent year-on-year. Cambodia mainly exported footwear and other apparel, travel products, beverages, electrical and electronic components, rubber, pharmaceuticals and agricultural products to South Korea. The Kingdom imported vehicles, electronics, kitchen appliances, beverages, pharmaceuticals and finished plastics and products. The two countries are about to put into force the bilateral free trade agreement in December, which is set to deepen the economic ties. The Cambodia-Korea Free Trade Agreement is expected to boost trade between the two countries, with South Korea agreeing to remove tariffs on 95.6 percent of products imported from Cambodia, while Cambodia will eliminate duties on 93.8

percent of imported goods. Prime Minister Hun Sen and Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol have recently expressed satisfaction with the development of bilateral relations during the past 25 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. In a bilateral meeting held in Phnom Penh on November 11, both hailed the economic cooperation and the increasing trade exchange between the two countries and were optimistic that the Free Trade Agreement that will enter into force early next month after the ratification by the Republic of Korea would increase significantly the volume of the bilateral trade. The Cambodia-South Korea free trade agreement can help boost Cambodian exports of garments, textiles, and footwear to South Korea, said Penn Sovicheat, Under-Secretary of State and spokesman at the Ministry of Commerce. "The agreement is expected to attract more foreign investment, adding that goods exported to the South Korean market must adhere to high technical quality, both industrial and agricultural products," Sovicheat told Khmer Times. Lim Heng, vice-president of the Cambodia Chamber of Commerce, said that the free trade agreement would not only open up more markets to Cambodian products but also attract investment for producing and exporting them, providing the best opportunity that will enable the governments of the two countries to promote trade exchanges as planned and through this trade promotion.

Source:<https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501188121/cambodia-korea-trade-zooms-16-to-920-million/>

Korean company invests in Laos Requires USD 22 Million for its 5th Population and Housing Census



Laos News | 21 November, 2022

The 3rd Stakeholders Briefing on the preparation of the 5th Population and Housing Census (PHC) revealed that approximately LAK 321 billion, or USD 22 million, will be required for conducting the Population and Housing Census. Mr. Khamjane Vongphosy, Minister of Planning and Investment, and Ms. Mariam A. Khan, representative of UNFPA in Laos alongside relevant government sectors and stakeholders attended the event. The Minister of Planning and Investment said that Population and Housing Census is a major national survey that is conducted every 10 years. The goal of the 5th Population and Housing Census is to account for all those living in Laos for six months or more. The government has presented in the state investment budget plan for 2023-2025, that it has allocated LAK 60 billion (USD 4.2 million) for the PHC. The rest will come from the contribution of international organizations and development partners. Ms. Mariam A. Khan, UNFPA Representative, said, "A Population and Housing Census requires timely and accurate planning, financing, and monitoring. Delays in financing will significantly affect the implementation of the census and hamper access to quality data, which in turn limits the possibility of

decisions and policies being based on data. With LSB we planned well, now we count on the active involvement of key stakeholders, including media, to adhere to the census timetable and commit support to the census implementation." Four PHCs have been conducted by the government so far in the years 1985, 1995, 2005, and the most recent in 2015. Based on current trends, the national population is projected to increase to 8.1 million by 2030, according to UNFPA.

Source: <https://en.nhandan.vn/urban-economy-to-contribute-85-of-national-gdp-by-2030-post120101.html>

Sugarcane to be bought at around K90,000 per tonne



Myanmar News | 22 November, 2022

In the 2022-23 financial year sugarcane season, some companies have announced that they will buy sugarcane at an average price of around K90,000 per tonne. Wilmar Sugar Company announced that sugarcane farmers in the area of the Moong Gone factory were given a rate of K79,000 per tonne of sugarcane in the contract previously signed for the 2022-23 financial year. Similarly, Silver Pearl Sugar Company announced that it will purchase sugarcane at a rate of K90,000 per tonne during the 2022-23 sugarcane season. Some factories stated that they will only buy sugarcane at the factory price of K75,000 per tonne. According to news reports, sugarcane farmers along the Chinese border are

getting about 450 yuan per tonne of sugarcane. According to reports, Myanmar produces about 45,000 tonnes of sugar every year, and in previous years, the price of sugar was only K900 per pound, but now the price is more than K2,300 per pound.—

TPT/GNLM

Source: <https://www.gnln.com.mm/sugarcane-to-be-bought-at-around-k90000-per-tonne/>

Samsung, Oppo lead Vietnamese smartphone market



Vietnam News | 19 November, 2022

Samsung and Oppo combined comprise half of the Vietnamese smartphone market, according to IDC. The smartphone output in Q3 2022 increased by 1.6 percent over the previous quarter, reaching 3.2 million products. Sales in Q3 soared by 28.5 percent compared with the same period last year, as demand last year fell dramatically because of lockdown. However, the number of smartphones sold in Q3 2022 was still lower than in the same period in 2019, before the pandemic. According to the General Statistics Office (GSO), Vietnam's exports were lower than expected, down by 14.3 percent from August to September, which forced many factories to suspend operation. "The risk from a possible recession in the US and EU caused by strong monetary policy tightening and supply interruptions because of the Russia-Ukraine war are putting pressure on Vietnam's economy, which still

needs help to recover after the pandemic," said Vo Tam Thanh from IDC Vietnam. "Consumers' feelings have also been affected as goods prices are escalating," he said. Samsung stands at the No 1 position with 1.1 million smartphones sold, a decrease of 5.4 percent compared with the same period last year. Market share held by the manufacturer shrunk to 34 percent in Q3 2022, from 46.2 percent in Q3 2021. However, its foldable models Z Fold4 and Z Flip4 have seen a triple growth rate. The manufacturer also is opening more stores specializing in Samsung products in many cities and provinces. Oppo has the second position, with 21.6 percent of market share. Reno8, Reno8 Pro and Reno8 Z, with a focus on customers' experience and upgraded cameras, have seen sales increase compared with the Reno7 series. Meanwhile, Xiaomi had a 16 percent growth rate over the previous quarter and 64.1 percent over the same period last year, and now holds 14.9 percent of market share. The manufacturer is increasing sales by launching low-cost smartphone models, such as Redmi A1, priced below \$100, and putting Poco C40 in the lower-end segment and reducing the selling price of Redmi Note 11. The number of Apple products sold fell by 11.9 percent compared with the previous quarter, but increased by 173 percent compared with the same period last year. The sales decrease was attributed to retailers trying to boost sales of old-

generation models to prepare for iPhone 14, marketed in October. Vivo is in the fifth position with a growth rate of 9.9 percent, higher than the 4.3 percent of the previous quarter.

Source: <https://vietnamnet.vn/en/samsung-oppo-lead-vietnamese-smartphone-market-2082419.html>

Urban economy to contribute 85% of national GDP by 2030



Vietnam News | 21 November, 2022

The urban economy is expected to contribute some 75% of the national GDP by 2025 and about 85% by 2030 under an action programme of the Government. Deputy Prime Minister Le Van Thanh has signed Resolution No. 148/NQ-CP dated November 11, 2022 on the issuance of the action programme that was devised to implement the Politburo's Resolution No. 06-NQ/TW dated January 24, 2022, which covers urban planning, construction, management and development by 2030 with a vision towards 2045. The programme set the target of raising the urbanisation rate to over 50% and the number of urban areas nationwide to about 1,000-1,200 by 2030. By that time, there will be a number of national and regional urban centres that satisfy health, education-training, and culture standards set for an urban area in the top four ASEAN countries. The average housing floor area per capita in urban areas will reach at least 28 square meters by 2025 and 32 square meters by

2030. Broadband internet will cover more than 80% of the urban households by 2025, and target all of them in the next five years. By 2045, Vietnam aims to have at least five international urban areas connected with regional and global networks. Ministries, agencies and People's Committees of cities and provinces are required to instruct the implementation of major tasks. These tasks include improving the quality of planning management, building harmonious, modern infrastructure adaptive to climate change. The programme also includes devising policies and legal documents to facilitate implementation.

Source: <https://en.nhandan.vn/urban-economy-to-contribute-85-of-national-gdp-by-2030-post120101.html>