

Highlight News / April 10/2023



- Cambodian government spokesman says China's reopening revives int'l tourism market
- Cambodia's fabric imports from Thailand at \$157 million in 2022
- S. Korea provides US\$12.5 million for rural development in Laos
- Myanmar bags over \$1.4 bln from pulses exports in past FY2022-2023
- Employees' average income rises in Q1
- US increases chip imports from Vietnam and emerging Asian markets



Cambodian government spokesman says China's reopening revives int'l tourism market



Cambodia News | 9 April, 2023

China's optimization of its anti-COVID-19 strategy and resumption of its outbound group tours earlier this year have revived the tourism industry in countries around the world, Cambodian government chief spokesman Phay Siphon has said. In an interview with Xinhua on Thursday, Siphon said with the population of more than 1.4 billion, China is the most important outbound tourism market for the world. "Not only Cambodia, but also the whole ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations), Asia and Europe need Chinese tourists, so China's reopening has contributed to reviving tourism around the world in the post-COVID-19 era," he said. "China's reopening has added momentum to the global economic recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic," Siphon said. "This is a great boon to boost tourists to Cambodia and other regions." Siphon also predicted that China's economy would remain strong and resilient in 2023, propelled by the country's reopening and effective pro-growth policies. He added that China would remain the engine of global economic growth this year and beyond. Tourism is one of four pillars supporting Cambodia's economy. China was the biggest source of foreign tourists to Cambodia in the pre-pandemic era, a Ministry of Tourism's report said, adding that the kingdom received 2.36 million Chinese tourists in

2019, accounting for 35.7 percent of total tourist arrivals to the country and generating about 1.8 billion U.S. dollars in revenue. The Southeast Asian nation is expected to attract 4 million international tourists, including between 800,000 and 1 million Chinese tourists, in 2023, according to the Ministry of Tourism's prediction. "Thanks to close relationship between our two governments and peoples, I believe that a large number of Chinese tourists and investors will return to Cambodia, like it was before the pandemic," Siphon said. "The comeback of Chinese tourists and investors will undoubtedly inject fresh vitality into Cambodia's socio-economic development and poverty reduction in the post-pandemic era," he added. Cambodia is famous for its three world heritage sites, namely the Angkor archeological park in the northwest Siem Reap province, the Preah Vihear Temple in the northwest Preah Vihear province, and the Sambor Prei Kuk archeological site in the central Kampong Thom province. Also, it has a pristine coastline stretching in the length of 450 km in the four southwest provinces of Sihanoukville, Kampot, Kep and Koh Kong. Macau Business

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501270323/cambodian-government-spokesman-says-chinas-reopening-revives-intl-tourism-market/>

Cambodia's fabric imports from Thailand at \$157 million in 2022



Cambodia News | 7 April, 2023

Despite volatility due to COVID-19, Cambodia's 2022 apparel exports to Thailand reached \$57.6 million, and fabric imports were \$157 million. Thailand remains a major fabric supplier for Cambodia, with trade in fibre and yarn being insignificant between the two nations. Cambodia and Thailand recently pledged to achieve a bilateral trade volume of \$15 billion by 2025. Cambodia exports apparel and imports fabric from Thailand. However, trade data shows that bilateral trade remained volatile after the disruption caused by COVID-19 in 2020. Cambodia's apparel exports to Thailand were valued at \$57.604 million in 2022, while its fabric imports from the country reached \$157.030 million last year. Cambodia's apparel exports to Thailand stood at \$57.604 million during 2022, a 40.48 per cent increase from the \$41.010 million in 2021. Exports dropped to \$73.986 million in 2020 from \$95.806 million in 2019 before further declining to \$41.010 million in 2021. The trade was recorded at \$89.081 million during 2018. Cambodia's apparel imports from Thailand were recorded at \$11.567 million during 2022, according to Fibre2Fashion's market insight tool TexPro. Thailand was a major supplier of fabric for Cambodia in previous years. Cambodia imported fabric worth \$157.030 million during 2022, which was 27.6 per cent higher than the import of \$123.290 million in 2021. The inbound shipments were recorded at \$108.891 million in 2020, \$133.666 million in 2019, and \$125.212 million in 2018. Cambodia's fabric exports to Thailand were negligible at \$2.634 million during 2022. Bilateral

trade of fibre and yarn was also insignificant between the two nations, as per TexPro. Fibre2Fashion News Desk (KUL)

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501269748/cambodias-fabric-imports-from-thailand-at-157-million-in-2022/>

S. Korea provides US\$12.5 million for rural development in Laos



Laos News | 7 April, 2023

People living in the provinces of Vientiane, Xieng Khuang and Borikhamxay will have an opportunity to improve their quality of life and boost their incomes through a project funded by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) with US\$12.5 million. The additional funds have been provided following the success of earlier projects supported by KOICA for community-based schemes to enhance rural development in target villages from 2013-2019. The aim of all of these initiatives is to encourage farmers in rural areas to become self-sufficient. As part of the project, an Action Plan for rural development and income generation in northern and central areas of Laos was launched on Thursday at the Laos-Korea Rural Development Training Centre in Vientiane. Present on the occasion were Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Forestry Mr Thongphat Vongmany; Country Director of KOICA in Laos, Ms Myungjin Kim; the Deputy Governors of Xieng Khuang, Borikhamxay and Vientiane province, and associated officials. The project will take place from 2021 to 2025 in 14 villages and seven district of

Xieng Khuang, Borikhamxay and Vientiane provinces. The aim of the project is to support the establishment of an Action Plan for agriculture, forestry and rural development while strengthening the capacity of officials at the central and local levels to successfully implement the plan. The project will also focus on improving the lives of farmers in the target villages, especially in relation to income generation and the improvement of village infrastructure. KOICA has been supporting Laos through numerous projects in different sectors such as health, education, economics and agriculture.

Source : https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContent2023_SKorea69.php

Myanmar bags over \$1.4 bln from pulses exports in past FY2022-2023



Myanmar News | 8 April, 2023

Myanmar brought in over US\$1.4 billion from over 1.9 million tonnes of various pulses exports in the past financial year 2022-2023, the Ministry of Commerce's statistics indicated. The country shipped over 1,640,777.167 tonnes of pulses and beans valued at \$1.26 billion to foreign markets by sea, and over 278,378.933 tonnes valued at \$208.788 million were sent to the neighbouring countries through land borders, totalling 1,919,156.1 tonnes worth \$1.47 billion last FY. Myanmar exported over 2 million tonnes of various pulses worth US\$1.57 billion to foreign trade partners in FY2020-2021. The country shipped 1.24 million tonnes of pulses and beans worth \$966.4 million to foreign

markets through the sea route, and 786,920 tonnes worth \$604.3 million were sent to the neighbouring countries through land borders. Myanmar primarily exports black gram, green gram and pigeon peas to foreign markets. Of them, black gram and pigeon peas are mostly sent to India while green grams are shipped to China and Europe. India has growing demand and consumption requirements for black grams and pigeon peas. According to a Memorandum of Understanding between Myanmar and India signed on 18 June 2022, India will import 250,000 tonnes of black gram and 100,000 tonnes of pigeon peas (tur) from Myanmar for five consecutive years from 2021-2022 financial year to 2025-2026 FY. This G-to-G pact will not affect the pulses' annual quota set by India. Myanmar's exporters are also entitled to deliver the pulses to India under that annual quota. The prevailing price of black gram is K2,055,000 per tonne, while pigeon peas fetch K2,380,000 per tonne and green gram is priced at K2,416,000 per tonne, according to Yangon Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Bayintnaung Commodity Centre). On 18 March, the pigeon pea price hit a record high of K2.4 million per tonne, according to the Yangon Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Bayintnaung Commodity Centre). Myanmar yearly produces approximately 400,000 tonnes of black gram and about 50,000 tonnes of pigeon peas. Black grams that India primarily purchases are commonly found only in Myanmar, whereas pigeon peas, green gram and chickpeas are grown in African countries and

Australia, the Myanmar Pulses, Beans, Maize and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association stated. — NN/EM

Source : <https://www.gnlm.com.mm/myanmar-bags-over-1-4-bln-from-pulses-exports-in-past-fy2022-2023/#article-title>

Employees' average income rises in Q1



Vietnam News | 8 April, 2023

HCMC – The average monthly income of workers was VND7 million per person in the first quarter of the year, rising by VND197,000 against the previous quarter and by VND640,000 year-on-year, according to the General Statistics Office (GSO). A representative of the Department of Population and Labor Statistics under the GSO said that each employee earned an average monthly income of VND7 million in the first three months of the year, reported the Vietnam News Agency. Of which, the average monthly income of male workers was VND8 million per person, 1.36 times higher than that of female workers at VND5.9 million. In urban areas, employees have an average monthly income of VND8.6 million per person, while employees in rural areas could only earn VND6.1 million on average. Workers in the service sector saw the highest average monthly income at VND8.3 million per person, an increase of 10.1%, or VND766,000, against the year-ago period. Those working in the sectors of agriculture, forestry and fishery earned VND4.1 million per person on average per month, up

9.2%. Meanwhile, employees in the construction industry had an average monthly income of VND7.9 million, rising 9% year-on-year. There was a salary increase of 2.7% to 6.7% in mining, retail, automobiles and motorbike repairing, transportation and warehousing. Meanwhile, other sectors recorded a decline in workers' average monthly income by 1-1.3%, such as real estate and construction.

Source : <https://english.thesaigontimes.vn/employees-average-income-rises-in-q1/>

US increases chip imports from Vietnam and emerging Asian markets



Vietnam News | 8 April, 2023

(VOV) The United States has significantly increased its import of chip products from four Asian countries (Thailand, Vietnam, India, and Cambodia) since the beginning of the year, according to data released by the US Census Bureau. February alone witnessed its chip imports rise by 17% to US\$4.86 billion year on year, of which imports from Asia accounted for 83% of the total. Most notably, imports from India saw an unprecedented growth, with the turnover increasing 34 times to reach US\$152 million. Imports from Cambodia also rose impressively by nearly seven times to achieve a figure just slightly higher than the import turnover of US\$166 million from Japan, the traditional chip manufacturing market. Both Vietnam and Thailand have been occupying increasingly larger shares of the chip manufacturing market in the US, with trade exchanges rising by 75% and 62%,

respectively. At present, Vietnam has made up more than 10% of chip imports from the US for seven consecutive months. These signs indicate that the US has been diversifying its electronics supply chain by shifting manufacturers from traditional markets to emerging markets. Meanwhile, Malaysia, one of the world's leading factories in chip packaging, continues to top the list of chip suppliers to the US. However, its market share fell to 20% of total US imports in February.

Source : [https://vietnamnet.vn/en/us-increases-chip-imports-from-vietnam-and-emerging-asian-markets-](https://vietnamnet.vn/en/us-increases-chip-imports-from-vietnam-and-emerging-asian-markets-2129952.html)

[2129952.html](https://vietnamnet.vn/en/us-increases-chip-imports-from-vietnam-and-emerging-asian-markets-2129952.html)
