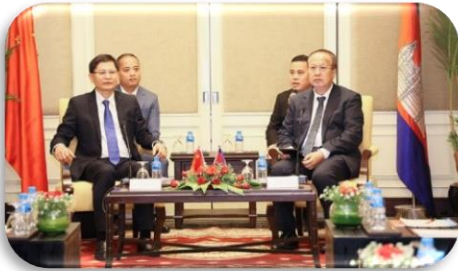


Highlight News / April 24/2023



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Uptrend in Cambodia-Guangxi bilateral trade



Cambodia News | 22 April, 2023

Bilateral trade between Cambodia and Guangxi province of China amounted to 1.970 billion Yuan (\$286,000) in 2022, an increase of 88.2% from 2021. A Ministry of Commerce report highlighted during the meeting between Minister of Commerce Pan Sorasak and the governor of Guangxi, Lan Tianli, on Friday Guangxi exports to Cambodia amounted to 1.860 million Yuan, an increase of 88.5%, while Cambodia exports to Guangxi were worth 110 million Yuan, an increase of 85.3%. As of December 2022, 56 companies from Guangxi have invested in Cambodia. Minister Sorasak said Cambodia and China have become strategic partners and cooperation has been comprehensive since 2010. He said Cambodia was fully supportive of China's initiative to establish the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road of the Chinese government. He said that through the initiatives, the two governments have cooperated in areas such as infrastructure, agriculture, trade, human resource development, special economic zone development, cultural exchange, tourism and environmental protection. Sorasak said the Ministry of Commerce is encouraging local companies to participate in the 20th China-ASEAN Expo 2023 in Nanning, in southern China. During the exhibition, he said, the ministry will hold a Cambodia-China Business, Investment and Tourism Forum. Sorasak

expressed hope that the Chinese side will support and encourage the Chinese Business Association in Guangxi to participate in the forum to get the latest information on business opportunities in Cambodia.

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501277602/uptrend-in-cambodia-guangxi-bilateral-trade/>

PPAP posts over \$8 million in revenue in Q1, a decrease of 13 percent



Cambodia News | 23 April, 2023

Publicly-listed river port operator, Phnom Penh Autonomous Port (PPAP), reported a revenue of some US \$8.23 million during the first three months of 2023, a year-on-year decrease of 13 percent. In March alone, the port earned nearly \$3 million, down from \$3.29 million in the same month last year, the port said in its filing of revenue report for March 2023 to the Cambodia Securities Exchange. In March last year, a groundbreaking ceremony for the cross-docking and cold storage facility was carried out at PPAP's Container Terminal LM17 on National Road No. 1. The Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT) also launched a Japan-financed Port Electronic Data Interchange (Port EDI) system at PAS and PPAP, with the aim of improving effectiveness, efficiency and transparency and reducing cost. Chea Vannak – AKP

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501277374/ppap-posts-over-8-million-in-revenue-in-q1-a-decrease-of-13-percent/>

Thanaleng Dry Port facilitates Thailand-Laos-China rail freight transport



Laos News | 22 April, 2023

The Thanaleng Dry Port (TDP) in Vientiane has facilitated the international Thailand-Laos-China cargo train travelling from Thailand's Map Ta Phut station in Rayong to Guangzhou in China via Laos. Pan Asia Silk Road Co., Ltd. (PAS) and partners launched the first cargo train, which is running over a distance of 3,453 kilometres and shortening travel time by half to just five days, compared to land transport, thus delivering fresher seasonal Thai fruit to Chinese consumers. Carrying 25 reefer (refrigerated) containers of durian, the train departed Map Ta Phut station on April 19 and arrived at TDP the following day. Executives of TDP, Laos' first-ever integrated logistics centre, and representatives of relevant businesses on April 20 assembled to welcome the arrival of the train at the dry port. "We have facilitated document declaration that can be done 24 hours in advance. This has eased processes when freight arrives," said Viengkhone Sitthixay, Vice President of Vientiane Logistics Park Co., Ltd. - the developer of the multimodal dry port. "We have also coordinated with state authorities, enabling them to undertake and finish inspection of [containers] within less than 30 minutes per train." He added that document clearance has been considerably streamlined by the operation of the dry port, which also functions as an international border

checkpoint for freight. "We have notified exporters and importers as well as shipping service providers about these streamlined procedures so they can enjoy quicker service," he told local media. Containers were transferred from the train on the one-metre-track Laos-Thailand railway to a train on the standard gauge Laos-China rail track at the dry port before departing for Guangzhou. PAS's investment partners joining the launch of the historic rail route are Global Multimodal Logistics Co., Ltd. and Kaocharoen Train Transport Co., Ltd. Other partners and affiliates joining the event are Lao National Railways, Laos-China Railway Company Limited, State Railway of Thailand, and China Railway Express Co., Ltd., Guangzhou Communications Investment Group Co., Ltd., Shenzhen Eternal Asia Supply Chain Co., Ltd., PTT Plc, Oriental Merchant Express Co., Ltd., and Asia Express Logistics Co., Ltd. PAS and affiliates have also prepared 700-1,000 refrigerated containers for Thai exporters to shift their products – especially durian, mangosteen, and frozen seafood – to China, according to The Nation news agency. The journey from Map Ta Phut to Kunming will take 3-4 days, while Map Ta Phut-Chongqing will take 4-5 days, and Map Ta Phut-Guangzhou will take 5-6 days. These routes offer a cheaper, faster and safer mode of cargo transport to China, the company was quoted as saying. "Shipment by rail cuts transport costs by 30 percent," President of Thailand's Kaocharoen Train Transport Co., Ltd., Panya Paputsaro, told the Vientiane Times during his

shipping journey at the Thanaleng Dry Port. Mr Panya, who is following the shipment of the 25 containers to Guangzhou, said Thai exporters have received an increasing number of orders for Thai fruit from Chinese buyers. This month his company will send two more shipments of durian to buyers in Kunming and Guangzhou. To improve services for farm produce export to meet the growing need, Mr Viengkhone said his company is partnering with Chinese authorities to build a Chinese-certified sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) centre at the Vientiane Logistics Park. Once the SPS centre is operational, products labelled with SPS seals there can directly enter the Chinese market without having to undergo SPS checks at the Chinese border. Construction of the centre is expected to begin in July, and will take six to eight months to complete. Opening for service in December 2021, the dry port facilitates the shipment of goods between China, Southeast Asian countries, and Russia. Vientiane Logistics Park Co., Ltd. is also developing a world-class logistics complex comprising seven zones, including an export processing zone where companies can set up facilities such as cold-chain storage warehouses to keep farm products fresh.

Source : https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContent2023_Thanaleng77.php

Small supply of chickpeas pushes up prices



Myanmar News | 23 April, 2023

The small supply of chickpeas elevated prices, according to the Mandalay Commodity Wholesale Centre. The prices moved in the range between K201,000 and 206,500 per 56.25/57.25 viss on 1 April 2023 and climbed to K207,000 and K219,000 per 56.25/57.25 viss depending on varieties on 22 April. The figures showed a sharp increase of K11,000-14,000 per 56.25/57.25 viss within three weeks. The chickpea is a winter crop and is usually grown in October and November. The harvest season is from January to April. They are mostly found in Bago, Ayeyawady, Sagaing and Magway regions. The country primarily cultivates paddy, corn, cotton, sugarcane, various pulses and beans. Its second-largest production is pulses and beans, accounting for 33 per cent of agro products and covering 20 per cent of growing acres. Among them, black beans, pigeon peas and green grams constitute 72 per cent of bean acreage. Other beans including peanuts, chickpeas, soybeans, black-eyed beans, butter beans and rice beans are also grown in the country. Agriculture is the backbone of Myanmar's economy. Among agricultural products, various beans and pulses are one of the main items. Myanmar ships chickpeas to foreign markets beyond self-sufficiency. More than 18,000 kilogrammes worth US\$13.139 million have been exported to foreign countries in the 2022-2023 Financial Year, according to the Ministry of Commerce's statistics. — NN/EM

Source : <https://www.gnlm.com.mm/small-supply-of-chickpeas-pushes-up-prices/#article-title>

Taiwan's Apple supplier Quanta plans Vietnam factory



Vietnam News | 22 April, 2023

HANOI: Apple supplier Quanta Computer plans to set up a factory in northern Vietnam, the Vietnamese government said. The company, a MacBook contract manufacturer, on Friday signed an agreement with the authorities of Nam Dinh province, 90 km (56 miles) south of Hanoi, to construct the facility at an industrial park there, the government said in a statement late on Friday. The facility, which would be Quanta's 9th factory globally, would initially cover an area of 22.5 hectares, the statement said, without giving its capacity nor a time frame for the construction.

Source : <https://www.brecorder.com/news/40238493>

[/taiwans-apple-supplier-quanta-plans-vietnam-factory](https://www.brecorder.com/news/40238493)

Motorcycle sales

continue slump in first quarter



Vietnam News | 22 April, 2023

HÀ NỘI – Việt Nam's motorcycle market stumbled in the first three months of 2023 as demand dropped. The market had an impressive 2022 with sales of 3.38 million units following a two-year slump due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Sales fell 23.7 per cent in the first quarter this year compared to the previous quarter and 15.8 per cent over the same period last year, according to data released by the Vietnam Association of Motorcycle Manufacturers (VAMM). A total of 634,688 units from five manufacturers including Honda, Yamaha, Suzuki, Piaggio and SYM

were sold in the first three months, the data showed. Experts attributed the fall to the fact that January coincide with the Tết (Lunar New Year) holiday and many people reduced their spending, particularly in the days leading up to and after Tết. Two motorcycle manufacturers accounting for large market shares, Honda and Yamaha, also saw sales slide by 12.3 per cent and 25.5 per cent, respectively, against the same frame last year. The best-selling models in the first three months of 2023 were Honda Vision, Honda Wave Alpha, Honda LEAD, Honda Air Blade, Yamaha Grande, and Yamaha Sirius. With low purchasing power and dismal sales, many motorcycle models immediately dropped in price compared to previous months. Honda Vision, the best-seller scooter model, also saw a decrease in price, selling at VNĐ33.5-VNĐ40 million per unit. The selling price was lower than the suggested retail price from manufactures. In mid-2022, after COVID-19, the selling price of Vision approached VNĐ60 million per unit. Despite strong purchasing power and high prices for Vision, many Honda dealers refused to accept deposits because they no longer had enough inventory. The sharp increase in the price of motorbikes was attributed to the chip shortage and production costs after the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, the Vario 160 and AirBlade, among the best-seller models of Honda, are also offered at a price lower than the suggested retail price. Another reason for the poor sales came from the fact that in the first quarter, not many new models

were launched by manufacturers, making the local motorbike market less attractive, which affected buyer psychology. In addition, the motorcycle market entered a period of saturation and has been gradually shifting from motorcycles equipped with internal combustion engines to electric bikes with beautiful designs, reasonable prices and costs saving from petrol prices. Meanwhile, the mid-range and high-end electric motorcycle segments now have more options for local customers. In this segment, electric bikes are usually similar in size to mass scooters, with the same carrying capacity and longer travel distances than low-segment electric motorcycles. Experts are forecasting a weaker economy and poor consumption in the remaining months this year. 2023 could still be an exciting year for Viêt Nam's motorcycle market with the launch of many new models of electric bikes. — VNS

Source : <https://vietnamnews.vn/economy/1522936/motorcycle-sales-continue-slump-in-first-quarter.html>
