

*Highlight News / June 12/2023*



- Cambodia's rice export exceeds 278,000 tonnes and nearly \$200 million in January-May
- 600-hectare banana orchard mirrors China's increasing role in Cambodia's growth story
- Construction of city's tallest building 68 percent complete
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## Cambodia's rice export exceeds 278,000 tonnes and nearly \$200 million in January-May



*Cambodia News | 10 June, 2023*

Cambodia exported 278,184 tonnes of milled rice to 50 countries and regions during the first five months of this year, generating \$191.6 million in revenue, the Cambodia Rice Federation (CRF) 's press release showed on Thursday. China was the biggest market for Cambodia's milled rice during the period by purchasing 118,041 tonnes, which accounted for 42.43 percent of the Kingdom's total rice export volume. According to the press release, exported milled rice varieties included premium aromatic rice, fragrant rice, long grain white rice, parboiled rice, and organic rice, it added. The news release said the Philippines is a new market for Cambodia's milled rice, and the Kingdom exported its first-ever big volume of 2,575 tonnes to the Philippines in May. Last year, Cambodia exported 637,004 tonnes of milled rice to 59 countries and regions around the world, up 3.2 percent from 617,069 tonnes a year earlier, earning \$414 million. CRF has set its goal of exporting 750,000 tonnes of milled rice in 2023, a year-on-year increase of 18 percent. Chea Vannak – AKP

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501305701/cambodias-rice-export-exceeds-278000-tonnes-and-nearly-200-million-in-january-may/>

## 600-hectare banana orchard mirrors China's increasing role in Cambodia's growth story



*Cambodia News | 11 June, 2023*

Well-grown banana trees that densely populate a 600-hectare orchard located in a remote village, over 160 kilometres from Phnom Penh, have become the latest symbol of bolstering diplomatic ties between Cambodia and China. The plantation along with an associated processing unit was established by one of the leading Chinese fruits and vegetables firm Dize Nong Ye Fazhan Company Limited on a leased property in Village No 35, Arak Tnaot Commune in Stung Trang District in Kampong Cham Province two years ago. According to company sources, it would create around 1,200 new jobs for locals, especially at a time when Cambodian economy was hit hard by pandemic, contributing job opportunities and steady income to the villagers. "My monthly income almost doubled after obtaining this job," Leang Kheng, who works within the packaging division of the banana processing plant told the members of Cambodian and Chinese media firms, during a media tour organised by the People's Daily China. "Earlier I was earning \$150 a month. After getting this job, it doubled to \$300 and I am really overwhelmed. We are thankful to the Chinese company for providing this great opportunity," said Leang, who lives 10 km away from the orchard in the neighbouring village. Everyday Cambodian employees work for eight-hour in two shifts. The first shift starts at 7-11 am; while the

second is from 1-5 pm. Twenty Chinese nationals are also employed at the project ranging with positions of supervisors to managers. Speaking to Khmer Times, Wu Fuxiang, one of the block managers at the plantation said the farm exports 2,000 containers each year to China. “One container is 20 tonnes and you can see that the number is huge. Cambodian banana has high market demand in China, where it is a huge hit.” He said the demand for bananas has been growing in China and Cambodia is well-positioned to tap this potential. “Various surveys and statistics reveal that 600 containers of bananas are consumed in China every day. More imports will be required in the future and Cambodia can explore this great opportunity.” The plantation is divided into two blocks of 300 hectares each and has a network of roads, linking all of its segments to the processing unit, which is equipped with state-of-the-art machineries.

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com>

[/501305728/600-hectare-banana-orchard-mirrors-chinas-increasing-role-in-cambodias-growth-story/](https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501305728/600-hectare-banana-orchard-mirrors-chinas-increasing-role-in-cambodias-growth-story/)

## Construction of city’s tallest building

68 percent complete



*Laos News | 9 June, 2023*

Construction of Latsavong Plaza, which will house a five-star shopping mall and a hotel and is said to be the tallest building in Laos, is now 68 percent complete and set to open in time for the Asean Summit next year. A progress report on the project was delivered when the Mayor of Vientiane, Mr

Atsaphangthong Siphandone, and his officials visited the site last Saturday. A project official said construction began in late 2014 and the building is scheduled for completion in December this year, with more lighting to be installed around the outside. It is hoped the building will be open for use next January and able to provide a full range of services during the Asean Summit next year. The plaza is located on a 155,000 square metre site. It is 138 metres tall and will house a 34-storey five-star hotel, an office block, apartments, a healthcare centre, and a shopping centre. The Ministry of National Defence partnered with China’s Chongqing Real Estate Company in the construction of the building, which is expected to cost more than 800 billion kip (US\$99 million). The developer of Latsavong Plaza is now installing electrical systems and carrying out interior decoration. In terms of trade, investment, tourism and real estate development, the building will change the face of Vientiane and is expected to become something of an icon as the city modernises. Latsavong Plaza is expected to set new standards in the hospitality sector and to be yet another symbol of Laos-China cooperation and friendship. During his site visit, Mr Atsaphangthong advised the contractor to ensure exit and entry was convenient and would not impede traffic flow, and that parking was adequate given that the building would house the largest hotel in the capital.

Source : <https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent>

[/FreeContent2023\\_Construction110.php](https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContent2023_Construction110.php)

## FOOD SUFFICIENCY: SG INSPECTS THILAWA MULTIPURPOSE AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK ZONE



*Myanmar News / 10 June, 2023*

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and party inspected the work implementation for Thilawa Multipurpose Agriculture and Livestock Zone, situated between Yangon River and Hmaw Wun Creek in Kyauk Tan Township of Yangon Region on Saturday. The Senior General heard reports on implementations of Thilawa Multipurpose Agriculture and Livestock Zone, 6th Mile Integrated Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Zone, Shwe Muyin Fish Breeding Pond and Ngwe Pinle Livestock and Fisheries Industry, distribution to the markets with reasonable prices, sales of chicken and duck eggs from Thilawa Zone in the disaster hit areas with reasonable prices, consumption of meat and fish, agriculture and livestock breeding tasks being implemented by Yangon Command and work implementations on the guidance of the Prime Minister. In response to the reports, the Prime Minister said agriculture and livestock breeding zones have been implemented in Yangon Region with the aims to ensure food sufficiency and reasonable prices for the consumers in the region. He pointed out the needs to extend the agriculture and livestock breeding areas for boosting productions. He also instructed the need to produce

animal feeds and natural fertilizers by using the local raw materials. He urged all to supervise for implementation of the tasks that will bring actual benefits for the people. The Senior General and party later viewed the displays of produces from Thilawa Multipurpose Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Zone. They then toured round the breeding zone and inspected the incubation work, and breeding and fish and duck. They also viewed the fish breeding processes being displayed there and discussed for production condition and food sufficiency in Yangon City.

Source : <https://www.myanmaritv.com/news/food-sufficiency-sg-inspects-thilawa-multipurpose-agriculture-livestock-zone>

## China praises Vietnam's farm produce, but makes modest purchases



*Vietnam News / 10 June, 2023*

Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Tran Thanh Nam, meeting the local press on June 5, said with the population of 1.41 billion people and average income of \$13,800 per capita in 2022, China is a vast farm produce market. The Vietnamese and Chinese governments and enterprises consider each other important trade partners with geographical proximity, a common border, advantages in transportation with short time, low costs, and diverse modes of transport. The Chinese market has high demand for Vietnam's farm produce such as seafood, fruits, woodwork and

poultry. Moreover, China has a road transport system favorable for Vietnam to import/export goods. Currently, 70 percent of Vietnam's farm produce goes to China by land. Nam, who recently had a working session with Guangxi and Yunnan provinces and attended a trade promotion conference with the participation of hundreds of Chinese enterprises, said Chinese all highly appreciate the quality of Vietnam's farm produce and want to connect Vietnamese partners for long term trade. "Chinese always talk about Vietnam's durian and praise its quality, but demand and supply have not met yet. A Chinese enterprise which has 2,000 trucks asked me to help connect Vietnamese suppliers to import Vietnam's durian," he said. Yunnan has 50 million people who love seafood. However, it is very costly to transport products from other provinces. Vietnam is just next door, so Yunnan people have high demand for Vietnam's seafood. "Yunnan will propose that the General Administration of Customs enlarge the list of aquatic products to be imported from Vietnam," Nam said. However, while affirming that demand for farm produce is high from both sides, he admitted that infrastructure in the border areas is overloaded. In order to boost trade, it is necessary to make investment to upgrade infrastructure conditions to satisfy requirements. He said that trade cooperation between the two sides is unstable. Traders just make transactions definitively, while they don't keep stable contact because of the lack of information. That is why Chinese traders find it difficult to buy Vietnam's durian, while Vietnamese

farmers have to sell durian at just VND60,000 per kilogram. After the working session, the two sides agreed to establish the Vietnam-Guangxi and Vietnam-Yunnan associations of farm produce enterprises, which aims at building sustainable farm produce supply chains. He affirmed that to boost the two-way import/export turnover, building a sustainable supply chain is a must.

Source : <https://vietnamnet.vn/en/china-praises-vietnam-s-farm-produce-but-makes-modest-purchases-2152940.html>

## THG invests in Vietnam clinic



*Vietnam News / 10 June, 2023*

From left: Dr Tanatip, Ms Nguyen and Mr Worasak in an agreement-signing ceremony marking joint investment in wellness clinic development in Vietnam. Thonburi Healthcare Group Plc Thonburi Healthcare Group Plc (THG) has co-invested in the construction of a 170-million-baht wellness clinic to serve wealthy customers in Vietnam, cooperating with Vietnam-based property developer IFF Holdings and Mithmitree Clinic. The project focuses on customers interested in healthcare and anti-ageing medicine, said Tanatip Suppradit, chief executive of THG. "This group of Vietnamese customers has strong purchasing power. They are looking for medical services provided by Thai doctors," he said, adding that the country has bright healthcare prospects with a fast-growing economy. IFF Holdings is funding 60% of the investment, with 30% from THG and 10% supported by Mithmitree Clinic,

which has operated a healthcare business in Thailand for 27 years. The new BeWell Wellness Clinic is scheduled to open in Ho Chi Minh City by the end of this year. More branches are planned for Danang and Ho Tram by 2025. THG expects the internal rate of return for this project to be around 20%, with a payback period of 4.5 years. Investment in Vietnam is part of THG's business strategy. THG and Thonburi Bamrungmuang Hospital earlier agreed to provide counselling services to the Ho Chi Minh City-based FV Hospital. The services, which started in May, have covered construction, interior design, management-system infrastructure, procurement, recruitment, and preparations for in vitro fertilisation clinic operations. Nguyen Thi Mai, chairwoman of IFF Holdings, said the firm decided to invest in the clinic because a growing wellness trend in Vietnam and other parts of Asean became evident since the end of the pandemic, especially as economies recovered. "IFF Holdings is partnering with THG and Mithmitree Clinic because we have confidence in THG's experience and expertise in delivering world-class medical services, as well as in Mithmitree Clinic's expertise as a medical clinic," she said. IFF Holdings expects the clinic to improve Vietnam's medical service quality and wellness knowledge to give locals better health outcomes. Worasak Manit, chief executive of Mithmitree Clinic Co, said Vietnam is an important market for the wellness business because its wealthy consumers are interested in holistic healthcare and anti-ageing medicine.

Source : <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/2588951/thg-invests-in-vietnam-clinic>

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