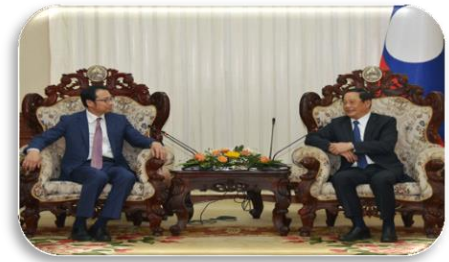


Highlight News / June 19/2023



- Cambodia collects \$1.8 billion in Tax Income for first 5 months of this year
- ASEAN neighbours Thailand and Vietnam the largest groups of tourists entering Cambodia
- BYD team discusses plans for EVs with Lao PM
- Thailand to host ASEAN delegates for Myanmar discussion
- Vietnamese, Russian power companies sign MoU at SPIEF 2023
- Terminal 2 at Phu Bai international airport inaugurated



Cambodia collects \$1.8 billion in Tax Income for first 5 months of this year



Cambodia News | 18 June, 2023

The General Department of Taxation (GDT) of the Ministry of Economy and Finance collected over \$1.8 billion worth tax income in the first five months of this year, about 51 percent against the annual target. The figures were released by GDT Director General Kong Vibol in a recapitulative meeting on tax income collection on Thursday. Kong Vibol noted the significance of tax revenue in the first five months. He attributed the achievement to the government efficient measures, especially in responding and containing the COVID-19. The GDT is a government agency responsible for collecting interior taxes such as income tax, salary tax, VAT, and property tax. For 2023, the government targets KHR 23 trillion (approximately \$5.5 billion) as income from the GDT and the General Department of Customs and Excise.

Phal Sophanith – AKP

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501309834/cambodia-collects-1-8-billion-in-tax-income-for-first-5-months-of-this-year/>

ASEAN neighbours Thailand and Vietnam the largest groups of tourists entering Cambodia



Cambodia News | 18 June, 2023

Figures produced by the Cambodian tourist authority reveal that Thais remain the biggest tourist market in the Khmer kingdom. In the first quarter, 570,000 Thais were stamped in by land and air, 285,000

Vietnamese and then 184,000 Chinese nationals. The total admitted from all countries to Cambodia was 1.72 million, a 600 percent improvement on the same period in 2022. Although there are regular flights from China, the huge Chinese market of the pre-covid era has yet to flower. Cambodian tourist minister Thong Khon said that more flights from China were expected and that his aim was to see at least 4 million global arrivals in the whole of 2023. Observers say that there are several reasons for the slowness of the Chinese revival including a downturn in the Chinese economy, a rise in the prices of inclusive foreign holidays, particularly airfares, and delays in the issuing of new five-year passports many of which expired during the covid era. Cambodian authorities are banking on the popularity of the kingdom zooming upwards once the two new airports open – one 50 kms from Siem Reap scheduled to receive traffic from October 2023 and one 20 km from Phnom Penh which will be completed before the end of 2024. These expanded airports will be able to handle wide-body jets from worldwide destinations. The historical need for long-distance air passengers to transit, usually in Bangkok, has traditionally been a limiting factor for Cambodian international tourism. Thai citizens are also currently the largest tourist segment in both Laos and Myanmar. Indeed, 70 percent of all arrivals in Myanmar are Thai nationals, reflecting the worldwide unpopularity of the Burmese junta which took control in a coup in February last year. But Thais are not discouraged by Bangkok authorities from

visiting Myanmar and there have been regular advertisements promoting the wonders of Myanmar on some Thai TV channels. Pattaya Mail

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501309801/asean-neighbours-thailand-and-vietnam-the-largest-groups-of-tourists-entering-cambodia/>

BYD team discusses plans for EVs with Lao PM



Laos News | 16 June, 2023

On June 6, Mr Liu Xueliang, the General Manager of BYD Asia-Pacific Auto Sales Division, Mr Ye Chenghui, the Regional Director of BYD Asia-Pacific Auto Sales Division, and Mr Mok Leng Tou, the President of MOK Co Ltd, BYD's local partner in Laos, visited the Prime Minister of Laos in Vientiane, and both sides held an in-depth discussion on the use of new energy vehicles and the transition to electric vehicles. During the meeting, Mr Liu Xueliang said that BYD's cumulative sales of new energy vehicles exceeded 1.86 million units in 2022, an increase of 208.6 percent from the previous year, and the firm ranked high on the list of suppliers of new energy vehicles in the world. Southeast Asia is a foreign market that BYD pays great attention to. Last March, BYD established the first overseas passenger car manufacturing unit in Thailand, and the firm hopes to have an auto parts factory in Laos in the future to support manufacturing. BYD will work with local partners in Laos to continuously improve passenger cars in Laos. The next major step for the firm will be the launch of the Plug-in Hybrid Model to

meet long-distance travel needs of the people in Laos. Mr Sonexay Siphandone, the Prime Minister of the Lao PDR, said BYD is the leader in the new energy car sector in the world, and in Laos, BYD is considered the first electric vehicle chosen by the Lao people. He congratulated the BYD company for its plans to build a factory in Laos and suggested a location in the Vientiane Saysettha Development Zone, which is a national-level cooperation project jointly established by the governments of China and Laos. The implementation of this project will increase the consensus between China and Laos in promoting the use of electric vehicles in the country and the green low-pollution project, as well as encouraging the development of Vientiane to become a model for a low-carbon and environmentally friendly city.

Source : https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeConten115_BYD_y23.php

Thailand to host ASEAN delegates for Myanmar discussion



Myanmar News | 17 June, 2023

Thai Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Don Pramudwinai has extended an invitation to his Cambodian counterpart Prak Sokhonn to spearhead a delegation for informal discussion on Myanmar's situation, scheduled for June 18-19 in Thailand. According to a June 16 press release from Cambodia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the upcoming dialogue is anticipated to hone strategies that respond to the

suggestions from the 42nd ASEAN Summit held in Indonesia last month. This initiative seeks to foster diplomatic advancement in the region. The press release further highlighted the crucial role of the discourse in bolstering the ASEAN Five-Point Consensus (5PC) implementation, and the 15-point ASEAN Leaders' Review and Decision for its enactment. The 5PC aims to address essential resolution areas, such as immediate cessation of violence and the initiation of dialogue between all relevant parties in Myanmar. The 5PC encompasses several crucial elements: the need for utmost restraint and immediate cessation of violence, dialogue between all parties involved for a peaceful resolution and the appointment of a special envoy by the rotating ASEAN chair to expedite the mediation process, with the aid of the ASEAN Secretary-General. Furthermore, the provision of humanitarian assistance through the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) is emphasised, as well as ensuring that a special envoy and delegation visit Myanmar to engage with all parties involved.

Source : <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national-politics/thailand-host-asean-delegates-myanmar-discussion>

Vietnamese, Russian power companies sign MoU at SPIEF 2023



Vietnam News | 17 June, 2023

St. Petersburg (VNA) – Russia's Rosseti power grid company and the National Power Transmission

Corporation (EVNNPT), a subordinate company of the Vietnam Electricity (EVN) Group, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to resume their long-term strategic cooperation which has been suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The signing ceremony took place on the sidelines of the 26th St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF) in Russia. The two companies agreed to develop joint projects based on the capability of each side and the advancements of Rosseti. They will also collaborate in technology exchange, digital transformation, personnel training, and occupational safety. Additionally, Rosseti will assist EVNNPT in developing primary power transmission lines and transnational high-voltage power connections in the region using advanced technologies. EVNNPT Deputy General Director Vu Tran Nguyen said according to the government's plan, Vietnam needs new investments worth 15 billion USD to build and modernise over 36,000km of power transmission lines and put into operation more than 169,000 transformer stations by 2030. To such end, EVNNPT needs to cooperate with global partners, including Rosseti, in various advanced fields. On this occasion, the EVNNPT delegation also visited the Training Centre of the Northwest Power Grid and the remotely controlled 330 kV Volkhov-Severnaya substation, which is part of the St. Petersburg Energy Belt./.

Source : <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/vietnamese-russian-power-companies-sign-mou-at-spief-2023/254854.vnp>

Terminal 2 at Phu Bai international airport inaugurated



Vietnam News | 17 June, 2023

Thua Thien-Hue (VNA) – The Airports Corporation of Vietnam (ACV) and the People's Committee of central Thua Thien-Hue province held a ceremony on June 17 to inaugurate Terminal 2 of the Phu Bai International Airport. Speaking at the event, Chairman of the Commission for the Management of State Capital at Enterprises Nguyen Hoang Anh said the operation of Terminal 2 will contribute to fostering socio-economic development of Thua Thien-Hue province while providing important transportation infrastructure for regional connectivity and ensuring national defence and security. Construction of Terminal 2 began in 2019 at a total cost of nearly 2.3 trillion VND (97.75 million USD) funded by the ACV. It was designed to serve 5 million passengers each year. It is also the first terminal of the ACV to apply digital transformation, upgrade digital infrastructure, and digitalise operational processes to standardise operational procedures and provide convenience for passengers./.

Source : <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/terminal-2-at-phu-bai-international-airport-inaugurated/254859.vnp>
