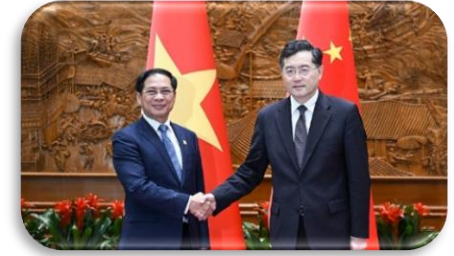


Highlight News / June 28/2023



- Major infra boosts for Kampong Thom
- CDC green lights 15 projects worth nearly \$220 million
- PM Anwar's official visit to Laos to strengthen bilateral ties
- Palm oil wholesale reference price in Yangon Region rebounds this week
- LG Innotek Vietnam Hai Phong raises investment by 1 billion USD
- Vietnam, China seek to boost cooperation



Major infra boosts for Kampong Thom



Cambodia News | 27 June, 2023

The government is planning to develop better infrastructure in Kampong Thom province including a bridge that runs across the Mekong River and connects with the Kratie province, a road that extends all the way to Kampong Leaeng district, northeast of Kampong Chhang province, and a new railway line from Poipet to Bavet, said Sun Chanthol, Minister of Public Works and Transport. The minister was presiding over the inauguration of landfill projects along with Ngoun Ratanak, Governor of Kampong Thom province. Provincial board members, representatives from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and officials from relevant institutions, citizens and students were also present. Addressing the opening ceremony of the Steung Sen landfill sub-project financed by ADB bank, Chanthol said that in addition to the landfill projects, the government aims to improve transportation projects in Kampong Thom province by building a bridge connecting with the Kratie province, and extending the road from the bridge to Kampong Chhnang capital and all the way to Kampong Leaeng district by 2024. Chanthol continued that the bridge will improve transport facilities and it will not affect the livelihood of the people, or harm fish and eggs and other natural resources. Instead, the bridge will facilitate trade, create jobs and improve cultural exchanges. He further said that during the

groundbreaking of the Phnom Penh-Bavet expressway project, Prime Minister Hun Sen also approved the third expressway project connecting Phnom Penh with Poipet. The road will run across Kampong Thom and Siem Reap provinces. This could be a historical project and will contribute to the development of the Kampong Thom community, the minister said. Likewise, the government is also planning to build a completely new railway line from Poipet to Bavet, running across Siem Reap, Kampong Thom, Kampong Chhang and Phnom Penh before going over to Bavet, connecting Moc Bai international gate border and Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam. The minister also appreciated the work of ADB bank, a development partner involved in providing support and loans to build road infrastructures in Cambodia.

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501314607/major-infra-boosts-for-kampong-thom/>

CDC green lights 15 projects worth nearly \$220 million



Cambodia News | 27 June, 2023

The Cambodian Special Economic Zone Board (CSEZB) and Cambodian Investment Board (CIB) of the Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC) have approved 15 investment projects worth \$218.3 million with plans to recruit more than 17,000 employees to produce various products at different places, according to two statements. The two statements released by CDC—one yesterday and another one on Friday last week—pointed out that

CSEZB has approved eight investment projects worth \$176.9 million that can create over 10,000 jobs, while the other seven projects worth \$41.4 million were approved by CIB to provide nearly 7,000 jobs to the people. The statements further stated that Svay Rieng has received five investment projects that are all located in special economic zones including Hi Park Special Economic Zone, Svay Rieng GIGA Resource Special Economic Zone and Tai Seng Special Economic Zone, while three projects have been invested in Kampong Speu province's non-SEZ areas. CSEZB has approved and registered an investment project worth approximately \$138 million proposed by Newbustar (Cambodia) Tire Co Ltd to build a factory that will produce vehicle tires in UBE Snuol Special Economic Zone in Snuol District of Kratie province, which will create 975 jobs for the people, according to the CDC statement released on Friday. "From my knowledge, I just know that this project was already ground broken last month," a former government official of the Kratie Provincial Administration told Khmer Times yesterday, but declined to elaborate details. Fresh Source International (Cambodia) Co Ltd and Optima Garment (Cambodia) Co Ltd have invested \$6 million and \$5.1 million to produce lights and clothes respectively in Takeo province. Royal Group Phnom Penh Special Economic Zone has also received a project worth \$9 million proposed by Metal Jewelry (Cambodia) Co Ltd to build a jewellery processing and assembly factory with a plan to recruit 434 workers, while Cambodian Xin Huang

Ming Garment Co Ltd plans to invest \$5.1 million in Phnom Penh and create 1,141 jobs. Sihanoukville Special Economic Zone has received one investment project worth \$4 million invested by Sinice Co Ltd to build a factory that will employ 34 workers to produce painting liquid and printing ink, while L&G Packaging Materials Co Ltd plans to invest \$5.1 million to build a factory that will produce packaging materials for clothes, shoes and bags.

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501314497/cdc-green-lights-15-projects-worth-nearly-220-million/>

PM Anwar's official visit to Laos to strengthen bilateral ties



Laos News | 27 June, 2023

VIENTIANE (The Star/ANN) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's two-day official visit to Laos beginning Monday (June 26) is expected to strengthen ties between Kuala Lumpur and Vientiane in light of the country's Asean chairmanship next year. Anwar's maiden visit to the landlocked country is at the invitation of his Laos counterpart, Dr Sonexay Siphandone, which was made during the Asean Summit in Labuan Bajo, Indonesia, last month. Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir in a press conference ahead of the visit said Anwar's visit to Laos, the first for any Malaysian leader since 2016, was important as Malaysia would be taking over the Asean chairmanship in 2025 after Laos. "The Prime Minister's visit to Laos will provide an opportunity for leaders of both countries to build positive momentum before Laos assumes the Asean

chairmanship from Indonesia,” he told a press conference here on Monday. This is Anwar’s seventh official visit to an Asean member state after he was sworn in as the Prime Minister on November 24 last year. He had so far visited Indonesia, Brunei Darussalam, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines and Cambodia. The Prime Minister is expected to arrive here this evening, accompanied by his wife Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, and to be met by Laos Head of Prime Minister’s Office Alounxay Sounnalath. Zambry said Anwar would be kicking off his visit by meeting the leaders of Muslim organisations at a hotel here to discuss the ummah issues. There are about 900 Muslims in Laos. On the second day, Anwar will hold a bilateral meeting with Siphandone and discussions between the two leaders are expected to touch on ways of strengthening Malaysia and Laos relations as well as economic cooperation between the two countries. The two leaders will then witness the signing of memoranda of cooperation (MoC) between Keretapi Tanah Melayu Berhad (KTMB) and Lao National Railway State Enterprise (LNRSE) as well as Mutiara Perlis Sdn Bhd (MPSB) and Thanaleng Dry Port (TDP). Zambry said Anwar and Siphandone will also witness the exchange of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) and Electricite du Lao (EDL). During the visit, the Prime Minister will also pay courtesy calls on Laos President Dr Thongloun Sisoulith at the Presidential Palace and Laos National Assembly President Dr Xaysomphone Phomvihane at the

National Assembly building. Anwar will also be joining the Malaysian diaspora for a hi-tea event at the Malaysia Embassy here, where he will be officiating the embassy building in Laos' capital city. Zambry said the total trade between Malaysia and Laos surged by 425 per cent from US\$48.7mil (RM202.5mil) in 2021 to US\$255.6mil (RM1.13bil) in 2022, mainly contributed by the increase in demand for Malaysia’s electronic products. Malaysia is Laos' fourth biggest foreign direct investment (FDI) contributor last year after China, Thailand and Vietnam, mainly in the energy sector, free trade zone, automotive and banking sectors. Malaysia and Laos have established diplomatic relations since July 1, 1966.

Source : https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeConten122_PM_Anwar_y23.php

Palm oil wholesale reference price in Yangon Region rebounds this week



Myanmar News / 27 June, 2023

The wholesale reference rate of palm oil in the Yangon market was set higher above K4,000 per viss this week ending 2 July, according to the Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution. The reference price was set at K3,860 per viss from 19 to 25 June. For a week ending 2 July, the price was set higher a bit at K4,010 per viss. The figures showed an increase of K150 per viss compared to that of the previous week. The Supervisory Committee on edible oil import and distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has

been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia including transportation cost, tariff and banking service, and issuing the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil on a weekly basis. Sale of palm oil is offered at a fairer price to the consumers directly depending on the reference price. However, there are limited sources of supply although they directly sell the palm oil at reference rate depending on the volume quota. To meet the oil sufficiency in the domestic market, about 700,000 tonnes of cooking oil are yearly imported through Malaysia and Indonesia.—NN/EM

Source : <https://www.gnlm.com.mm/palm-oil-wholesale-reference-price-in-yangon-region-rebounds-this-week/#article-title>

LG Innotek Vietnam Hai Phong raises investment by 1 billion USD

 *Vietnam News | 27 June, 2023*

The People's Committee of northern Hai Phong city held a conference on June 26 to present a certificate to LG Innotek approving its additional capital of 1 billion USD from 2023-2025, raising the company's total investment to over 2 billion USD. The LG Innotek Hai Phong factory, located in Trang Due Industrial Park, is invested by LG Innotek Vietnam Hai Phong Co., Ltd. After obtaining an investment certificate in 2016, it officially commenced operations in 2020. The factory specialises in manufacturing electronic components for the automotive, mobile, and phone camera module industries. Once the V3 plant begins production, it expects to generate an additional

2,600 jobs and an estimated annual profit of 400 million USD, contributing 100 billion VND (4.34 million USD) to the State budget each year. Speaking at the conference, Secretary of the municipal Party Committee Le Tien Chau affirmed that the event marked the development of the LG Corporation and LG Innotek Vietnam Hai Phong in the city in particular. According to the official, among a total of 42 countries and territories registering for foreign direct investment in Hai Phong, the Republic of Korea (RoK) takes the lead in terms of both project number and value, with 173 projects worth 9.65 billion USD, or 20.92% of the total projects in the city. LG's projects are the most prominent, with a total value of 7.24 billion USD, representing more than 37% of the total FDI in the city. The LG Corporation has been accompanying the city in social welfare activities, such as providing scholarships for universities and contributing 1.4 million USD to the national COVID-19 Vaccine Fund. Its business success in Hai Phong has also contributed to strengthening the cooperative and friendship relations between Vietnam and the RoK. On this occasion, he committed all possible support to business activities in the city, with a safe investment environment that is mutually beneficial for both sides. Senior Managing Director of LG Innotek Cho Ji Tae wished that leaders of Hai Phong and the Northern Power Corporation would continue paying attention to ensuring a stable power supply to serve manufacturing operations of the company.

Source : <https://en.nhandan.vn/lg-innotek-vietnam-hai-phong-raises-investment-by-1-billion-usd-post126824.html>

Vietnam, China seek to boost cooperation



Vietnam News | 27 June, 2023

BEIJING – Minister of Foreign Affairs Bùi Thanh Sơn affirmed that developing the comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership with China is a top priority in Vietnam's external policy of independence, self-reliance, multilateralisation and diversification of foreign relations. He made the statement during the talks with Chinese counterpart Qin Gang held in Beijing on Sunday. Sơn, who is accompanying Prime Minister Phạm Minh Chính on an official visit to China, underlined that Vietnam attaches great importance to developing the comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership with China. Qin affirmed that China considers Vietnam a priority in its neighbourhood diplomacy as well as in its relations with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The two sides agreed that PM Chính's ongoing visit is of great significance in continuing to reinforce and concretise high-level joint perceptions reached between the two countries during Party General Secretary Nguyễn Phú Trọng's visit to China last October, contributing to promoting the development of Vietnam -China relations in a stable, healthy and sustainable manner. The two FM's hailed the positive development trend of the relations between the two Parties and countries recently. As

the standing agencies of the Steering Committee for the Vietnam -China relations, the two sides agreed to continue to work closely together in promoting meetings and exchanges at all levels between the two countries, while supporting ministries, sectors and localities of the two countries to deepen their partnership in all fields, expanding bilateral cooperation at multilateral forums, and properly settling disputes, thus maintaining a peaceful and stable environment in the region. Highlighting a number of issues of Vietnam's concern in cooperation between the two countries, FM Sơn proposed that the two sides strive for balanced and sustainable economic-trade collaboration. He suggested that China open its market and create optimal conditions for Vietnamese goods, especially farm produce to enter China, while increasing high-quality investment in Vietnam and coordinating with Vietnam in dealing with obstacles in a number of joint projects and speeding up the disbursement of Chinese grants in Vietnam. Agreeing with Sơn's proposal, Qin underlined that the two countries are becoming increasingly important economic and trade partners of each other. He said China is willing to work with Vietnam to optimise the supplementary advantages of the two economies, affirming that his country will increase the import of Vietnamese products, especially farm produce, and create favourable conditions for custom clearance of goods through road border gates between the two countries, thus maintaining the smooth supply and production chain. China will also encourage its

reputable businesses to invest in Vietnam in areas of
Vietnam's demand, he stated. VNS

Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501314680>

[/vietnam-china-seek-to-boost-cooperation/](#)
