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MENU

Headlines

[Weather in
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[Jan 05-07, 99](#)
[Jan 01-04, 99](#)

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[Lao Embassy](#)
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[Hmong Page](#)
[Bangkok Post](#)
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• [India pledges US\\$ 2 million in soft loans](#)

AT a recently held bilateral meeting between India and Laos, the Government of India extended a soft loan of US \$2 million to Laos for the import of capital goods, consumer goods and services.

• [NT2 public consultation meet considers resettlement issue](#)

A FINAL decision on the resettlement of villagers living in areas to be flooded by the proposed Nam Theun 2 (NT2) hydropower dam in Khammouane province will be made public soon.

• [50th anniversary of Lao People's Army marked with parade and meeting](#)

A SOLEMN military parade to celebrate the 50m anniversary of the Lao People's Army (LPA) was held by the Military- Political Academy (MPA) at its Nam Souang, Vientiane province, quarters.

• [Japanese Buddhist priests build school for Thin Nyung](#)

A REPRESENTATIVE of the Japanese Nichirensu Order, handed over a primary school building to Thin Nyung village, Viengkhamm district, Vientiane province.

• [Indian Ambassador hosts dinner for visiting delegation](#)

THE Indian Ambassador to Laos, SD Muni,

currency exchange

US \$1 = 4,315.00 kip

(Black market

US \$1 = 4,690.00 kip)

US \$1 = 36.70 baht

1 baht (Thai) = 117.00 kip

1 franc (France) = 743.23
kip

1 franc (Swiss) = 3,049.44
kip

1 pound (United Kingdom)
= 6,952.60 kip

1 yen (Japan) = 36.48 kip

1 DM (German) = 2,505.91
kip

1 C\$ (Canada) =
2,738.48 kip

1 A\$ (Australia) = 2,658.12
kip

*Source: Banque Pour Le Commerce
Exterieur Lao.*

Consumer Index in Vientiane

Gasoline (1 liter) = 1,200
kip

Sticky Rice (12 kilo) =
20,500 kip

Jasmine Rice (12 kilo) =
26,400 kip

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946 megabytes transferred

For Dec. 1998

83,951 hits
924 megabytes transferred

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Vientiane Times is listed at

YAHOO!

Ecola

Notice:

hosted a dinner at his residence in honour of Smt Vasundhara Raje, Minister of State for External Affairs and her delegation which had taken part in the Second Lao- Indian Joint Commission Meeting.

• [Contributions to National Development Fund](#)

MRS Viphavan Phomvihane, representing the Lao Goods Fair and Kip Promotion, presented over six million kip to Mr Kou Chanhsina, head of the Office of the National Development Fund (NDF).

• [Ownership rights discussed at roundtable](#)

OWNERSHIP rights were the topic of discussion at a roundtable meeting held at the National School of Administration and Management (NSAM).

• [Saravan bids for 100 per cent literacy by 2000](#)

THE southern province of Saravan plans to launch an illiteracy eradication campaign to be complete by the year 2000.

• [Joint investigation and recovery operations for Americans unaccounted for in Laos](#)

Technical representatives of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the United States began joint investigations and remains recovery operations pertaining to Americans unaccounted for in Laos. This will be the 41st Joint Field Activity conducted by Lao and US representatives since Joint Task Force- Full Accounting was formed in January 1992.

• [Canada supports pig production workshop in southern provinces](#)

• [AusAID launches water supply and environmental health project in Attopeu](#)

• [Lao National Radio receives computer donation](#)

• [Vientiane receives another primary school](#)

Chicken (1 kilo) = 10,000 kip

Beef (1 kilo) = 12,000 kip

10 eggs = 3,000 kip

A bottle of Pepsi = 1,000 kip

Fer (beef noodle soup) = 3,000 kip

Tuk-tuk fee (from Airport to Morning market) = 2,000 kip

(Note: if you are a foreigner, expect to pay double for this fee.)

Average wage for a teacher per month = 52,000 kip

UPDATED

What's going on in Vientiane

ambulance service

Mahosot Hospital
214-018

Friendship Hospital
413-306

Setthathirath Hospital
413-720

Police Hospital
212-537

emergency phone calls

Fire: 190

Police: 191

Ambulance: 195

Electricity: 212-808

corrections page

• [Corrections](#) made in the last thirty days will appear here.

opinions

3.0 or later might not display correct background colors.

[from Japan](#)

- [2nd workshop on "Dictionary of Economic Terms"](#)
- [ECHO aid helps drought victims throughout Laos](#)
- [A relaxing getaway](#)
- [Domestic production under pressure](#)
- [Weaving his way to success](#)
- [Medal of Valiance bestowed upon Party and State leaders](#)
- [Using Buddha's teachings to gain irrigation believers](#)
- [Congratulations on the Lao People's Army Day](#)
- [A useful alternative for studying English](#)
- [Jujube--a fruitful enterprise](#)
- [Positive movement for the rights of the child](#)

- Here are [opinions](#) around the country.

more news about Laos around the web

- ▶ [Laos seeks Thai power deal for dam go-ahead](#) from [The Nation](#) (February 5, 1999)
- ▶ [RID preparing water-diversion project with Laos](#) from [The Nation](#) (February 5, 1999)
- ▶ [Mekong nations plan new airline](#) from [The Nation](#) (February 4, 1999)
- ▶ [ASEAN ministers meet to boost slumping tourism](#) from [Reuters](#) (January 28, 1999)
- ▶ [Laos denies it threatened to shoot intruding jets](#) from [The Nation](#) (January 27, 1999)

food for thought

Tour through Laos by bicycles

Vientiane: Of dust, beggars and bandits from Eric's point of view

"The Lao

- ▶ [Laos to shoot intruding Thai warplanes](#) from [Bangkok Post](#) (January 26, 1999)
- ▶ [Thai jet 'violates' Laos airspace](#) from [The Nation](#) (January 26, 1999)
- ▶ ['War' raging to control pests in Indochina](#) from [Asian Times](#) (January 25, 1999)
- ▶ [Laos Dam Resettlement Plan Approved](#) from [Business Day](#) (January 22, 1999)
- ▶ [Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam make pleas for help](#) from [The Nation](#) (January 21, 1999)

government is notoriously corrupt."

[Back to Top](#)

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