

APPU NEWSLETTER

FEB 2024

FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL'S DESK



The Thai word "สามัคคี" (Saa-Mak-Kee), symbolizing harmony and unity, beautifully encapsulates the spirit that propels our collective efforts forward. The spirit reminds us the unity and the achievements we can attain with the power of collective strength of our APPU fraternity.

It's been with great pleasure that we welcomed participants from 9 countries to our four-week Business Development and Marketing (BDM) Course and Managing Quality of Service (MQS) Course that commenced on January 29, 2024. Their eagerness to learn and grow reflects the spirit of commitment to excellence and shared learning. I invite each of you to explore the APPC's array of courses for 2024 (<https://www.appu-bureau.org/courses/>). As we strive to keep our skills sharp and our knowledge up-to-date, let us remember that every learning opportunity is a step toward greater understanding and collaboration within our community.

I am happy to announce plans to enhance our training facilities. Upgrades to the gym and library are in the works, aiming to provide a more enriching and supportive environment for all our training participants.

At the same time, the Bureau is exploring avenues of collaboration with the UPU to secure special funds, aiming to bolster our initiatives in other important areas of interest to our community across the Asia Pacific region. We look forward to the promising developments this partnership may bring to our projects, enhancing our capacity to serve the region more effectively.

Moreover, the Annotated Acts project is a major achievement for our Union. Courtesy the teamwork of the Reform Working Group and Consultant Mr. Mark Lawley, we have created a valuable resource for our members, researchers, and stakeholders. This project shows our commitment to sharing knowledge and

reforming our institution. The final draft versions of the documents are now available on the APPU website under the tab "Documents". We kindly request members to review them and provide their comments to the Reform Working Group/ Bureau via email by February 28 2024.

As we move ahead, we have started preparing for our 2024 annual events: the APPU Executive Council meeting in Siem Reap, Cambodia, and the APPU Business Forum in Bangkok. Please save the dates: August 12 to 16, 2024 for the APPU EC and November 18 to 20, 2024 for the APPU Business Forum. We look forward to your august participation in our annual events.

Let us move forward with the spirit of สามัคคี. Your continued support and engagement are what make our community strong and resilient.

Dr. Vinaya Prakash Singh



APPU-PIM COLLABORATION FOR ENHANCED LEARNING



The APPU Bureau, led by the Secretary-General Dr. Singh, visited the Panyapiwat Institute of Management (PIM), Bangkok, affiliated with CP All, on January 17, 2024.

This meeting marked a new beginning i.e. collaboration between the APPU and the PIM, focusing on education and skill development.

PIM, part of CP Group and known for its operation of 7-Eleven stores in Thailand, presented their targeted training programs that aim at equipping workers with necessary job skills.

The discussion concluded with an agreement on a partnership for resources, knowledge sharing, and participants engagement, aimed at enhancing learning and skill development in the postal sector. This partnership reflects a shared commitment to adapt to the changing needs of the industry through continuous learning.

QSF BOARD APPROVES THE COMMON FUND PROJECT FOR ASIA-PACIFIC

The 86th Quality of Service Fund (QSF) Board meeting of the UPU, held in Goa, India, approved the first LDC Special Fund QSF Common Fund project submitted by the APPU. This project focuses on Capacity Building for Mail Quality Improvement in the Least Developed Countries.

The primary objective of this project is to enhance digital access points at post offices, strengthen both digital and physical aspects of the postal network, and bolster mail security. Managed by the APPU, this phase of the project is set to benefit the LDCs in the Asia-Pacific region.



Key areas of focus include the modernization of the postal network through initiatives like green delivery and the digitization of mail delivery services.

APPU ENGAGES WITH INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



On January 30, 2024, the APPU hosted a session for the "Into South Eastern Asia - Excelsior Global Competency Training Camp", engaging students from 16 Chinese universities.

Dr. Singh extended a warm welcome, emphasizing the APPU's dedication to global collaboration. In a related segment, Ms. Yan YU, Consultancy Section Manager, delivered a lecture to the students on "Building a Cooperative Platform for Postal Progress."

The event reflected APPU's ongoing efforts to engage with the future generation in a collaborative learning environment, highlighting the union's role in a globally connected world.

AIR CARGO DEMAND CLOSING 2023 NEAR 2022 LEVELS

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has disclosed data for the global air freight markets, illustrating a significant rebound in air cargo demand during 2023, highlighted by a particularly strong performance in the fourth quarter.

The full-year demand was marginally lower than the level observed in 2022 and 2019. Despite ongoing economic uncertainties and geopolitical challenges, the industry concluded the year positively.

Key points include:



For more detailed information, review the full IATA report at <https://www.iata.org/en/pressroom/2024-releases/2024-01-31-01/>

- Global Demand Surge: December 2023 saw a significant 10.8% increase in global air cargo demand.
- Capacity in 2023: Available cargo tonne-kilometers (ACTKs) rose by 11.3% over 2022, with international operations growing by +9.6%. Compared to pre-Covid levels in 2019, the overall capacity increased by 2.5%, with international operations remaining stable.
- Yearly Performance: The industry closed nearly at par with 2022, with a slight 1.9% dip in full-year demand.
- Asia Pacific Prominent Role: Leading the recovery, the Asia Pacific region reported an 18.5% rise in demand in December.
- Geopolitical and Economic Challenges: The report also touches on how global instabilities, including disruptions in the Red Sea, impacted cargo demand and yields.

Hint to the Postal Industry:

The return to full capacity in air cargo services promises more space for postal dispatches, improving speed and reliability in mail transportation globally, a trend that underscores the resilience and adaptability of the postal sector to global supply chain dynamics.

IPC Global Postal Industry Report

An in-depth review of industry trends and operator performance

POSTAL INDUSTRY ACHIEVES STABILITY IN 2022 AMID ECONOMIC FLUCTUATIONS AND E-COMMERCE SHIFTS

The IPC Global Postal Industry Report 2023 revealed the postal sector's adaptation amidst changing market dynamics.

Here are the key points:



Diversified Revenue Growth: The postal industry's total revenue reached €492.8 billion in 2022, marking a 3.6% increase from 2021, largely fueled by logistics and freight sectors, highlighting the shift in growth drivers away from parcels and express services.



Declining Mail Revenue: 2022 saw a continued, yet slower, decline in mail volume by 6.2% and a 3.9% drop in mail division revenue, reflecting the mail's contribution to overall postal revenue continues to decrease.



Mail Volume Trends: Although the decline in mail volume has slowed, digital substitution continues to impact demand.



Released in December 2023, the IPC Global Postal Industry Report 2023 presents an insightful overview of the postal sector's performance in 2022. Covering 53 postal operators worldwide and key integrators, this report highlights trends, benchmarks performance, and explores the impact of non-traditional revenue streams on the industry's growth amidst evolving market dynamics.



E-commerce Slowdown: Post-pandemic, the explosive growth of e-commerce has decelerated.



Parcel Volume Declines: The slowing e-commerce growth led to reduced parcel volume in 2022.



Freight and Logistics Drive: In 2022, logistics and freight were significant growth contributors, overshadowing parcels and express services.

For more detailed information, review the highlight report at:

<https://www.ipc.be/news-portal/general-news/2023/12/14/13/18/posts-worldwide-show-resilience-in-2022-despite-global-economic-uncertainty>



PHLPOST ENHANCES E-COMMERCE SERVICES THROUGH USAID-SPEED PARTNERSHIP

Philippine Postal Corporation (PHLPost) has partnered with USAID-SPEED to boost its e-commerce capabilities, focusing on digitalization and modernization.

This collaboration aims to enhance services for SMEs and the agricultural sector, expanding PHLPost's reach into rural areas and improving its logistics and delivery systems.

The initiative includes updating the zip code system, implementing a real-time visibility system for mail operations, and establishing Barangay Postal Stations nationwide for more efficient delivery.



Read more at

<https://phlpost.gov.ph/cpt-press-releases/phlpost-partners-with-usaid-speed-on-e-commerce-initiatives/>



THAILAND POST EXPANDING ITS LOGISTICS AND RETAIL SERVICES

Thailand Post (THP) is set to boost its retail business contribution from 5% to 30% of its total revenue within three years, as announced by the Chief Executive Mr. Dhanant Subhadrabandhu.

Read more at

<https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/general/2737139/thailand-post-to-beef-up-retail>

The company's strategy includes turning its last-mile delivery into a first-mile service and launching new products like energy drinks under the "PRAI boost" brand by the third quarter of 2024.

Additionally, THP is exploring the opportunities to offer a virtual banking service, targeting migrants and Thais without formal pay slips, leveraging its extensive physical network and customer data.

The retail business model enables postmen to promote and sell products directly to consumers, adding value to logistics operations.

Currently, THP's revenue composition includes transport and logistics (45%), postal service (30%), international service (15%), and retail (5%).

The company, celebrating 140 years of operation, reported a 13% increase in revenue in the first half of 2023, reaching 10.8 billion baht with a net profit of 157 million baht.

Thank you for reading our newsletter. Please share your news with us

Write to us at:



yuyan@appu-bureau.org
admin@appu-bureau.org

