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King Visits and Distributes Donations to Poor Farmers in Kampong Speu Province

AKP Kampong Speu, June 28, 2014



His Majesty Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia, this morning visits and gives donations to 441 poor families in Veal Pon commune, Oudong district, Kampong Speu province.

Photo: Som Rithy

PM Hun Sen Presides Over the Celebration of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

AKP Phnom Penh, June 26, 2014



Cambodia's Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen presides over here this morning the celebration of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking organized by the National Authority for Combating Drugs of Cambodia (NACD).

Photo: Chim Nary

Cambodian, Bangladeshi PMs Preside Over the Signing Ceremony of Cooperation Deals

AKP Phnom Penh, June 17, 2014



Cambodia's Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen and Bangladesh's Prime Minister H.E. Ms. Sheikh Hasina witness the signing ceremony of four important cooperation deals between the two countries, on June 17 in Dhaka, during Samdech Hun Sen's three-day (June 16-18) official visit in Bangladesh.

Photo: TVK's Special Envoy

UN Envoy Appreciates the Progress of Human Rights Situation in Cambodia

AKP Phnom Penh, June 25, 2014 –

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Cambodia Mr. Surya P. Subedi has expressed his appreciation to the progress of human rights situation in the Kingdom. Speaking at a press conference held here yesterday, Mr. Surya P. Subedi said overall, the evolution of human rights situation in Cambodia is on the positive direction.

He also welcomed the efforts of the ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) and the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP) to negotiate to find resolution to the current political issue. To ensure the smooth functioning of democracy in the country, CPP and the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) should continue further reform, while CNRP needs to join the National Assembly for the greater interest of the

country, he added.

Mr. Surya P. Subedi congratulated the CPP and CNRP on their agreement to reform the National Election Committee and the RGC on the release of the 25 trade unionists who were arrested during a series of protests in January. The UN human rights envoy highly appreciated the RGC for its prompt efforts, both at national and sub-national level, to help the Cambodian migrant workers who have

been repatriated from Thailand. He took the opportunity to call on the Thai government to conduct investigation into the deaths of Cambodian migrant workers in Thailand and the sudden exodus of Cambodian workers out of Thailand. Moreover, he thanked the RGC for the positive and reconstructive cooperation during his mission in Cambodia.

By Khan Sophirom

Government Issues Passports to Migrant Workers and Students at Only US\$4

AKP Phnom Penh, June 22, 2014 –

The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) has issued a sub-decree announcing to provide normal passports to all Cambodian migrant workers and students at only US\$4.

All legal Cambodian migrant workers will be provided with a free passport, but they need to pay US\$4 as photo fee, according to a sub-

decree signed last Friday by Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen.

In addition, the students who won scholarships to pursue their studies abroad will receive normal passports at also US\$4, it said.

The migrant workers and scholarship students will get their passports not later than 20 days after they submit their appli-

cation, it underlined.

Mr. Ngor Meng Chroun, Governor of Poipet city, said from June 6 to 19, 2014 there were about 184,900 Cambodian workers who were repatriated from Thailand through Poipet international border gate.

The figure will decrease to around 300-500 persons per day in a few coming days, he added, stressing, “The highest number was on June 13-

14, at about 40,000 persons, and today (June 19) there were some 2,300 only.”

Ministry of Economy Calls for Further Reform

AKP Phnom Penh, June 26, 2014 –

The Ministry of Economy and Finance has called on all ministries and institutions to continue giving priority to the reform works and strengthening the functioning of the already-established reform working groups by providing them with support and encouragement.

The appeal was made by Minister of Economy and Finance H.E. Aun Porn Moniroth in a meeting of the Committee for Public

Financial Management Reform held here on Monday, according to a press release issued after the meeting.

The meeting touched on the elaboration of new Consolidated Action Plan for Stage 2 (CAP2-New) 2014-2015 and the new Action Plan of Public Financial Management Reform Program-Stage 2 of the Ministry of Economy and Finance before submitting the documents to the Public Financial Management Reform Technical Working

Group.

The Committee for Public Financial Management Reform has set 2016 as the initial year for the full implementation of Action Plan of Public Financial Management Reform Program-Stage 3.

Addressing to the meeting, H.E. Aun Porn Moniroth highly appreciated the efforts of the committee and different General Departments of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, as well as all ministries and institu-

tions in drawing up the new Action Plan of Public Financial Management Reform Program-Stage 2 since April 2014. Article in English by Chea Vannak

Cambodia, a Recipient of Japan Fund for the Joint Crediting Mechanism

AKP Phnom Penh, June 26, 2014 –

Cambodia is one of the developing member countries (DMCs) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to benefit from the Japan Fund for the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JFJCM) of ¥1.8 billion (about US\$17.65 million) to promote low-carbon technologies, according to an ADB's press release issued this morning.

The JFJCM was established after the signing of a Letter of Intent for Cooperation on Environmental Issues between H.E. Nobuteru Ishihara, Minister of the Environment of Japan, and Mr. Takehiko Nakao, ADB

President, on June 25, 2014, said the press release, adding that it is the first multilateral development bank to have a trust fund for supporting green house gas (GHG) reduction projects under the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM).

The eligible countries of the JFJCM are DMCs of ADB that have signed memorandum of understanding for the JCM with the Government of Japan. To date, eight DMCs are eligible – Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Mongolia, Palau, and Viet Nam – and the list of eligible DMCs is expected to expand, it said.

“The establishment of the JFJCM is a timely step to help meet the demands of the Asia and Pacific region for sustainable low-carbon infrastructure,” Mr. Nakao said at the signing ceremony.

“The fund will provide grant finance to reduce the cost of advanced low-carbon technologies, such as those related to waste-to-energy schemes and smart grids, which often have initial high investment costs and long cost recovery periods,” he underlined. Due to rapid economic growth, the region has become a major source of GHG emissions, with the region's carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions ac-

counting for 43 percent of the world's CO₂ emissions in 2010. This share could rise to 50 percent of world CO₂ emissions by 2035. The region's developing countries need considerable investments to make the transition to a low-carbon development path.

Many advanced low-carbon technologies face significant barriers to adoption such as high up-front costs and perceived risk that the technology will not perform to expectations. The JFJCM will offer up-front grant financing and technical assistance to address these barriers.

By Khan Sophirom

US\$205-Million Super Mall Inaugurated

AKP Phnom Penh, June 30, 2014 –

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia and visiting Japanese Foreign Minister H.E. Fumio Kishida presided over here this morning the inauguration ceremony of the US\$205-million ÆON Mall in Phnom Penh.

Invested by Japan's

ÆON Mall Co., Ltd., a specialist shopping mall developer, the inaugurated super mall is located in Sangkat Tonle Bassac, Chamcar Mon district, near the Russian Embassy. The construction started in December 2012.

ÆON Mall provides different services including fashion stores, coffee shops, sports clubs, clinics, restaurants and en-

tertainment services, cinemas, and so on. The four-floor mall is expected to generate from 2,000 to 3,000 jobs for Cambodian people.

By Khan Sophirom

Cambodia PM Asks the Ministry of Interior to Deploy Passport Offices in Province

AKP Phnom Penh, June 26, 2014 – Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen has urged the Ministry of Interior to consider the possibility of establishing more passport offices in other provinces beside Phnom Penh capital and Battambang province. Addressing to the cele-

bration of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking held here this morning at Koh Pich Convention and Exhibition Center, Samdech Techo Hun Sen advised the Ministry of Interior and other relevant institutions to create more passport offices in the provinces of Kampong

Cham, Prey Veng, Pursat, Banteay Meanchey and Kampot to cut the cost of travelling to Phnom Penh and Battambang. In the next step, passport offices should be established in all the 25 provinces and municipality of Cambodia, he underlined. Samdech Techo Hun Sen

took the opportunity to appeal to the Thai authorities to check and drop charges against 10 Cambodian nationals arrested and accused of entering illegally in Thailand.

By Khan Sophirom

Japan Funds US\$2 Million Grant for Disaster Risk Management in Cambodia

AKP Phnom Penh, June 19, 2014 – The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide a US\$2 million grant from the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR), financed by the Government of Japan, to strengthen policies and institutions to enable the Cambodian government to address disaster risks more effectively, pointed out an ADB's press release issued yesterday. "The grant will help the Government of Cambodia develop sound strategies, guidelines, standard operating procedures, and training for disaster

risk management at the national and sub national level," said ADB Country Director for Cambodia Mr. Eric Sidgwick. Cambodia experiences drought and flooding that affect a significant portion of its poor population every year. In the past 5 years, such disasters have caused hundreds of human casualties, widespread damage to public infrastructure, and millions of dollars in economic losses. As global climate conditions continue to change, Cambodia is expected to experience increasingly unpredictable floods and droughts that may over-

whelm the country's limited resources.

A recent assessment conducted by ADB financed project shows that the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM), the country's main agency responsible for coordination and responses to disasters, is in need of solid policy and resources to manage disasters effectively, said the press release, adding that Conditions are more challenging at the sub national level—the front line in addressing direct impacts of emergencies and disasters.

According to the press release, the project will

help integrate disaster risk responses into national development plans and develop a unified strategy for disaster risk management across different government sectors for improved coordination. The project will also identify training needs for NCDM Secretariat (NCDMS) staff and develop appropriate training. It will be carried out over 2 years from July 2014 to June 2016 under NCDMS supervision.

By Neou

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