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# Cambodia's King Cuts Red Ribbon to Inaugurate IRM Ward at Kantha Bopha Children's Hospital V



AKP Phnom Penh, September 25, 2012 –

His Majesty Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia, cuts red ribbon to inaugurate IRM Ward at Kantha Bopha Children's Hospital V in Phnom Penh while he was presiding over the celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Kantha Bopha Children's Hospital V on Sept. 22.

On the occasion, the Cambodian monarch also donated US\$10,000 to Kantha Bopha Foundation as well as various donations to the sick children who are being hospitalized at Kantha Bopha-5 Hospital in Phnom Penh.

Photo: Chey Phoumipul

## King Donates US\$10,000 to Kantha Bopha Children's Hospitals

AKP Phnom Penh,  
September 25, 2012 –

His Majesty the King, Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni has donated US\$10,000 to support the Kantha Bopha Children's Hospitals.

The donation was made when the King attended the 20th founding anniversary of Kantha Bopha Children's Hospitals and the inauguration of IRM facilities of Kantha Bopha Children's Hospital V in Phnom Penh.

On the occasion, the Cambodian monarch expressed profound thanks to the local and international donors for their support to the hospitals in the past 20 years.

“The protection of social welfare is an important duty to which we have to pay high attention,” he underlined.

King Sihamoni also stressed on King-Father Norodom Sihanouk's and Queen-



His majesty the King and Dr. Beat Richner at the inauguration of IRM Ward at Kantha Bopha Children's Hospital V.

Mother Norodom Monineath Sihanouk's attention and encouragement to the protection of people's health, in particular that of children and women, saying that they have given a piece of land at southern wing of the Royal Palace and provided financial support to build the hospitals.

Dr. Beat Richner, Founder of Kantha Bopha Children's Hospitals and President of Kantha Bopha Foundation, recalled the history of the establishment of the hospitals

and thanked the Royal Government of Cambodia, the Cambodian Red Cross and other charitable people for their support to his hospitals.

During the past 20 years, the Kantha Bopha Children's Hospitals have provided free medical treatments to some 1,350,000 children and more than 11 millions others have received free outpatient services, said Dr. Beat Richner, adding that the hospitals have so far spent in total US\$465 million.

The four Kantha Bopha Children's Hospitals in Phnom Penh and the Jayavarman VII Children's Hospital Siem Reap province have been supported by the Cambodian and Swiss governments as well as many other local and foreign charitable people.

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## Kantha Bopha Foundation Receives More Donations

AKP Phnom Penh, September 13, 2012 –

The Swiss government has recently approved to increase its fund to over US\$4 million for Kantha Bopha Foundation for a 4-year period, from 2013 to 2016 after the Kantha Bopha Children’s Hospitals are facing financial needs.

The remarks were made known by Dr. Beat Richner, Founder and Head of Kantha Bopha Hospitals on Sept. 11 at the Jayavarman VII

Children’s Hospital in Siem Reap province.

Dr. Beat Richner expressed his joy over the news and he also hoped for more donations to the hospitals in order to ensure free medical treatment to Cambodian children for 20 more years.

On the occasion, he profoundly thanked the Royal Government of Cambodia, the Cambodian Red Cross and the Bayon Foundation as well as other donors for

providing their humanitarian donations to support the Kantha Bopha Children’s Hospitals.

Dr. Beat Richner further said he has been also seeking humanitarian aids from the ASEAN countries and China as well.

The Kantha Bopha Children’s Hospitals in Phnom Penh yesterday received US\$50,000 donation from the Bayon Foundation and Cambodian Youth Movement.

Since the establishment in 1992, the four Kantha Bopha Children’s Hospitals in Phnom Penh and the Jayavarman VII Children’s Hospital Siem Reap province have provided free medical treatments to some 1,350,000 children and more than 11 millions other have received free outpatient services.

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## PM Hun Sen: Literacy, an Impetus in Development

AKP Phnom Penh, September 10, 2012 —

Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen has said that literacy is an impetus in developing human resources, a base for strengthening and empowering all people in building confidence and making proper decisions to participate in social activities and social development with more progress.

In a message on the In-

ternational and National Literacy Day (Sept. 8), Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen welcomed the Literacy Day as the reminder of main and necessary tasks to achieve the Goal of Education for All, and said that the literacy is a key to development in contribution to alleviating the poverty.

This year, the International and National Literacy Day is celebrated under the theme,

“Literacy Is Foundation for Development,” which depicts the government’s due attention in building human resources, especially for the children and young males and females and people from all walks of life to have access to education for the whole life.

To reach the Goal of Education for All, which is decided to have a 50-percent progress in reducing the adult illiterates before

the end of 2015 and in line with the principle, “Education for All, and All for Education,” Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen called on all national and international communities and concerned agencies to translate the Literacy Day into a universal determination and to give further consideration to literacy campaigns and non-formal education as well.

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## Tourism Development Strategic Plan 2012-2020 Launched



AKP Phnom Penh, September 21, 2012 —

Cambodia's Tourism Development Strategic Plan 2012-2020 was launched at the Peace Palace under the chairmanship of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Addressing at the launching ceremony, Samdech Techo Hun Sen said the strategic plan is the key national document to develop sustainably the tourism sector, which will contribute to the poverty reduction and strong economic growth.

“Tourism is a green gold that contributes an

important part in creating job opportunities, increasing people's income, boosting the economic growth and generating more income to the state,” he added.

According to Samdech Techo Hun Sen's speech, Cambodia is expected to attract 7 million foreign visitors by 2020, while from 8 million to 10 million local tourists would visit different destinations in the country. It would thus generate some US\$5 billion income per year and create some 800,000 jobs.

On the occasion, Samdech Techo Prime Minister also gave recommendations to the Ministry of Tourism and

other relevant ministries and institutions to promote the implementation of this strategic

plan and to continue to develop the tourism sector.

In the first 7 months of this year, Cambodia's outbound travelers had increased by 27 percent to 455,020, while the country received more than 2 million visitors, according to the Ministry of Tourism's statistics.

Last year, the tourism sector attracted 2.88 million foreign visitors, earning US\$1.9 billion.

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Cambodia's Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen hands over “The Tourism Development Strategic Plan 2012-2020” book to Cambodian

## Ministry of Economy: Cambodia Economic Growth To Remain at 7 Percent This Year

AKP Phnom Penh, September 11, 2012 — The Ministry of Economy and Finance of Cambodia said the annual economic growth this year would remain at around 7 percent, while the inflation rate would be going down by nearly 2 percent.

The agricultural sector would see a 3.5 percent growth, the industrial sector 10.2 percent and services 6.9 percent, the ministry said.

Thanks to a better inflation rate in the first semester of this year, the average inflation rate for 2012 is projected to narrow to 3.6 percent, from 5.5 percent in the previous year, while the currency exchange rate was stable, at around 4,050 Riel against a U.S. dollar, it added.

Gross international reserves were around US\$3.27 billion in the first six months of 2012, covering about 5.1 months of imports of goods, it pointed out.

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## “Morodak Techo” Olympic Stadium Project To Start Next Year

AKP Phnom Penh, September 07, 2012 – Cambodia planned to build a new modern sport complex, named “Morodak Techo”, worth around US\$100 million to US\$200 million, in the north of Phnom Penh to promote the country’s national sports and move forward to host SEA Games in the future, according to local media reports.

At present, a technical group of inter-ministerial committee has been conducting a survey on designing a master plan for the construction project, and the survey is expected to be completed soon, said Vath Chamroeun, Secretary General of National Olympic Committee of Cambodia (NOCC), who told reporters.

The project is expected to be built in 2013, as it is under the initiative of Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, he said.

Last year, he said, the Cambodian premier offered a principle to NOCC to cooperate with Phnom Penh City Hall to make a study on construction project of international standardized sports complex for promoting Cambodian athletes’ competence in international level competition for honor to the nation.

He made known that “Morodak Techo” national Olympic Stadium will be constructed on about 40 percent of total land area, with swimming pool, football field, athlete building, aerobic and combating sport halls, valley and basketball halls, and other sports facilities, and other area will be used for garden park.

He hoped that when completed, Cambodia’s figure will be further promoted on international arena in sports sector, as the country is able to host SEA Games.

Phnom Penh has an Olympic Stadium and another stadium located near Chroy Changvar Bridge in the west, both of them are old and dilapidated, which needed to be repaired.

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## Ukraine To Open Its Embassy in Cambodia

AKP Phnom Penh, September 18, 2012 — sador of Ukraine H.E. Oleksiy Shovkopliias.

Ukraine is willing to open its embassy in Cambodia, H.E. Ms. Sun Saphoeun, Cambodian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation told reporters after her meeting here this morning with Ambas-

Ukraine would like to establish a honorary consulate in Cambodia before opening the embassy, and to reach an agreement on visa exemption for diplomatic and service passports with Cambodia in the future, she added.

Ukraine also wished to expand its bilateral cooperation with Cambodia to the fields of energy and national defense besides the trade and investment sectors, said H.E. Ms. Sun Saphoeun.

The Vietnam-based ambassador of Ukraine expressed his country's

support to Cambodia's candidacy as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council, she underlined.

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## Phnom Penh City Hall's Discussion on Urban Transport Master Plan

AKP Phnom Penh, September 10, 2012 –

Phnom Penh City Hall presented the Project for Comprehensive Urban Transport Master Plan targeting year 2035 in a discussion held here on Thursday last week with over 52 participants from the Ministry of Public Works and line institutions.

The project was presented in the discussion ahead of being forwarded to the national level for approval, on which Japan International Cooperation

Agency (JICA) conducted the pre-feasibility study in the last two years.

In the past few years, traffic congestions and traffic accidents increased due to fast growing of number of cars and motorbikes in the country, said H.E. Khuong Sreng, Deputy Municipal Governor.

He also recalled two projects supported by JICA, the first for the urban transport master plan in the Phnom Penh metropolitan area in 2001 and the second for traffic improvement

in Phnom Penh City from 2007 to 2010.

Through the two projects, he said, the results were reached such as the improvement of road junctions, the installation of traffic lights, traffic safety and so on.

However, he said, it is not in response to the demand for the population growth in the city, so it is required to formulate a comprehensive urban transport master plan targeting year 2035.

The project covers 678 square kilometers of

the whole administrative areas of Phnom Penh capital city, according to JICA's report.

Its aim is to set a comprehensive urban transport master plan targeting year 2035 and also conduct study on the population growth of 1.5 million in the last few years.

The project is also important to benefit the Cambodian people across the country.

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## Next Phase in Ending Cambodia's Child Poverty

AKP Phnom Penh, September 17, 2012 —

Non-governmental Organization advocates for child rights and children themselves gathered last week to draw up plans to grease the implementation of United Nations recommendations to further promote child rights in Cambodia.

Funded by Save the Children, the consultative gathering took

place on Sept. 14 in Phnom Penh.

“This meeting will transform the voices of children and child-focused NGOs into concrete actions to supplement the Royal Government of Cambodia’s effort to fix child rights gaps from 2011 to 2018,” said Mr. Khun Pisey, an official at the Secretariat of umbrella body to advocate for child rights NGO Committee on the

Rights of the Child (NGO-CRC).

Cambodia ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on Oct. 5, 1992 to sharpen its commitment to promote child rights in a manner that contribute to ending the country’s poverty.

Cooperatively, the government and NGO-CRC submitted their reports in child rights promotion from 2000-

2009 to the United Nations. In return, some suggestions were given.

“In short, children and NGOs meet today to draw up action plans based on the UN suggestions to assist the government address children’s issues in our country,” added Mr. Khun Pisey.

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## Cambodia Seeks Assistance for Mekong Dolphin Management

AKP Phnom Penh, September 10, 2012 —

Cambodia’s Commission for Dolphin Conservation and Development of Mekong River Dolphin Ecotourism Zone is seeking financial assistance to safeguard and manage the Mekong River dolphins, according to local media reports.

The above-said commission will demarcate the management boundary as well as to pro-

duce big banners and posters to disseminate to the tourists and

ing these rare marine mammals, Mr. Touch Seang Tana, Chairman



Cambodia has been doing its best to protect its Mekong dolphins in the past five years and this has been recognized by the international community, he added.

In Cambodia, the dolphin population was between 160 and 180 in 2011, pointed out Mr. Touch Seang Tana.

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urge the local people to of the commission, participate in conserv- said.



## New International Airport To Be Built in Siem Reap

AKP Phnom Penh, September 18, 2012 — complete by 2018 or 2019, H.E. Tek Reth recently told a local media outlet. Samreth, Secretary of

Cambodia is going to build a new international airport in Sotr Nikum district, some 45 kilometers from Siem Reap provincial town with a US\$1-billion joint investment between Camco Airport Co., Ltd. and Lees A & A Co., Ltd. from South Korea.

The construction will begin at the end of this year or in early 2013 and it is expected to



State at the Office of the Council of Ministers. Once finished, the new

international airport will be able to welcome all kinds of large airplanes, he said.

According to the statistics from the Ministry of Tourism, in the first seven months of 2012, the Siem Reap International Airport received totally 573,941 passengers, an increase by 24 percent if compared to the same period in the previous year.

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## Campaign to Remove Rubbish from Coastal Areas



AKP Preah Sihanouk, September 27, 2012 –

Some 400 people including civil servants, police officers, sellers, representatives from civil societies and students join a campaign to remove rubbish along Preah Sihanouk province's coastal areas and in the provincial town on Sept. 23.

*Photo: NGO Somony AKP -Preah Sihanouk province*

Published in September 2012 by:  
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