

CAMBODIA OUTLOOK

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Royal Embassy of Cambodia accredited to the Republic of Turkey, the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and the Republic of Tajikistan

CAMBODIA VOWS TO PROMOTE WOMEN'S ROLES IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE BUILDING PROCESS

Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister H.E. Prak Sokhonn has reiterated Cambodia's commitment to promote women's roles in sustainable development and peace building process.

"I reaffirm Cambodia's continued determination to increase its women recruits, create conducive environment for women to realise their full potentials and expand their participation in sustainable development and peace building process around the world," underlined H.E. Prak Sokhonn at the Opening Session of the

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700 MW COAL-FIRED POWER PLANT PROJECT LICENSED

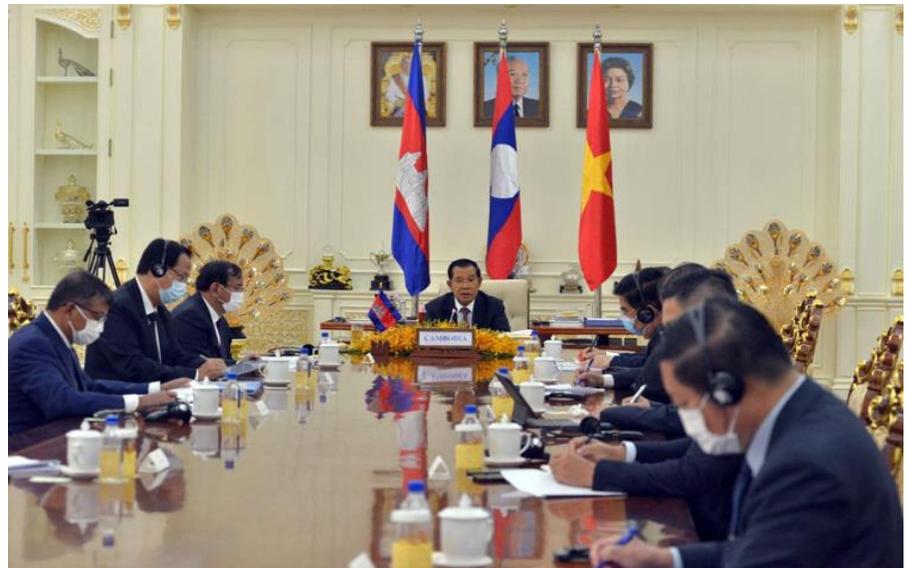
The Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC) has issued a final registration certificate to Botum Sakor Energy Company Limited to invest on 700-megawatt coal-fired power plant in Thmar Sor commune, Botum Sakor district, Koh Kong province.

According to a CDC's announcement on 8 December 2020, with a total investment capital of US\$1 billion, the project is expected to create some 360 jobs for the locals.

In October, CDC also approved the 265-megawatt coal-fired power plant project invested by Oddormeanchey Power Industrial Co., Ltd. in Oddar Meanchey province's Trapaing Prasat district.

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CAMBODIA, LAOS, VIET NAM ENDORSE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR CLV DEVELOPMENT TRIANGLE AREA 2020-2025



Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia participated in 11th CLV virtual Summit on 9 December 2020 via videoconference.

The leaders of Cambodia, Laos and Viet Nam approved the Tourism Development Plan for CLV Development Triangle Area 2020-2025, vision for 2030 at the 11th CLV virtual Summit on 9 December 2020, according to the Ministry of Tourism.

This is a regional strategic document that links the development of tourism in 13 provinces of the region (4 provinces in Cambodia: Kratie, Stung Treng, Rattanakiri and Mondulakiri), Laos (4 provinces) and Viet Nam (5 provinces) in the vision to develop the triangle area, it added.

In his speech to the Summit, Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia said the Royal Government has invested more than US\$3 billion to develop the country's four provinces in the Development Triangle Area (DTA).

The Cambodian Premier underlined that in

order to achieve the master plan and action plan set out to turn this area into a truly developed area, the Royal Government of Cambodia has invested about US\$3,146 million up to October 2020 on 86 projects, of which 66 in the fields of agriculture and agro-industry, creating more than 120,000 jobs.

As a result, the total domestic output for the four provinces of Cambodia in the CLV DTA saw an increase by 12 percent in 2020, compared to 2018.

The CLV DTA is an integrated area for the sustainable development and responsible tourism destinations, improving the quality of services in ecotourism, agro-tourism, community-based tourism, adventure tourism and heritage that contribute to improving the lives of people in the three neighbouring countries. ■

CAMBODIA VOWS TO PROMOTE WOMEN'S ...



International Conference on “Strengthening Women’s Role in Building and Sustaining Peace: from Commitments to Results”, held on 7 December 2020 via Videoconference.

From its tragic past, Cambodia has witnessed the might and resilience of women in rebuilding the society and engendering a peaceful and secure environment that is vital for economic and social development, said H.E. Prak Sokhonn, also Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

“Gender equality is one of the core values upheld by our Government and mainstreamed in all our national development policies and strategies at all levels. With our Government’s efforts, women now represent 41 percent of our civil service workforce in 2020 and a growing number are now engaged in leadership and decision-making

positions. They enjoy better social protection and support through the promotion of access to healthcare, legal advocacy and justice against violence, human trafficking and sexual exploitation and economic resources such as through the expansion of credit for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) of which 61 percent go to women,” he pointed out.

In addition, he continued, engaging women in peacekeeping is another facet of Cambodia’s commitment to promoting women’s empowerment through their enhanced role in building a peaceful world.

According to the Cambodian top diplomat, since 2006, Cambodia has deployed 419 women out of the total 7,123 peacekeepers to UN Peacekeeping Missions in nine countries. This year, 92 women are on mission among the 781 troops deployed in five countries. Cambodia now ranks number 2 in ASEAN, just behind Indonesia, and number 17 in the world for its share of female troop contribution to the U.N. PKO. ■

OVER 5 MILLION TONNES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS EXPORTED DURING FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS

Cambodia exported some 5,057,181 tonnes of agricultural products, besides milled rice, to foreign markets during the first eleven months of this year, despite the global COVID-19 crisis.

Report from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries shows that the exported agricultural products included cassava, cashew nuts, corn, fresh banana, pomelos, mangos, pepper, chili, and so on.

Cambodia's main agricultural products exported in the mentioned period include over 1.3 million tonnes of dry cassava, a year-on-year increase of 8.26 percent, some 300,000 tonnes of fresh bananas, up 117 percent, more than 210,000 tonnes of cashew nuts, up 26.58 percent, almost 200,000 tonnes of corn, up 63.85 percent, 90,801 tonnes of fresh mangos, up 83.50 percent, over 62,000 tonnes of fresh chili, up 38 percent, nearly 6,000 tonnes of pepper, up 39.39 percent and so on.

In the first eleven months of this year, Cambodia exported 67 types of agriculture products to 46 countries around the world.

Major markets for the Kingdom’s agricultural products include China, EU, ASEAN countries, India, Japan, Korea, Russia, Australia and many other nations. ■



PP INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WELCOMES ANA FLIGHT RESUMPTION



The Phnom Penh International Airport on 2 December 2020 welcomed the arrival of All Nippon Airways (ANA) to Phnom Penh, according to Cambodia Airport.

“We are delighted to announce that ANA has relaunched its flights between Phnom Penh-Narita (Tokyo) from this December. Operated on a charter flight basis for the time being, the liaisons are on Dec. 02, 05, 09, 16, 19, 2020 and Jan. 09, 23, 2021,” it added.

ANA has operated direct flights between Tokyo and Phnom Penh since 2016, but the route has been suspended since April this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The flight departed Narita by Boeing 788 at 16:00 and arrived Phnom Penh at 21:00, then left Phnom Penh at 22:50 and arrived Narita at 06:40 +1. ■

DRY RUBBER EXPORT UP 18% IN FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS

Cambodia has exported 290,700 tonnes of dry rubber in the first eleven months of this year, an increase by 18.30 percent compared to the same period last year, according to data from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF).

Cambodia has so far planted rubber trees on a total land area of 403,195 hectares, of which 62 percent are mature and ready for rubber tapping.

Some 282,071 tonnes of Cambodian rubber worth US\$377 million were exported in 2019, up 30 percent from 2018.

From January to November 2020, Cambodia shipped 5,057,181 tonnes of agriculture products (besides rice) to 46 countries around the world, pointed out MAFF. ■

CAMBODIA COVID-19 DEVELOPMENT RESPONSE PLAN LAUNCHED

Australia is working with Cambodia to address the social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and support the Kingdom's recovery and progress toward a more resilient and inclusive middle-income country, as the Cambodia COVID-19 Development Response Plan (CDRP) was launched on 9 December 2020.

At the launching ceremony, a Statement of Commitment to ensure the effective implementation of the Plan was co-signed by H.E. Chhieng Yanara, Minister Attached to Prime Minister and Secretary General of the Cambodian Rehabilitation and Development Board (CRDB), and H.E. Pablo Kang, Australian Ambassador to Cambodia.

The Plan sets out how Australia will support Cambodia's recovery through three pillars – health security; social stability and inclusion; and economic recovery.

"Australia will invest in a suite of activities across these pillars to support Cambodia's recovery," H.E. Pablo Kang said. "That will include improving the quality and accessibility of hospitals, promoting gender and disability inclusion, boosting food production, supporting Cambodia's energy transition, and empowering citizens to shape their local authority's response to pandemic."

To implement the Plan, the Australian Government will provide approximately

US\$85 million in grants to Cambodia as part of its ongoing bilateral development cooperation programme.

This is in addition to the US\$170 million that Australian Prime Minister H.E. Scott Morrison has committed to support economic integration and development in Mekong countries and the US\$445 million that Australia has committed to roll out COVID-19 vaccines in Southeast Asia and the Pacific.

H.E. Chhieng Yanara said that the Plan is protecting Cambodian citizens from the impacts of the pandemic and supporting Cambodia's recovery toward a more resilient and inclusive middle-income country.

"Australia is one of our pro-active partners that take a critical step earlier to prepare the CDRP to response to the COVID-19 pandemic," he said. "The CDRP represents one of the most significant collaborations in development partnerships between the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) and the Australian Government. The CDRP is highly regarded by the RGC as it has reprioritized the most important interventions which focus on three fundamental sectors that are well-aligned with the RGC's plan for post COVID-19 social-economic recovery." ■

CHILI EXPORT INCREASES DRAMATICALLY

Chili export has seen a remarkable increase this year, according to the statistics shared by Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries H.E. Veng Sakhon.

From January to November 2020, Cambodia exported a total of 62,432.78 tonnes of fresh chilies, a year-on-year increase of 38.02 percent, he pointed out.

Chilies are grown everywhere in Cambodia, especially in the provinces along the Mekong, Bassac, and Tonle Sap Rivers, including Kandal, Kampong Cham, Kampong Chhnang, etc.

Cambodia has been working hard to diversify its exported products, particularly the agro products. Rice is a major one, followed by rubber, cassava, cashew nut, corn, fresh banana, pomelo, mango, pepper and so on. ■



700 MW COAL-FIRED...

Cambodia currently has three existing coal-fired power plants generating 740 megawatts of power in total to the main grid. These power plants are located in Stung Hav district, Preah Sihanouk province.

Earlier this month, CDC gave green light to five new investment projects with a total investment of more than US\$120 million, generating 1,334 jobs. They cover the production of fabric products for pets, plastic products and agricultural pesticides, and the creation of trade centre and brewery. They are located in Phnom Penh capital, and Kampong Speu and Kandal provinces.

Such investment amid COVID-19 outbreak demonstrates confidence of investors in Cambodia's macroeconomic, political and social stability though threatened by the pandemic. ■

KAMPOT PEPPER GRANTED GI FROM 50 COUNTRIES

The Ministry of Commerce has secured geographical indication (GI) certification of Cambodia's Kampot pepper from 50 countries.

The update was shared by the Minister of Commerce H.E. Pan Sorasak when presiding over official Handover Ceremony of Czech Machine and Buying "Kampot Pepper" from Small Farmers by EU Land and Pepper Company.

He highly appreciated the Czech and EU sides for the support very much needed amidst COVID-19 crisis to further promote Cambodia's product in the world markets.

According to a report by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, for the first nine months of this year, Cambodia exported 4,121.95 tonnes of pepper, an increase of nearly 124% compared to the same period last year.

Cambodian pepper has been exported to 21 countries and territories globally, including Japan, Belgium, the Netherlands, France, Germany, Switzerland, Vietnam, the U.S., Russia, Britain, India, Belarus, Korea, the Czech Republic, New Zealand, Australia, Thailand, Sweden, Singapore, Australia, and Taiwan.

Kampot pepper was granted with the geographical indication (GI) from the EU in 2016 and from the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2010. ■

Song Saa Private Island | Cambodia's Eco-Friendly Paradise

Song Saa Private Island Resort lies secluded in this magnificent seascape, just 35 minutes by boat from the port of Sihanoukville. Most of the islands remain undeveloped - deserted oases of virgin rainforests, tropical reefs and glistening white beaches. It is an exclusive 20 villa resort to meet top end market demand for luxury hotels. The ultimate Cambodia island experience will incorporate a waterfront infinity edge pool, rainforest spa/wellness center, sailing and diving centre on the beach and a large over water restaurant and bar.

