



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

JAPAN'S GRANT FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT IN CAMBODIA

Cambodia and Japan signed the Exchange of Notes and related documents on the extension of the Grant Aid of approximately US\$3.3 million for the implementation of the Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship in 2021, on 26 July 2021.

Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation H.E. Prak Sokhonn and H.E. Mikami Masahiro, Ambassador of Japan to Cambodia, were the signatories.

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FIRST BATCH OF OVER 1M DOSES OF JOHNSON & JOHNSON COVID-19 VACCINES ARRIVE IN PHNOM PENH

The first batch of 1,060,100 total doses of Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine - a donation from the people of the United States to the people of Cambodia arrived on 30 July in Phnom Penh.

According to the U.S. Embassy in Phnom Penh's press release, the remainder are expected to arrive on 2 August. With this contribution, the United States reaffirms its longstanding commitment to the public health of the Cambodian people, one that has never been clearer than during the global pandemic.

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CAMBODIAN PM AWARDED WITH THE ORDER OF FRIENDSHIP FROM RUSSIAN PRESIDENT



Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia and H.E. Vladimir Putin, President of Russia.

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, has been honored with the Order of Friendship from President of Russia H.E. Vladimir Putin, according to Mr. Rafael Iangareev, press attaché of the Russian Embassy in Cambodia.

The award is to recognize the Cambodian Premier's significant contribution to strengthening friendship and cooperation between the peoples of Cambodia and Russia, he underlined.

The Russian President signed on July 25 a Decree No. 434, awarding Samdech Techo Hun Sen with the Order of Friendship, he pointed out.

The Kingdom of Cambodia and the Russian Federation established their diplomatic ties on May 13, 1956. They mark this year the 65th anniversary of their relations. ■

CAMBODIA'S MACROECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL STABILITY WELL SECURED

Cambodia's international reserves remain as high as US\$20.8 billion, while the banking sector stays healthy amid the threat of COVID-19 pandemic.

The trend was highlighted in a recent press release shared by the National Bank of Cambodia (NBC), to reaffirm the government's

right measures not only in containing and responding to the disease, but also to secure national economy.

The existing US\$20.8 billion of Cambodia's international reserves, underlined the release,

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CAMBODIA-CHINA RELATIONS “ARE AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH”



The relationship between Cambodia and China has hit an all-time high in all aspects, especially in the fight against Covid-19, said both Cambodian and Chinese senior officials and academicians.

The remarks were made at the Second Cambodia-China Think Tank High-Level Forum, which was held on 28 July 2021, under the theme “Towards New Development Phase of Cambodia-China Bilateral Relations.”

Speaking at the virtual forum, H.E. Bin Chhin, Permanent Deputy Prime Minister and Minister in charge of the Office of the Council of Ministers said that in this difficult situation, China has actively contributed to working with Cambodia to fight the deadly pandemic by supplying vaccines. He said relations between the two countries are always based on respect for sovereignty and non-interference in each other’s internal affairs.

“I believe that China has also been playing an important role in Cambodia’s economic recovery during Covid-19,” he said. “In terms of politics, economy, society and culture, Cambodia-China relations have reached an unprecedented level. He said the slogan “hard-core friend” clearly reflects the nature of Cambodia-China relations today while Cambodia is struggling with the pandemic.

“China has actively helped Cambodia, both in terms of technical assistance, materials and vaccines, and facilitated and given priority to Cambodia in ordering vaccines as well,” he added.

In his opening speech, H.E. Huang Kunming, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China’s Central Committee and the head of the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee, highlighted the support of the two governments for the high-level think-tank forum.

He also highlighted the strengthening of relations between the two countries, cooperation in the fight against Covid-19 in the past two years as well as many achievements and testimonies of the development of bilateral relations.

In the first semester of this year, the two-way trade between Cambodia and China rose to US\$4.9 billion, up 31 percent compared to the same period last year. ■

JAPAN’S GRANT FOR HUMAN...



The grant aid extended by the Government of Japan will crucially contribute to promoting human resource development of the Kingdom of Cambodia as well as further enhancing the close cooperation and bond of traditional friendship between the two countries, said H.E. Prak Sokhonn at the signing ceremony.

Through this cooperation, 26 Cambodian young government officials will be able to study at universities in Japan, he pointed out.

Since its launch in 2020, some 500 Cambodian officials have benefited from the Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship, known as JDS, he added.

For his part, H.E. Mikami Masahiro expressed his strong belief that this project has greatly contributed to the development of human resources of Cambodia. ■

CAMBODIA'S MACROECONOMIC AND ...



can ensure procurement of needed goods and services for more than ten months.

Meanwhile, Cambodia’s banking stays noticeably resilient with the increase of around 18 percent of assets, 23.4 percent of loans, and 20.7 percent of deposits.

In the first half of 2021, Cambodia’s economy continues to feel the impacts by COVID-19, especially for tourism, manufacturing and construction, while agriculture managed to grow.

To unload the burden of some sectors and individuals affected, the banking and financial institutions in Cambodia have restructured 367,239 loans equivalent to about US\$5.5 billion.

In the release, the NBC leadership also reiterated its commitment to implement measures directed by the Royal Government to maintain strong macroeconomic and financial stability. ■

GOVERNMENT SIGNS NUCLEAR POWER AGREEMENT WITH CHINA AND RUSSIA

The government is in talks with China and Russia about setting up a nuclear power plant in the Kingdom.

H.E. Say Samal, Minister of Environment, said the government inked the agreement with the Russian Atomic Energy Corporation and the China National Nuclear Corporation.

The memorandum of understanding (MoU) aims to boost cooperation on nuclear energy and the use of nuclear technology in priority areas such as industry, agriculture, food safety, energy, construction, the environment and medicine. ■

FIRST BATCH OF OVER 1M DOSES OF ...



These vaccines, which will protect fully more than one million Cambodians, are part of President Biden's initial pledge to distribute 80 million vaccine doses globally. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine doses have been delivered to the Cambodian people through the COVAX global vaccine initiative, in partnership with UNICEF and the WHO.

"The best protection against COVID-19 is to be fully vaccinated," said U.S. Ambassador W. Patrick Murphy. "We are proud to help Cambodia ensure the health of its citizens and keep its economic future bright with the donation of these vaccines, which adds to technical and material public health and economic assistance the United States has provided to the Kingdom throughout the pandemic."

The United States has committed US\$4 billion to COVAX, making it the single largest contributor to the international response to COVID-19. In Cambodia, the

United States has provided more than US\$11 million in supplemental assistance since the pandemic first broke out.

Through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), U.S. support has reached more than ten million Cambodians with risk communication materials via television, social media, radio, SMS messaging, and billboards. The support has also improved laboratory capacity, strengthened healthcare workers' skills, and helped to mitigate the economic impact of the pandemic for vulnerable populations.

Other U.S. agencies in Cambodia, including the U.S. Centres for Disease Control (CDC), National Institutes of Health (NIH), U.S. Navy, and U.S. Department of State, have provided critical technical assistance throughout the pandemic, supporting surveillance, contract tracing, capacity, and research to stem the spread of COVID-19.

These efforts build on decades of U.S. leadership and life-saving work in tackling global health crises. Since 1992, the United States has invested more than US\$377 million in assistance in Cambodia to address infant and maternal mortality, malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and stunting, improve hygiene and nutrition, and strengthen Cambodia's ability to finance and manage logistics and information for its health system. ■

TVK WINS BRONZE AWARD IN 42ND TELLY AWARDS IN THE U.S.

RESULTS



The National Television of Cambodia (TVK) has won the Bronze Award in the 42nd Telly Awards in the U.S. for the English business news programme Fortune Moment: All About Money, co-produced and broadcasted by TVK and Fortune Studio.

High-quality world-class guests, unique Southeast Asian perspectives, diversified narrative concepts, and sophisticated programme production have enabled the programme to stand out from the competition, and received international recognition and appreciation, underlined Ms. Jessica Fanh, Official Officer of Fortune Studio in a recent letter to H.E. Khieu Kanharith, Minister of Information of Cambodia.

TVK is the only Television station that won the 2021 Telly Award in ASEAN countries, she said,

CAMBODIA HAS OVER 100 RIVER AND SEA PORTS



Cambodia has in total 105 ports, of which 78 are river ports located along the Mekong, Tonle Sap, Tonle Basac and in provinces, and 27 others are sea ports.

The figures were shared by the Ministry of Public Works and Transports (MPWT), adding that the ports, run by both the government and private companies, are divided into trade, industrial, tourism and oil port and so on.

Those ports have been playing a key role in promoting trade activities to develop national, regional and international economy, it added.

On July 26, the MPWT has organized a meeting to discuss the draft port law to collect more inputs so that it can be comprehensive to serve national benefits.

H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of MPWT, who chaired the virtual meeting, said the port law will play a crucial role in the management and development of port, promotion of national and international trade, order maintenance, facilitation of port services, and environmental protection. ■

continuing that in addition to TVK, the list of award winners included many world-renowned channels, media organisations and companies, such as BBC, CNBC, HBO, CGTN, KBS, Al Jazeera, Netflix, Disney, etc.

Established in 1979, the Telly Awards is ranked among the most important awards specialised in honouring video and television across all screens. This year, it received more than 12,000 entries from all over the world, and the judging council included over 200 leading experts from major television networks, media organisations, and production companies. ■

Eco-Tourism Sustainability Promoted in Cambodia

The government has set up an inter-ministerial working group to pick seven provinces where work will be done on landscape sustainability projects to increase eco-tourism in Cambodia.

Areas to be included in the plan include the Oral Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary, the Central and Southern Cardamom Mountain National Park, Tatai Wildlife, the Cardamom Mountain Biodiversity Conservation Corridor and the Tonle Sap Lake Multi-Purpose Area.

The project will run to 2025 with the support of the World Bank.

