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to United States of America

ព្រឹត្តិប័ត្រព័ត៌មាន

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POLITICS

PM is Satisfied with Cambodia-Vietnam Cooperation

Samdech Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, has congratulated on the good cooperation between Cambodia and Vietnam, especially the cooperation at the border areas.

In a meeting here on Tuesday with visiting Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister H.E. Pham Gia Khiem, the Cambodian premier also encouraged both sides to continue their cooperation so that the people living at the border areas of the two countries live in peace.

He recommended both sides to further cooperate in promoting all potentials at the border, Ieng Sophalet, assistant to Samdech Techo Hun Sen told reporters after the meeting.

For his part, visiting Vietnamese deputy prime minister informed Samdech Techo Hun Sen of his talks with Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister H.E. Sar Kheng, which particularly focused on development along the border areas.

The Cambodian-Vietnamese relationship, both in the fields of economy and trade, has developed remarkably, said H.E. Pham Gia Khiem, stressing that for the first semester of 2010, the two-way trade between the two neighboring countries reached over US$700 million, while the Vietnamese investment volume in Cambodia increased to around US$1,000 million.

The Vietnamese deputy prime minister and foreign minister arrived in Cambodia on Aug. 2 to join the 6th Meeting on cooperation and development between border provinces of Cambodia and Vietnam held on Aug. 3 at the Intercontinental Hotel.

During his three-day official visit in the Kingdom, H.E. Pham Gia Khiem presided over the inauguration ceremony of a representative office of the Vietnam National Petroleum Corporation (Petrolimex) in Phnom Penh, and the signing ceremony of an agreement between the Cambodian Five Star Fertilizer Company and China's Jiangsu Right Machinery Group to transfer technologies for fertilizer production in Cambodia.

Over 110,000 Affected Families Receive Emergency Relief Aid from CRC

During the fourth mandate (2006-2010) of the Cambodian Red Cross (CRC), some 113,745 affected families have received emergency relief aid from the CRC at all levels, said CRC President Lok Chumteav Bun Rany Hun Sen.

Addressing the opening ceremony of the 5th CRC General Assembly at Chaktomuk Conference Hall, Phnom Penh, Lok Chumteav Bun Rany Hun Sen said CRC has also gained great success in raising awareness of general public's on HIV/AIDS prevention and fight against the spread of the disease as well as to stop discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS.

CRC is very proud with the fact that it has contributed to the safe net policy of the Royal Government by providing supports to the orphans, the old-aged, disabled, since CRC has aligned its activities to the implementation of the national strategic development plan, in particular supporting to the National Health Development Strategy aiming high to help reducing morbidity and mortality rate of women and children, in changing behavior from living in a primitive way to a sophisticated lifestyle by Red Cross education on hygiene, protection and caring for health, she said.

Moreover, she added, CRC has widely disseminated and scaled up the public relations and media work to broadly raise the awareness of publics, student-pupils, young people, and this has brought about an increasing participation to the CRC's activities as envisaged by the concept of "Saving Lives, Changing Minds" and in accordance with the three encouraging mottos of the "Doing More" "Doing Better" and "Reaching Further".

For his part, His Majesty Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia, who presided over the opening ceremony, congratulated CRC on its successes, which gained active participation to the CRC's humanitarian operations from the national and international charitable people.

"I would like to congratulate the CRC on its substantial achievements that have so far gained and extend my appreciation to its all level management, under the leadership of Lok Chumteav and CRC's members, volunteers, youth, officials and expert staff throughout the Kingdom of Cambodia for having fulfilled their noble humanitarian missions with their strong and brave determination and sincerity to rescue disasters' victims at all places and times, gaining its credibility from the people in general," the king said.

According to Lok Chumteav Bun Rany Hun Sen, for the next mandate, CRC will continue promoting the disaster management, the health and care in the community, the promotion of the movement's fundamental principles and humanitarian values, and the organizational development and resource development.

To ensure an effectiveness in the implementation of the above four core areas, CRC continues to build safety system for disasters' preparedness and capacity for disasters risk reduction and for response aiming at ensuring disaster management, strengthen cooperation with local and international partners as well as to encourage the decentralization and de-concentration spirit in the organizational development and resource development process, etc., she explained.

Cambodia, U.S. Sign MoU on Khmer Heritage Development

The Cambodian Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts signed here on Aug. 4 a MoU with the American Heritage Protection Organization on the development and conservation of Banteay

Chhmar Temple in Banteay Meanchey province.

Under the two-year MoU, the program of education and tourism community development has been implemented from June 2010 to May 2012 at the total cost of US$20,500 funded by the Archaeological Institute of America.

The MoU will also open training courses of English language, seminars on cultural heritage preservation as well as tourism courses.

U.S. Army General Praises Multinational Peacekeeping Exercise

A U.S. Army General has praised the Multinational Peacekeeping Exercise "Angkor Sentinel 2010" hosted by Cambodia, which ended on July 30.

Brig. Gen. Seward, representative of the U.S. Pacific Command, said he would like to express special thanks to Cambodia that hosted the "Angkor Sentinel 2010" Operations Training, and welcome the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces for their efforts in peacekeeping mission in Africa.

Cambodia's support to the UN Peacekeeping Operations is to contribute to the stability in Chad and Sudan, and the efforts made by the members of the Peacekeeping Forces are improving global security in the important regions of the world, Brig. Gen. Seward said.

Speaking through an interpreter, Brig. Gen. Seward said, "Now, we are better prepared in the international peacekeeping operations and we have ability, possibility and effectiveness in initiating and sustaining the security operations. We have made considerable evolutions in achieving peace in Asia and other regions. We will build peaceful and security base in the future."

"Angkor Sentinel 2010" Operations Training was joined by multinational forces from 24 countries: Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei, China, England, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, Tonga, the United States, Vietnam, and Cambodia; and the representatives from the International Red Cross and the United Nations.

The first operations exercise took place in Mongolia 2007, followed the second, the third and the fourth, respectively in Bangladesh, Indonesia and Mongolia.

Prak Sokhon, Delegate Minister attached to the Prime Minister, said Cambodia was praised for the hosting of "Angkor Sentinel 2010" Operation Exercise by the high-ranking officer of the U.S. Pacific Command, who had an assessment that the exercise is of high-quality, and he supports Cambodia to host the future exercise.

The achievements obtained in the operation exercise not only show the success of the bilateral cooperation between Cambodia and the United States in improving the peacekeeping capacity, but also provide opportunity and facilitate the strengthening of the cooperation with the participating countries, said Defense Minister Tea Banh.

The operation exercise is an important contribution to capacity improvement in solving unexpected challenges that can take place anytime and anywhere in the world.

Cambodian Migrant Laborers to Malaysia, Thailand Up 2 Folds in 6 Months

Cambodia's migrant workers to Malaysia and Thailand increased two folds in the first six months of this year compared to the same period last year, Chinese News Agency Xinhua quoted the figures released Tuesday by the Cambodia Recruitment Agency (CRA), which is exclusively authorized by the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training to send laborers to foreign countries.

The figures showed that Cambodia has sent 5,776 legal workers (3,543 female and 2,233 male) to Malaysia from January to June this year, up two folds from only 1,925 in the first half of 2009. In Malaysia, female workers are employed as maids and shop assistants, while male workers for working in manufacturing industry.

Meanwhile, Cambodia has also sent 2,409 labors (1,124 female and 1,285 male) to Thailand in the first six months of this year, up two folds from only 803 workers in the same period last year, according to the CRA's report. Most of them are working in factories and tourism industry.

Officials said that the increase of migrant workers to Malaysia was because of the high demand for housekeeping as Indonesia stopped sending their workers into the market concerning poor labor condition.

Khmer Traditional Dance Receives Gold Award in Singapore

The Khmer traditional dance "Buong Suong" (Praying Dance) has won the gold award at the ASEAN-China Youth Arts Exhibition in Singapore.

Four Khmer Dancer students and a trainer of the Royal University of Fine Arts was sponsored by Golden China Group to join with other 600 arts students from six regions in the ASEAN-China Youth Arts Exhibition, taking place from July 26 to 28 in Singapore, according to the representative of Golden China Group.

Created in 1918, "Buong Suong" dance is a praying dance for peace, success and happiness.

The ASEAN-China Youth Arts Exhibition was first organized in 2008 with an aim to promote experience exchange and cultural cooperation among the ASEAN member countries and between ASEAN and China.

Thailand will host the event next year.

Cambodia Wins Silver Medal in International Boat Racing in Indonesia

Cambodian boat racers won silver medal during the International Dragon Boat Open Tournament 2010 held from July 29 to Aug. 1 in Padang city of Sumatra province, Indonesia.

Malaysia won the gold medal and the host country, Indonesia, got the bronze one, according to Ros Ren, secretary of state at the Ministry of Tourism, who led the 28-member Cambodian delegation to join the competition, the 8th of its kind.

Twenty-nine groups – one from Cambodia, one from China, two from the Philippines, four from Malaysia and 21 from Indonesia – took part in the tournament held every two years.

In 2005, Cambodia was ranked first in the same competition taking place in China.

Cambodia used to host this international sporting event in 2007.

Economy

Rice Exports is Up High in the First Half of 2010

In the first six months of 2010, Cambodia exports 107,291 tonnes of rice to abroad, it generate the rice export up 2,356 percent from the year 2009.

The Ministry of Commerce's CamControl released the data showed that only 4,369 tonnes was exported in the first six months of 2009. The afford from the government to improve the quality of Cambodia "white gold" to help increase the rice export to foreign markets. Last year, the government installed tax preferences for foreign investors. And the European Union allowed more Cambodian rice to enter its markets.

"This year, we have 3.5 million tons of paddy surplus and around 4 million tons by 2015, but we have to improve our packing technology and rice millers," Samdech Techo Hun Sen told the participants during a university graduation ceremony on Wednesday