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## 2nd Batch of China-donated COVID-19 Vaccines Arrives in Cambodia

A Chinese military aircraft with 700,000 doses of Sinopharm vaccine, donated by China, landed tonight at Phnom Penh International Airport.

The vaccines' handover ceremony took place at the airport under the presidency of Samdech Pichey Sena Tea Banh, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of National Defence, and Chinese Ambassador to Cambodia H.E. Wang Wentian.

This is the second batch of China's donation in COVID-19 vaccines. The first batch of 600,000 doses of Sinopharm arrived in Cambodia in early February.

Among the 700,000 doses, 300,000 are for the Cambodian Ministry of National Defence and the rest for the Ministry of Health, said the Chinese ambassador, stressing that more doses of COVID-19 vaccines will arrive successively in Cambodia from China.

Samdech Tea Banh expressed his gratitude to the Chinese side for the humanitarian assistance despite the sharp increase of demand for vaccines in the world as well as for the technical and experience sharing in order to jointly combat the pandemic.

This reflects the good cooperation between Cambodia and China under the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership of Cooperation between the two countries and the concept of Community of Shared Future, he underlined./.



## Cambodia to Begin Large-scale Vaccination Campaign Soon



The Royal Government of Cambodia will start a large-scale nationwide vaccination campaign against COVID-19 in the near future, said Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen in a special voice message this morning.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen said medical team from Phnom Penh will be dispatched to provinces for the forthcoming large-scale vaccination programme.

At least 1 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines are expected to be administered to people per month, he underlined, adding that more vaccines will arrive in Cambodia consecutively.

The Royal Government of Cambodia has planned at least 10 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines for the vaccination campaign in 2021,

as orders for more vaccines have been placed.

Speaking to reporters after presiding over a ceremony to receive 1.5 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine (Sinovac) from China at the Phnom Penh International Airport last Friday, H.E. Vongsey Vissoth, Permanent Secretary of State at the Ministry of Economy and Finance said that the Royal Government of Cambodia has enough funds to buy COVID-19 vaccines from China and other countries to give to the Cambodian people for free.

According to H.E. Secretary of State, Cambodia planned to buy 4 million more doses of Sinovac from China and is in negotiation to purchase Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccines from US company.

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## Chinese-funded Bridge Put into Temporary Use

## More Than 100 Cambodian Artifacts Returned Home

The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) this morning put into temporary use the Cambodia-China Friendship Bridge Stung Trang-Kroch Chhmar, connecting Kampong Cham and Thbong Khmum provinces.

This is to facilitate the travel of people, said H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister and Minister of Public Works and Transport.

“The bridge’s temporary opening is to avoid congestion of people using ferry, particularly during the upcoming Khmer New Year holiday. We want them to travel via the bridge,” H.E. Sun Chanthol said during an inspection visit to the bridge today.

The official inauguration of bridge will take place in the near future under the presidency of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia.

Built by Shanghai Construction Group, the bridge stretches over 1,131 metres in length and 13.5 metres in width, linking Stung Trang district of Kampong Cham province to Kroch Chhmar district of Thbong Khmum province.

Broken ground in December 2017, the bridge’s construction lasted 42 months at a total cost of US\$58.42 million funded by a grant financing from the Chinese government and a budget of the RGC. This is the eighth Cambodia-China friendship bridge in Cambodia./.



Over 100 Cambodian artifacts have been returned to the country in the past three years through a process of hard work in liaisons and negotiations led by the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts.

The acknowledgement was underlined in a message by Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen released recently to mark the 23rd National Cultural Day on Mar. 3.

Thanking the team and the donors as well as all concerned stakeholders, Samdech Techo Prime Minister added that the achievement is the largest, and peace and political stability are the most important prerequisites for the mission of inviting the souls of Cambodian ancestors to return home.

The Prime Minister encouraged the ministry and concerned parties to continue preserving the Cambodian artifacts which represent the soul of Cambodian ancestors, and urged active participation from all including the public to make the existence last.

To show the glorious past to the world, Cambodia is improving physical infrastructure and rehabilitating ancient sites and temples particularly at Angkor Archaeological Park as well as Siem Reap provincial town to welcome visitors./.





## Cambodia Preparing for Vaccination of More Foreigners



Cambodia is preparing for the vaccination of foreigners who are residing and working in Cambodia and who are not under the umbrella of the United Nations (UN), International Organisations (IOs), Bilateral Organisation, International Financing Institutions, Embassy in Cambodia or recognised legally local organisations (they are under the coordination and facilitation by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation).

According to the Inter-Ministerial Committee to Fight COVID-19, the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training (MLVT) is responsible for preparing the registration list of foreigners holding Ordinary Visa (Visa E) and Work Permits issued by the MLVT, including investors, businesspersons, skilled workers, artists, medical practitioners, teachers, sport practitioners, advisors, experts, etc.

The required documents for the vaccination registration are (1) valid passport, (2) valid Visa and (3) valid Work Permits issued by the MLVT, it pointed out.

Besides, it continued, the foreigners in this category who have been registered for vaccination will receive a notification for vaccination that may receive vaccination at the same time with Cambodian officials and workers at ministries, institutions, factories, companies, or appropriate locations, in compliance with the vaccination programme of the Ministry of Health.

On the other hand, the local authorities at the level of capital, provinces and cities are responsible for the registration of other foreigners who are not listed in the category (A): Khmer citizens holding foreign passports with Visa (K), foreigners married to Khmer citizens, foreign retirees, foreigners with legal long-term residence etc., the same source said.

The required documents for the vaccination registration are (1) valid passport and (2) valid Visa, it added.

The foreigners in this category who have been registered for vaccination will receive a vaccination at the same time with Khmer citizens at appropriate locations, in compliance with the vaccination programme of the Ministry of Health, the announcement concluded./.

## Cambodia to Begin ....

For his part, H.E. Wang Wentian, Chinese Ambassador to Cambodia, affirmed that the Chinese government and people will continue to support Cambodia in the fight against the coronavirus.

Cambodia has already received 1.5 million doses of Sinovac, 600,000 doses of the 1 million Sinopharm vaccine donated by China, and 324,000 doses of AstraZeneca/SII donated by WHO via COVAX Facility.

## Korea Provides US\$7 Million to Promote ICT Capacity for Regional Teacher Training Centres and Lower Secondary Education

The Government of Korea through the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) has decided to provide US\$7 million to enhance the ICT capacity building for Regional Teacher Training Centres and Lower Secondary Education in Cambodia, according to a KOICA press release issued recently.

The official signing ceremony took place virtually on Wednesday between H.E. Dr. Hang Chuon Naron, Cambodian Minister of Education, Youth and Sports (MoEYS) and Mr. Rho Hyunjun, Country Director of KOICA.

The major thrust of the project is to support MoEYS's effort to enhance teacher qualification in ICT education, mainly focused on Regional Teacher Training Centres and Lower Secondary Schools in Kampong Cham, Prey Veng, Takeo, and Kandal provinces, said the same source.

Through this project, KOICA aims to provide a Master's degree scholarship programme for teacher educators, improve current ICT curriculum and textbook development, and enhance the ICT education environment as well as support the ICT leading schools in the above four provinces, it continued.

In this ceremony, Mr. Rho Hyunjun mentioned that KOICA hopes this project will contribute to the improvement of Cambodia's ICT education and contribute to Cambodia's Rectangular Strategy target, Human Resource Development through the strengthening of the quality of education, science and technology./.