

Newsletter Published by the Royal Embassy of Cambodia in Canberra, Australia



30 December 2020

Volume 20

Phnom Penh International Airport Welcomes ANA Flight Resumption

The Phnom Penh International Airport yesterday night welcomed the arrival of All Nippon Airways (ANA) to Phnom Penh, according to Cambodia Aiports' news release today.

"Welcome Back! Warm welcome back to our partner All Nippon Airways (ANA) to Cambodia! We've missed you!", said Cambodia Airports.

"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.

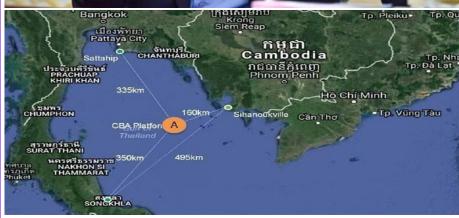
ANA has operated direct flights between Tokyo and Phnom Penh since 2016, but the route has been suspended since April this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The flight departed Narita by Boing 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.



Cambodia Extracts First Oil Drop Today





Cambodia's oil production starts today, giving the Kingdom of Cambodia the first oil drop after nearly a decade of production process.

The first oil drop extraction was announced by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, on his social media this morning (29 Dec).

"Cambodia's first drop of oil will be extracted from the first A-oID well of Cambodian Block A Platform on Dec. 29, 2020, coinciding with the 22nd anniversary of the end of war, bringing about national unity, territorial unity through the Win-Win policy (Dec. 29, 1998-Dec. 29, 2020)," PM said.

Dec. 29, 1998 event gives Cambodia all favourable conditions to have the first drop of oil in Cambodia this Dec. 29, 2020, PM stressed.





Kampot Pepper Registered for International Protection in 32 Countries



Cambodia's Kampot pepper was registered for international protection in 32 countries under the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications.

The good news was shared recently by the Ministry of Commerce, stressing that the move was driven by the participation of Cambodian delegation led by H.E. Minister Pan Sorasak back in March 2018 in a gathering at Geneva on the protection of the names, origins and geographical indications of goods.

The granted protection, added the source, will contribute vitally to building Cambodian product's reputation, diversifying the markets for it, and preventing its copyright.

According to a report by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, for the first eleven months of this year, Cambodia exported nearly 6,000 tonnes of pepper, an increase of 39.39 percent 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 Organisation (WTO) in 2010.



Construction of New Airport in Siem Reap Province 35 Percent Completed

The construction of New Angkor International Airport now has achieved 35 percent since the groundbreaking on Mar. 15 this year, and it is scheduled to complete by 2023.

The update was shared by H.E. Mao Havannall, Minister in charge of State Secretariat of Civil Aviation (SSCA) when inspecting the construction site of the new Angkor International Airport recently, according to Angkor International Airport Investment (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.

H.E. Mao Havannall appreciated the Angkor International Airport Investment (Cambodia) Co., Ltd. for ensuring the construction process despite some challenges.

He added that by 2023, the new airport will bring in more tourists and contribute positively to the household economy of the locals as well as Cambodia's growth at large.

The new international airport is located 51 kilometres to the southeast of Siem Reap provincial city and covers an area of about 700 hectares.

The entire project includes the construction of new 4E runways, taxiways, airside stations, new terminal buildings, airport ancillary projects, and supporting facilities such as municipal and special highways.

The first phase of the project will allow accommodation capacity for about 7 million passengers, and a long-term plan will allow the handling capacity of 20 million passengers.

The new airport is estimated to cost around US\$880 million with the investment period of 50 years.

Currently, Cambodia has three international airports and three new airports under construction, including this one.





CRF Highlights Government's Support to Boost Rice Sector at 12th World Rice Conference 2020

Cambodia Rice Federation (CRF) has laid stress on the Royal Government's attention to the development of the rice sector, resulting in the increase in milled rice exports.

While attending the 12th World Rice Conference 2020 held yesterday afternoon via Videoconference, Ms. Kim Sreyroth, Vice President of CRF, expressed her gratitude to the Royal Government for its support via the Agricultural and Rural Development Bank (ARDB) for the rice sector such as granting loans with special rate to rice mills to buy paddy from farmers, and to build rice drying and storage facilities.

Besides, she mentioned about the government's policies – incentive policies and tax and duties exemption – to attract investors to invest in the rice industry.

Ms. Kim Sreyroth has given the conference an overview of the current situation of the Cambodian rice sector, including paddy production and the progress of Cambodia's rice exports to the world market. As of November 2020, she pointed out, the Cambodian rice exports increased by nearly 17 percent to 601,045 tonnes, generating US\$415 million.

Moreover, she highlighted the Cambodian Premium Aromatic Rice "Malys Angkor", which won the World's Best Rice Award four times from the TRT World Rice Conference in 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2018.

This World Rice Conference has been organising annually, for the global rice community and the many allied industries that support the production, transport, trade, and consumption of rice. For this year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference is moved to online platform in which considered as the first global online world rice conference.

With the support from Cambodia-Australia Agricultural Value Chain Programme (CAVAC), Cambodia Rice Federation has sponsored the 12th World Rice Conference as a corporate sponsorship and promoted "Malys Angkor" Certification Mark to the international buyers.

The objective of this participant in this sponsorship is that to promote the Cambodian rice sector with the new progress and development of Cambodian rice industry in the new era to the world.



Cambodia Extracts

Thanks to the efforts of the Royal Government and the active participation of Singapore-based Kris Energy, the project's operator, the construction and installation of necessary facilities and equipment for the production process of Cambodia's oil resources have successfully completed, he added.

"The start of this oil production is a blessing for Cambodia," Samdech Tech Hun Sen said. "This is an important first step for Cambodia to build national capacity and the oil, gas and energy industries in Cambodia."

Key benefits from the oil production include national revenue, economic benefits derived from the diversification of oil industry foundation, and national capacity building in this sector, stated Samdech Techo Prime Minister.

"The discovery and exploitation of oil resources in Cambodia under the leadership of the Royal Government is a blessing for the people and the nation, not a curse as claimed by some unscrupulous people," he underlined.

"COVID-19 bothered us, but could not destroy our efforts to produce oil," he said. "Even though we cannot enjoy the New Year 2021 celebrations as the previous years due to COVID-19, we receive a big gift for our nation, i.e. the oil produced for the first time on our land."

Samdech Techo Hun Sen took the opportunity to express his gratitude to all his compatriots for their active participation and support for the Royal Government in the social and economic development process, and extended his best wishes to them.

