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## Cambodia - China Friendship Bridge Stung Trang - Kroch Chhmar Officially Put Into Use

The Cambodia-China Friendship Bridge Stung Trang-Kroch Chhmar linking Kampong Cham province to Thbong Khmum province was officially inaugurated this morning. (23 November)

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and H.E. Wang Wentian, Chinese Ambassador to Cambodia, presided over the inauguration ceremony held in Stung Trang district of Kampong Cham province.

Speaking on the occasion, Samdech Techo Hun Sen expressed his appreciation for the new infrastructure achievement and profound thanks to the Chinese government and people for their concessional loan for the construction of this 1,131-metre-long and 13.5-metre-wide bridge.

According to H.E. Sun Chanthol, Senior Minister, Minister of Public Works and Transport, the bridge crossing the Mekong River stretches from Prek Kak commune of Stung Trang district to Trea commune of Kroch Chhmar district, Thbong Khmum province. The construction began in February 2018 by Shanghai Construction Group and lasted for 42 months.

At the same time, the groundbreaking for the construction of National Road No. 71C of over 114 kilometres long, connecting Thbong Khmum district of Thbong Khmum province to Chamkar Leu district of Kampong Cham



## ASEM summit adopts key documents on post-pandemic



The three adopted documents included ASEM13 Chair's Statement, Phnom Penh Statement on the Post-COVID-19 Socio-Economic Recovery, and The Way Forward on ASEM Connectivity, Samdech Techo Prime Minister said in the closing speech of the two-day summit.

"I'm firmly confident that these outcome documents will significantly contribute towards building a safer and more prosperous world," Samdech Techo Prime Minister said.

"I also believe that Asia-Europe partnership and cooperation will make a significant contribution to the sustainability and promotion of multilateralism, which is the driving force for peace and

prosperity for the peoples in Asia-Europe and the world in the decades to come," he added.

Ursula von der Leyen, president of the European Commission, said Europe and Asia must continue working together to fight COVID-19 and boost the post-pandemic recovery.

"Now, global solidarity is vital to ending the pandemic," she (president of the European Commission) said in her closing remarks. "Openness, multilateralism and rules-based trading system will be crucial to a lasting economic recovery."

She said Asia's success would be Europe's success and vice versa,

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## Cambodia receives 188,160 doses of Moderna

Cambodia yesterday received 188,160 doses of the Moderna vaccines through the COVAX Facility.

On hand to receive the vaccines at the Phnom Penh International Airport at 6pm were Health Ministry Secretary of State Youk Sambath, World Health Organization representative to Cambodia Dr Li Ailan, and UNICEF representative to Cambodia Forough Foyozat.

188,160 doses of the Moderna vaccines will be taken to the warehouse before being distributed to areas where it is needed to inoculate people who are still not vaccinated.

So far, Cambodia has received a total of 4,280,000 doses of all types of vaccine, and recently there are no additional orders to buy more vaccines by the government.

Before the end of this year, Cambodia is expected to receive more doses of vaccine through the COVAX Facility.

This is the first time that Cambodia is receiving the mRNA vaccine that is highly effective in fighting the virus.

Through the COVAX Facility, Cambodia has received about 60% of the scheduled total doses of vaccines, and we expect that by the end of this year, the AstraZeneca and Sinovac vaccines will be available in Cambodia.

## Cambodia's exports to Japan net \$1.4 billion

Cambodia exports to Japan totalled \$1,487 million in the ten months this year, a 9.3% increase compared to the same period last year, (figures from the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), released last week (3DEC).

The main exports to Japan are garments, bags, footwear, furniture, cosmetics, paper and office supplies and leather goods. Cambodia imported machinery, automobiles, electronics, furniture, fabrics and plastics from Japan.

Cambodia looks upon Japan as a prioritised trade partner for talks on a bilateral free trade agreement to be established, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Cambodia will be able to attract more investment from Japan as Cambodia has a leading front of Covid-19 herd immunity and new investment law, said Japanese ambassador to Cambodia.

"The new Investment Law of the Kingdom of Cambodia will be an effective and timely strategy for the socio-economic rehabilitation after the Covid-19 pandemic and make Cambodia an attractive and highly competitive destination in the region for quality and sustainable investment," Japanese Ambassador said.

The Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC) approved 146 Japanese qualified investment projects (QIP) as of October with a total investment capital of \$2,853 million.

## Samdech Techo Prime Minister to inaugurate new Battambang-Banteay Meanchey road

Samdech Techo Prime Minister Hun Sen will be inaugurating a new road that runs from Battambang to Banteay Meanchey next month. on January 10, 2022.

The road measures a total of 84.74 kilometer, which is part of National Road 5.

This is the newest addition to Cambodia's progress in infrastructure. The Prime Minister recently inaugurated a number of new infrastructures in Preah Sihanouk and said it is necessary that the country invests towards new infrastructure.



## Doses boost: Cambodia gets to produce Sinopharm vaccines from next year

Samdech Techo PM Hun Sen said that he had asked the Chinese side to produce vaccines in Cambodia and "now we have the support of the Chinese government and companies have already signed an agreement".

Cambodia will no longer be short of Covid-19 vaccine supply after the domestic production and noted that the government will buy doses directly from the company.

"At least, we have vaccines produced in our country that can be bought and used at a cheaper price, without having to pay extra for shipping or long-distance transportation," he said.

Chinese Ambassador to Cambodia Wang Wengtian, said yesterday (6DEC) that Sinopharm company is cooperating closely with Cambodia's Ministry of Health to produce the Covid-19 vaccine in Cambodia.

"This is a good news and we expect that next year Cambodians will be able to use the Covid-19 vaccine that it is locally produced," he said.



## Culture "The Taste of Angkor" Crowned "Best Asian Cookbook" at the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards 2021



"The Taste of Angkor" a cookbook prepared and published by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation as part of its cultural diplomacy, has been distinguished as the "Best Asian Cookbook" at the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards 2021.

The award ceremony is currently being held in Paris from Nov. 29 to Dec. 6, 2021.

According to a press release of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Taste of Angkor, which was unveiled on Jan. 18 2021 by H.E. Deputy Prime Minister Prak Sokhonn, contains a selection of 38 recipes of Khmer dishes and desserts. Easy-to-follow detailed instructions, encompassing ingredient substitutions of Khmer ingredients that may be hard to source abroad, were the highlight of this artistic culinary book.

The Gourmand World Cookbook Awards 2021 is a fresh source of pride and honour for the Kingdom of Cambodia's efforts to get the world to know and truly appreciate the great legacy of Cambodia's thousand-year-old culinary heritage.

The Gourmand World Cookbook Awards was founded in 1995 by Edouard Cointreau with the goal of supporting culinary traditions from around the globe. Every year, they honour the best food and wine books as well as food television. In 2021, there were 198 countries entering the competition with a total submission of 4000 cookbooks.



**Num Banh Chok Khmer** សំបូរស្រូវ  
Cambodian Rice Noodles សំបូរស្រូវ  
For 4-6 servings

**Ingredients:**

- 1 1/2 kg num banh chok (cooked Khmer rice noodles)
- 500-700 g freshwater fish
- 5 tbsp kroeuung (Dae pg)
- 1/4 cup coconut milk
- 50 g prahok (fermented fish) or anchovy
- 1 1/2 tbsp palm sugar
- 2 tbsp white sugar
- 3 tbsp fish sauce
- 3 tbsp salt

**Vegetables:**  
Banana blossom, tamarind, cucumber, long green bean, bean sprouts, water lily and cabbage are most commonly used.

**Condiments:**  
Salt, bird's eye chili, dried chili flakes or powder and lime.

**Instructions:**

Bring 2-2.5 l water to a boil, lower heat and add in the fish. Once the fish is cooked, remove it from the stock. Set the stock aside and debone the fish. Pound the kroeuung, sugar, salt and fish flesh together.

Next, bring the fish stock to a boil, then add in the prahok, coconut milk, fish mixture, salt, fish sauce and palm sugar. Bring the broth to a boil once more. Serve hot with fresh vegetables, cooked Khmer noodles "Num Banh Chok" and condiments.

## ASEM summit adopts

and the Phnom Penh statement on the post-COVID-19 socio-economic recovery outlined both regions' joint priorities to recover from the pandemic together. Charles Michel, president of the European Council, said Europe and Asia must continue working together and take actions together to address COVID-19 and other tough global challenges.

"It was an excellent opportunity to bring together more than 50 partners from Europe and Asia to discuss our cooperation, and we are highly interconnected with many shared interests and solid ties," he said.

ASEM is comprised of 53 partners, including 21 Asian countries, 30 European countries, the ASEAN Secretariat and the European Union.

Collectively, ASEM partners represent 65 percent of the global economy, 60 percent of the world's population, 55 percent of the world trade and 75 percent of the world tourism, according to the organizers.

Founded in 1996, the biennial ASEM is an informal platform for dialogue and cooperation between Asia and Europe, and Cambodia became its member in 2004.

## Japan pledges \$117 million in support of COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loan

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance Dr Aun Pornmoniroth on Monday (29 NOV) held talks with Japanese Ambassador to Cambodia MIKAMI Masahiro.

On the occasion, the Ambassador said that the Japanese government will support the COVID-19 Crisis Response Emergency Support Loan (Phase II), amounting to 20 billion Japanese Yen (approximately \$177 million) to Cambodia.

Dr. Pornmoniroth profoundly thanked the Government and the people of Japan for paying constant attention to and providing development cooperation for Cambodia in almost all fields.

