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Japan Donates 35 Ambulances to Cambodia

The Government of Japan has donated 35 ambulances to Cambodia to support the latter's efforts in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

The donation handover ceremony was held on May 7, 2021 at the Ministry of Health Central Medical Storage (CMS) under the presidency of H.E. Dr. Yuok Sambath, Secretary of State, Ministry of Health and Mr. KARIMATA Atsushi, Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission of the Embassy of Japan to Cambodia.

The assistance is based on the cooperation measures put in place with ASEAN countries that were announced by former Prime Minister H.E. ABE Shinzo at the Special ASEAN Plus Three Summit in April last year.

(Japan Embassy's press release)

So far, Japan has supplied medical equipment such as ambulances, X-ray inspection equipment, ultrasound diagnostic equipment, oxygen generators and ICU beds to Cambodia.

"Japan will continue to cooperate with the Royal Government of Cambodia to provide necessary equipment. We hope that these supplies will be helpful for the Cambodian healthcare professionals who are working so hard to fight COVID-19," underlined the press release./.



Government to Further Support Victim Families of COVID-19



The families whose members died, are infected, or are quarantined due to COVID-19 will receive more assistance from the Royal Government, affirmed Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia in a special statement from his residence in Takhmao town, Kandal province this morning (10 April)

According to Samdech Techo Prime Minister, the royal government will pay the electricity and clean water bills for five months for any families whose member passed away due to COVID-19 (for Cambodian nationals only), for three months for any families whose member is infected with the deadly virus, and

for two months for the families under the quarantine.

Moreover, each family whose member died of COVID-19 will receive 10 million Riel (US\$2,500) and 100 kg of milled rice (for Cambodians only), while the families in quarantine will get 300,000 Riel (US\$75), 25 kg of milled rice, a box of instant noodle, and 20 cans of tinned fish as before.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister also expressed his thanks to the Association of Banks in Cambodia (ABC) and the Cambodia Microfinance Association (CMA) that have recently taken payment relief measures for customers who have been suffered or impacted by the pandemic.

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Lockdown Measure of Phnom Penh and Takhmao Tightened

The Royal Government of Cambodia tonight issued another decision to tighten the 14-day lockdown measure of Phnom Penh capital and Takhmao town of Kandal province to cut off the COVID-19 transmission chain.

According to the new decision, during the lockdown, no one is allowed to leave home. The competent authorities will take strict legal action against the lockdown offenders, and their vehicles will be seized temporarily.

Anyway, there are some exceptions: travel for authorised businesses or work, but with travel permit issued by the national lockdown commission, ID and employment certificate; travel for foods, medicines and other stuff of daily necessities with at most 2 persons per household and not more than three times a week by bringing along respective IDs; and travel for health emergencies, specimen taking for COVID-19 tests, COVID-19 vaccination (2nd dose), etc.

Diplomats, UN staff, personnel of foreign representative offices and international financial institutions as well as journalists are allowed to travel in the lockdown areas, but with their respective IDs, employment certificate, in addition to travel permit issued by the Ministry of Information for journalists.

The authorised businesses and work activities include those of public institutions; armed forces; sub-national administrations; health staff; food-related and pharmaceutical factories and enterprises; key public services such as fire fighting, electricity, clean water, garbage collection, ...; services of daily necessities such as emergencies, health services, posts and telecom, banking ...; marts, takeaway restaurants/eateries, gas stations; hotels and guesthouses; online businesses and so on.

Most of the authorised businesses and work activities are obliged to have not more than 2 percent of standby staff and to practice lunch at workplace.

Moreover, those who are in the above-said exceptions are required to wear mask, keep safety distancing as well as stick to sanitation and carry out temperature screening to combat and prevent COVID-19 spread.

The lockdown measure, which came into force on April 15 and will last until April 28, 2021, is aimed to ensure the effectiveness of COVID-19 spread control in Phnom Penh and Takhmao town, considered as a single area, and to prevent the transmission to other areas./.

Cambodia Working to Welcome COVID-19 Vaccinated Foreign Visitors in Late 2021

Ministries of Tourism and Ministry of Health are working toward the first phase in welcoming COVID-19 vaccinated international tourists, expectedly by the last quarter of 2021.

Minister of Tourism H.E. Thong Khon shared the update recently stressing that the move is part of the newly approved 2021-2025 roadmap to restore Cambodia's tourism during and after COVID-19 crisis.

The two ministries, he continued, are looking into minimum requirements for vaccinated foreign tourists visiting Cambodia.

The Ministry of Tourism will coordinate with the tasked committee and local authorities to secure vaccination for the locals and service suppliers at all targeted tourism destinations to ensure safety and build trust among visitors, said the minister.

Improved tourism service and products and smooth travel facilitation at all international gates are also part of the priorities to prepare for the tourism reopening./.





400,000 More Doses of China-donated Sinopharm Arrive in Cambodia Tonight (28 April)



Some 400,000 more doses of Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine donated by China arrived in Cambodia tonight (28 April) in contribution to supporting the Kingdom of Cambodia's efforts in combating the pandemic.

H.E. Mrs. Yuok Sambath, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Health welcomed the vaccine's arrival at Phnom Penh International Airport.

With the new batch, China provided a total of 1.7 million doses of Sinopharm to Cambodia.

Cambodia has so far bought 2 million doses of Sinovac from China, and received 324,000 doses of AstraZeneca/SII (COVISHIELD) via COVAX Facility. Some 1.3 million people, both military and civilians, have been already vaccinated against the COVID-19.

In his voice message yesterday, Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia ordered to vaccinate all people in Phnom Penh capital and Kandal province, the high-risk areas, by beginning with the Red zones to build herd immunity against COVID-19.

Samdech Techo Prime Minister agreed to use the 1 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines in stock and the newly arrived 400,000 doses of China-donated Sinopharm vaccine for the inoculation./.



Government to ...

The Prime Minister also encouraged the financial institutions to be more helpful for those who have been infected with the deadly virus.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen said that about 340,000 customers have been given a special loan repayment scheme that involved a sum of about US\$4 billion.

Cambodia's tally of COVID-19 rose to 4,080 this morning, and thousands of families are under quarantine, he said./.

Cambodia Temporarily Bans All Foreign Arrivals from India

All Indian citizens and other foreign nationals travelling from India or across the country are temporarily banned from entering Cambodia, according to a new press release of the Ministry of Health made public this evening (27 April).

The decision was taken amid severe COVID-19 situation in India, after the spread of new coronavirus variants, it pointed out.

Those with travel history to India three weeks prior to entering Cambodia by air or land are also prohibited, it added.

The new measure will come into force in 48 hours until further notice, underlined the same source.

Worldometre website shows that as of April 27, the COVID-19 tally in India reached 17,636,307, of which 14,556,209 have recovered, 197,894 have been killed and 2,882,204 remain active.

For Cambodia, the total confirmed cases were recorded at 11,063. 3,704 of which have been successfully cured with 82 fatal cases./.

