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CAMBODIA TO HELP TIMOR-LESTE IMPROVE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Cambodia will send its agricultural experts to Timor-Leste to study the soil condition in order to help the latter improve its agricultural production.

The dispatch plan was announced by Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, in a meeting here at the Peace Palace on 06 May with visiting former President of Timor-Leste H.E. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmao, according to H.E. Eang Sophalleth, Personal Assistant to the Cambodian Prime Minister.

Regarding the ASEAN Community, Samdech Techo Hun Sen recommended Timor-Leste to pay attention to the three pillars of ASEAN, namely the ASEAN Political-Security Community,

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SEA GAMES' OPENING CEREMONY CAPTURES PEOPLE'S HEARTS

The Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia expressed his satisfaction with the opening ceremony of the 32nd SEA Games and the 12th ASEAN Para Games on 5 May, stressing that it captured the hearts of the Cambodian people, sports delegates from all countries, national and international guests.

The amazing arrangements and performances of artists allowed the world to know more about the glorious history of Cambodia in ancient times and the current progress of Cambodia, he added.

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CAMBODIA AND ASEAN LEADERS TO CONTINUE ENHANCING THE ASEAN CENTRALITY AND UNITY



Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen and his ASEAN counterparts at the 42nd ASEAN Summit and Related Meetings in Labuan Bajo, Indonesia reaffirmed their commitment to continue enhancing the ASEAN Centrality and Unity in its engagement with external partners at a time of great uncertainty, and rapid evolving regional and global orders.

The reaffirmation was made known by the Cambodian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in a news release issued after concluded of the two-day summit on May 11.

According to the source, the ASEAN Leaders also stressed the importance of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) in governing inter-state relations, and maintaining peace, security and stability in the region. They also welcomed the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Panama, and Mexico to accede to the TAC, and hoped their signing will take place this year.

During the meetings, ASEAN Leaders reiterated their support for Indonesia's ASEAN Chairmanship under the theme "ASEAN Matters: Epicentrum of Growth" and were pleased with the progress made in the realization of ASEAN's priorities in 2023, especially in transforming ASEAN into a Community that is robust, agile, and equipped with strengthened capacity and institutional effectiveness.

"They also welcomed Indonesia's priorities and initiatives, namely (i) Recovery and Rebuilding, (ii) Digital Economy, and (iii) Sustainability. The Leaders were also committed to make ASEAN a driver of global growth, and a force for peace through inclusive economic integration, digital transformation, sustainable development, financial stability, energy and food security, and human resource development. Further, they emphasised the importance of working with partners to advance the implementation

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of ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific through concrete projects and practical cooperation”, it underlined.

Besides, the Leaders looked forward to the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit for the 50th Anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation on December 16-18 2023 in Tokyo, and the convening of a Special Summit to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations in March 2024 in Australia. Moreover, they welcomed the proposal to hold the ASEAN-Gulf Cooperation Council Summit in the second half of this year in Riyadh, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

On the sidelines of the 42nd ASEAN Summit, Samdech Techo Prime Minister, together with other ASEAN Leaders, also attended ASEAN Leaders’ Interfaces with Representatives of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA), ASEAN Youth Representatives, ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) and High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Community’s Post-2025 Vision (HLTF-ACV). During the Interfaces, Samdech Techo Prime Minister highlighted the followings:

- Strengthening the ASEAN Community shall not affect the fundamental principles enshrined in the ASEAN Charter, in particular, the principles of decision-making

based on consultation and consensus and non-interference in the internal affairs of Member States.

- The ASEAN Community’s Post-2025 Vision needs to respond to the rapidly evolving regional and global trends such as the green agenda, digital economy, modern technology, global value chains, transport connectivity and logistics in order to make ASEAN future-ready and future-proof.
- While acknowledging the need to make the ASEAN Community’s Post-2025 Vision visionary, inspirational, and forward-looking, the Leaders underlined the need to strike a balance between pragmatism and ambition. Most importantly, the ASEAN Community’s Post-2025 Vision should be action-oriented and place the people at the center of the Community Building efforts.
- On Myanmar, it is important to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Five-Point Consensus, and ASEAN Leaders’ Review and Decision on the Implementation of the Five-Point Consensus adopted in 2022. Furthermore, ASEAN should maintain high degree of patience, flexibility and creativity, and explore any potential

approach that may help Myanmar restore peace and return to normalcy.

- In the context of rising geopolitical and geoeconomic competition, ASEAN needs to enhance its relevance, and strengthen ASEAN-led mechanisms, so that it continues to play a central and leading role in addressing regional and global challenges. Cambodia also highlighted that ASEAN should welcome any initiatives from its partners as long as they are in line with the ASEAN Charter and the AOIP, contribute to peace, stability, and prosperity in the region, and will not be used against one another.

In his stay in Labuan Bajo, Samdech Techo Prime Minister paid a courtesy call on H.E. Joko Widodo, the President Indonesia. Samdech Techo Prime Minister also held bilateral talks with H.E. Pham Minh Chinh, Prime Minister of Vietnam, and Timor-Leste Prime Minister H.E. Taur Matan Ruak, respectively, to exchange views on a wide range of issues of strategic significance to ASEAN and our bilateral relations.

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ASEAN Economic Community, and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community.

Besides, Samdech Techo Prime Minister thanked H.E. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmao for his presence at the official opening ceremony of the SEA Games-ASEAN Para Games 2023 in Cambodia on May 5, which made the event more solemn.

For his part, the former president of Timor-Leste expressed his surprise with the rapid development of Cambodia and congratulated Samdech Techo Hun Sen and the whole Cambodian people on the glorious opening

ceremony of SEA Games-ASEAN Para Games 2023, stressing that it is the first time that he witnessed such a great historical event.

H.E. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmao took the opportunity to thank the Royal Government of Cambodia for its support for Timor-Leste’s ASEAN membership and for its assistance in the fight against COVID-19, and asked Cambodia to consider its possibility to assist Timor-Leste in the field of agriculture in order to reduce its dependence on food import.

SEA GAMES’ OPEN...

“SEA Games 2023 is a historical event that the Cambodians have waited for 64 years. Every Cambodian is very proud and excited to see such unprecedented great historical event,” the Cambodian Prime Minister underlined.

“All Cambodians are the hosts of this great event, so please join hands to support [the event] with a smile, pride and national dignity,” Samdech Techo Hun Sen continued.

According to the Cambodian SEA Games Organising Committee (CAMSOC), there are about 25 sports on the competition programme, including Boxing, Football,

OVER 24,400 BUSINESSES WITH INVESTMENT CAPITAL OF USD7.4 BILLION REGISTERED WITH SINGLE PORTAL

More than 24,400 businesses with a total of USD7.42 billion in investment capital have been registered in the first phase of the Online Business Registration System known as Single Portal under the Ministry of Economy and Finance – as of April this year.

Over 14,500 business names of companies are in the stage of checking for approval, a ministry's report said.

In terms of investment value by sector, construction took the lead, accounting for 15 percent, equal to USD1,050 million, followed by real estate 12 percent, equal to USD893 million.

Management consultant activities represented 10 percent, manufacturing 5 percent, financial and insurance activities 4 percent, and others 54 percent, the report added.

Men-owned businesses accounted for 62 percent of the total registered businesses, the same source pointed out.

The ministry launched the first phase of the Online Business Registration platform on June 15, 2020, and the second phase on Sept. 15, 2021.

H.E. Aun Pornmoniroth, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance, has said that the new system cut down on complex procedures, repetition of information, lost time and the cost of the old process.

All registrations are automatically shared with the relevant ministries and institutions for review and approval, ensuring that all departments are kept in the loop, he stressed.

CAMBODIA'S PEPPER AUTHORISED FOR DIRECT SHIPMENT TO CHINA

The Kingdom of Cambodia is now able to directly export its pepper to the Chinese market, the Chinese Embassy in Cambodia announced on 12 May 2023.

The direct shipment is made possible after the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) approved the list of 28 registered pepper farms and seven packaging factories.

Cambodia's pepper has completed all export procedures and is allowed to be shipped to China, the same source underlined.

Pepper is the first Cambodian agricultural product to be allowed for direct shipment to China in 2023 and the first ever spice to be authorised for export to the Chinese market.

Since the beginning of 2022, the Chinese side has completed the risk assessment of Cambodian Pra fish, sweet corn and longan.

To date, three Cambodian fruits – banana, mango and longan – can be shipped directly to China.

Cambodia exported more than 2.4 million tonnes of its agricultural products worth US\$1.942 million to the Chinese market from 2019 to the first half of 2022.

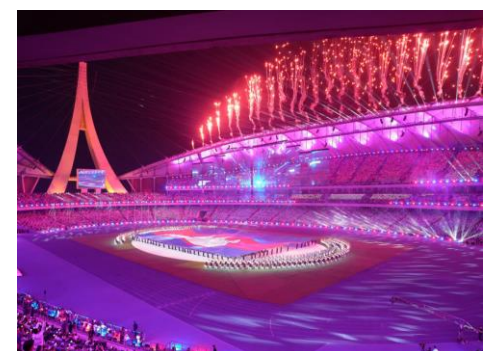
Cambodian major agricultural products exported to China include fresh banana, milled rice, dried cassava chips, cassava flour, mango jam, rubber latex, fresh mangoes, processed cashew nuts, and cocoa powder.



SEA GAMES' OPEN...

Kun Khmer, Kun Bokator, Pencak Silat, Sailing, Hockey, Volleyball, Jiu-Jitsu, Athletics, Obstacle Race, Triathlon, Cricket, Ouk Chaktrang (Chess), E-sports, Karate, Soft Tennis, Petanque, Vovinam, Swimming, Mountain Bike, Basketball, Sepak Takraw, and Teqball.

As of May 12, Cambodia received in total 57 gold medals including 10 in Vovinam, 8 in Kun Bokator, 14 in Kun Khmer, 4 in Chinlone, 3 in Jiu-Jitsu, 2 in Soft Tennis, 2 in E-sports, 2 in Triathlon, 1 in Ouk Chaktrang (Chess), 1 in Basketball, 2 in Cricket, 1 in Karate, 2 in Pencak Silat, 1 in Billiard, 1 in Wushu, 1 in Badminton, 1 in Athletics and 1 in Fin Swimming.



OLD TICKETS MUST BE REPLACED TO GAIN ADMITTANCE TO OFFICIAL CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE 32ND SEA GAMES

The National Organizing Committee of the 2023 SEA Games – ASEAN Para Games (CAMSOC-CAMAPGOC) has announced that it is printing new tickets for the official closing ceremony of the 32nd SEA Games on the evening of May 17 and that old tickets will be voided.

According to the announcement, the closing ceremony of the above historical event will be held under the high presidency of Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen and will be attended by senior leaders of nations, friends, leaders of the Senate, National Assembly, Royal Government, diplomats, national and international guests and the general public.

The Committee states that “To ensure security, safety and order in the closing ceremony of the 32nd SEA Games 2023, which will take place on May 17, 2023, especially to maintain appropriate seats according to the number of seats, the National Stadium Techo Heritage Committee CAMSOC-CAMAPGOC has decided to re-issue tickets and car tickets for the official closing ceremony of the 32nd SEA Games to replace the old ones.”

For the opening ceremony of the 32nd SEA Games on May 5, tens of thousands of leaders, people and international guests attended the live show at the Moradok Techo National Stadium with great admiration for the venue.

This has led many people to be interested and want to attend the closing ceremony next week.

The CAMSOC National Committee has asked for the understanding of the people who did not visit in person, as the limited number of seats could not meet the desire to visit tens of thousands of people.



32nd SOUTHEAST ASIAN GAMES MEDAL TALLY					
RANK	Country	1	2	3	TOTAL
1		69	66	77	212
2		58	43	65	166
3		57	46	62	165
4		49	41	61	151
5		38	32	36	106
6		31	55	72	158
7		27	34	60	121
8		15	14	42	71
9		6	14	43	63
10		2	1	5	8
11		0	0	2	2

As of 9:10PM, MAY 12, 2023