

Brief

Speech By

H.E. Mr. Masaki SAITO

Ambassador of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia

at the

Completion Ceremony of the Project for Improvement of Water Supply  
Facilities in Phnom Penh (Phase II)

March 12, 1999

Venerable monks,

H.E. Mr. SAR KHENG, Deputy Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia,

H.E. Mr. KRY BENG HONG, Vice Governor of the Municipality of Phnom Penh,

Mr. EK SONN CHAN, Director General of the Phnom Penh Water Supply Authority,

Excellencies, Lok Chum Teav,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is a great pleasure for me to be present at today's ceremony of completion of the Phase Two of the Project for Improvement of Water Supply Facilities in Phnom Penh.

I would like to, first of all, congratulate H.E. Mr. KRY BENG HONG, Vice Governor of the Municipality of Phnom Penh, for hosting the today's ceremony, in the auspicious presence of H.E. Mr. SAR KHENG, Deputy Prime Minister, Co-Minister of Interior of the Royal Government of Cambodia.

The Project for the Improvement of Water Supply Facilities in Phnom Penh started in 1994, based on the result of the Master Plan on the Water Supply System in this city formulated by the Government of Japan in 1993, conducted in response to the request of the Royal Government of Cambodia. The Phase One of this Project was successfully completed by April 1996, which rehabilitated the water treatment plant and the elevated water tank, and enabled the supply of purified water to a great number of citizens in Phnom Penh.

Now the Phase Two of this Project has rehabilitated the water supply network in both 7<sup>th</sup> January District and a part of Tuol Kok District, thus enabling a larger supply of purified water to a greater number of citizens of Phnom Penh and also helping to prevent water borne disease. Furthermore, instant access to running water will eliminate the need for women and children to fetch drums of water. I expect therefore that the daily life of the inhabitants will become easier as a result of this Project.

Recalling my request to the local people at the opening ceremony of this Project in December 1997, I would like to profit from this occasion to express my appreciation to the people around here who may have endured various inconveniences incurred by construction in the spirit of cooperation.

Japan is always very pleased to see the improvement of health and hygiene level and the development of living standards in Cambodia resulting from Japanese cooperation such as this Project.

Let me conclude by saying that I hope this Project will help to promote mutual understanding between Japan and Cambodia and further enhance the existing ties of friendship between our two countries.

Thank you.

## **SPEECH**

### **The Completion Ceremony of the Project for Improvement of Water Supply Facilities in Phnom Penh (Phase II)**

**Delivered by**

**H.E Mr. SAR KHENG**

**Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior**

**12 March, 1999**

- Esteemed venerable monks
- Your Excellency Mr. MASAKI SAITO, the Ambassador of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia
- Excellency Ambassadors
- Distinguished National and International Guests
- Ladies and Gentlemen

First of all, I would like to express my pleasure and honor to participate on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia on this occasion of the completion ceremony of construction works. Today is an auspicious day that is indicating once again the humanitarian aid granted by the Government of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia and also expressing as the token of friendship and solidarity between the people and government of our two countries.

Kingdom of Cambodia remembers and pays with gratitude all the achievements from Japan's Grant Aid for the Kingdom of Cambodia such as the Project for Improvement of Water Supply Facilities in Phnom Penh (Phase II) which has been completed. It is time now to declare this construction works officially completed.

- Esteemed venerable monks
- Dear Excellencies and Lok Chum Teavs
- Ladies and Gentlemen

Through continuous notification, observation, and reports from General Director of Phnom Penh Water Supply Authority, I have the honor to express my highest appreciation to effectiveness of Grant Aid from the people and government of Japan for water supply component. This has reduced shortage of water for daily use of inhabitants in Phnom Penh and significantly contributes as a solution of water policy in the Royal Government of Cambodia.

I still remember that in 1994 Japanese Government has granted aid to water supply component in Phnom Penh. This aid resulted in increasing water production capacity of Phum Prek Water Treatment Plant from 60,000 m3 per day to 100,000 m3 per day and additionally distributing water with satisfactory demand to more than ten thousand families who previously had no water service.

I am sure that Project "Phase II", which is declared completed today, will help to reduce water leakage ratio by replacing old and poor condition water pipelines as well as increasing water supply pressure and improving water quality to ensure better health for consumers.

However, at the moment the water supply in Phnom Penh does not meet hundred percent demands of consumers. I hope that Japanese Government will take this fact into consideration and provide Grant Aid "Phase III" to water supply component in order to increase water production capacity by a further 50,000 m3 per day. It is the aim of Phnom Penh Water Supply Authority to provide water to inhabitants in Phnom Penh responding to Urban Development Project in the near future.

On behalf of Samdach Prime Minister Hun Sen and myself and as well as on behalf of Cambodian people, I would like to express once again my profound gratitude and sincere thanks to the people and Government of Japan who are constantly helping to improve living standard of Cambodia.

At the Consultative Group Meeting "CG" in Tokyo recently, Japanese Government not only provided generous grant aid to the Kingdom of Cambodia but also tried to persuade representatives of other countries and international organizations for the support to people and Government of Cambodia.

May friendship and solidarity between Cambodia and Japan continue and strengthen.

I would like to wish Excellency Ambassadors, Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen the five Buddhist wishes.

Thanks.