

01-ECO006
February 26, 2001**PRESS RELEASE****សេចក្តីប្រកាសព័ត៌មាន****NOTE TO EDITORS-PHOTO OPPORTUNITY**
Editors are invited for reporting and photo coverage**Inauguration Ceremony
of the Physical Rehabilitation Center in Kratie Province****February 27, 2001 at 07:30 a.m.**
in the Kratie Provincial Hospital

This ceremony is to inaugurate a newly constructed physical rehabilitation center located in Kratie Provincial Hospital.

The construction of the physical rehabilitation center which includes a workshop equipped with orthopedic tools and an administration office, was implemented by the Veterans International /Cambodia, an international NGO currently working to help disabled people in Cambodia. The Government of Japan funded the Project with US\$ 66,570, through the Japanese Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Projects called "KUSANONE" based upon the grant contract signed on February 28th, 2000. As a result of the Project, the physically disabled people including landmine victims in the northeastern region of Cambodia, namely, Kratie, Stung Treng, Rattanakiri and Mondolkiri provinces, have access to the first permanent center for physiotherapy, prosthetic and orthotic treatments.

"KUSANONE" is Japan's grant aid to support small-scale, grass roots projects by international and local NGOs and local authorities and is an important pillar of Japan's economic cooperation to Cambodia. Since its start in 1992, the total amount of US\$ 8,589,693 KUSANONE grant has been provided to assist 172 projects in Cambodia to help Cambodian rehabilitation and development efforts at the grass-roots level.

* * *