

# PRESS RELEASE

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NOTE TO EDITORS-PHOTO OPPORTUNITY  
Editors are invited for reporting and photo coverage.

Exchange of Notes for Japan's ODA  
for  
the project for Improvement of Bridges on National Highway Route 6A

September 01, 2000 at 09:00 a.m.  
at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

With a view to strengthening friendly and cooperative relations between Japan and the Kingdom of Cambodia and to promoting the economic stabilization and development efforts of the Royal Government of Cambodia, the Government of Japan has decided to extend a Grant Aid up to the amount of five hundred and eight million yen (¥ 508,000,000 ; approximately equivalent to **US\$ 4.77million**) for the purpose of the implementation of the project for Improvement of Bridges on National Highway Route 6A.

The Notes to this effect will be exchanged on September 01, 2000 at 09:00 a.m., at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation between H.E. Mr. HOR Namhong, Senior Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and H.E. Mr. Masaki SAITO, Ambassador of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Hurricane "Willy" in September 1996 brought historical heavy rain and floods in the upstream area of the Mekong River, and caused extensive damage to the Cambodian country road network. The National Highway Route 6A with 26 bridges (44km-section between Chroy Changwar and Thnal Keng), which was rehabilitated by the Government of Japan, was also damaged. Among them, especially No. 26 Bridge was washed away. Other several bridges especially No. 24 and 25 were also under conditions to be urgently rehabilitated.

In this Project , bridges No. 24, 25 and 26 of the National Highway Route 6A will be rehabilitated and improved so that the Route 6A, which runs across the flooding area, can maintain its function even during flood season. It is expected that this project will contribute to the rehabilitation of the nation's road network that connects Phnom Penh with the northeast regions and to the enhancement of the socio-economic activities in those regions .

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