

Speech by Dr. IIZUKA Tomohiro
Secretary of the Embassy of Japan
at the Inauguration Ceremony
of The Project for Improving Drainage System
of National Road No.5 in Battambang Province
August 19, 2014

- Venerable Monks,
- H.E. Mr. CHAN Sophal, Governor of Battambang province,
- Mr. KHAN Manner, Director of
Battambang Provincial Department of Public Works and Transport
- Excellencies, distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a great pleasure for me to attend today's ceremony for the inauguration of Improving Drainage System of National Road No.5 in Battambang Province, with the high presence of H.E. Mr. CHAN Sophal, Governor of Battambang Province. First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Battambang Provincial Department of Public Works and Transport, and the local residents who arranged today's ceremony.

Flood prevention has been a priority of Japan's cooperation to Cambodia, and in fact, various projects to improve drainage system have been implemented in urban areas as well as in rural areas. In Battambang Province, a project for construction of 1,070m of drainage system along National Road No.5, the section around Preah Noreay statue, Battambang provincial capital has been conducted.

I understand that the construction of Drainage System at this capital would benefit over 18,000 people living in Sangkat Chamka Samrong who have easier access to Boueng Chhouk market, bus terminal and primary school. As we know that National Road No. 5 is one of the main veins of Cambodian Economy, this project is not only expected to improve flood management as well as safety and sanitary environment in the area, but also to facilitate the passing transportation and travel of people from other parts of the country, especially, many Japanese companies who have been interested in investment in Cambodia.

I am hopeful that Battambang Provincial Department of Public Works and Transport will maintain drainage system in proper manner so that the beneficiaries could continue to use it in good condition.

Last but not least, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all the people who have contributed to the smooth implementation of the projects. I strongly hope that this drainage system will become a symbol of the friendship between the two countries and further strengthen the friendly relations between the Japanese and Cambodian people.

Thank you very much for your attention.