

**Speech by Mr. WADA Takayuki,  
Secretary, Economic & ODA Section,  
Embassy of Japan in the Kingdom of Cambodia on the occasion of  
the inauguration ceremony for the Project for Constructing School Building at Angkor Ang  
Primary School in Kampong Trabaek District, Prey Veng Province,  
August 22, 2014**

- Venerable Monks,
- H.E. Long Phat, Vice Governor of Prey Veng Province
- Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to attend today's inauguration ceremony for the project for constructing school building at Angkor Ang Primary School, with the presence of H.E. Mr. Long Phat, Vice Governor of Prey Veng Province. First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and Japan Team of Young Human Power (JHP) for their cooperation in implementing this project.

Cambodia has been making strenuous efforts for the past two decades in overcoming challenges since the end of civil war. The economic growth rate marks one of the highest among the fast growing ASEAN nations. Likewise, in the field of education, quantity and quality of education has been improving steadily year by year.

Ensuring access to primary education is one of the immediate objectives for government of Cambodia. I would like to commend the commitment and effort that the Cambodian Government deployed to improve the education sector. Understanding the importance of the education for achieving development of human resources, the Government of Japan has been supporting Cambodia's efforts through the construction of schools and the training of teachers since 1990s.

As I understood, 104 students at Angkor Ang Primary School had to study in unsafe classrooms due to deteriorated school building mainly caused by severe flood. Next semester, about 120 students will start learning at this new 2.5 meter high-floored school building with 4 classrooms and 4 room toilets. This project enables all students to provide safe and comfortable learning environment especially in the rainy season.

I am hopeful that all the students of Angkor Ang Primary School will be able to complete their study under the improved environment and will maintain the school building properly as a symbol of the friendship between the Kingdom of Cambodia and Japan for many years to come.

In closing, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all the people who have contributed to the project implementation and the school construction. It is my sincere hope that this cooperation will further strengthen the friendly relations between Cambodian and Japanese people.

Thank you very much for your attention.