

Speech by H.E. KUMAMARU Yuji  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan  
To the Kingdom of Cambodia  
At the Inauguration Ceremony of Internal Medicine Ward at Koh Andeth  
Referral Hospital, Operational Health District of Koh Andeth, in Takeo  
Province  
6 October, 2015

- Venerable Monks,
- H.E. Mr. Sok An, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister in Charge of the Office of the Council of Ministers
- H.E. Mr. Lay Vannak, Governor of Takeo Province,
- Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to attend the inauguration ceremony of internal medicine ward at Koh Andeth Referral Hospital, Operational District of Koh Andeth, along with the presence of H.E. Mr. Sok An, Deputy prime minister, Minister in Charge of the Office of the Council of Ministers.

In the past two decades, Cambodia has made strenuous efforts for its reconstruction and development, and it has reached a point where its economic growth rate is one of the highest even in the fast growing ASEAN region. Also in the health sector, significant improvement has been made both in quantity and quality. This should be attributed to the great cooperation between the Ministry of Health and international community.

The Government of Japan has been strongly supporting the Government of Cambodia's efforts for development in all sectors, but much has been focused on improvement of the medical care facilities.

This project is to construct an internal medicine ward and to install medical beds at Koh Andeth Referral Hospital. The number of patients at Koh Andeth Referral Hospital is rapidly increasing in recent years, and as a result, medical patients were scattered in the hospital and the infection rate was extremely high. The new internal medicine ward, which is constructed by Japan's Grass-Root Grant aid, enables more patients to receive medical treatment in safer and more attentive environment.

I strongly hope that the new internal medicine ward will enhance health service in Takeo province and, consequently, many residents will benefit. I sincerely hope that the hospital will be maintained properly and utilized effectively over a long period of time. It is my hope that it will become a symbol of friendly relations between Cambodian and Japanese people.

Thank you very much.