

**Speech by H.E. Mr. KUMAMARUYuji,  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan  
To the Kingdom of Cambodia  
At the Grant Contract Signing Ceremony for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects  
March 18, 2015**

- H.E. Ms. Mom Thani, Under Secretary of State of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries
- H.E. Mr. Ros Chhay, Vice Governor of Svay Rieng Province
- Mr. Thach Ratana, Director of Svay Rieng Provincial Department of Agriculture
- Mr. YUOS Sarat, Director of Svay Rieng Provincial Department  
of Education, Youth and Sport
- Mr. SAO Sitha, Director of Svay Rieng Teacher Training College
- Distinguished Guests, Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to have a signing ceremony today for three Grass-Roots Human Security Projects for Svay Rieng Province, which are ① “The Project for Constructing Thnaot Agricultural Cooperative Center in Svay Rieng Province”, ② “The Project for Constructing a School Building at Prey Mnos Primary School, Kampong Ro District, Svay Rieng Province” and ③ “The Project for Constructing a Science Laboratory at Svay Rieng Provincial Teacher Training College”.

These projects for which contracts have been just signed today aim to improve agricultural and educational environment for people in the respective project areas. I believe that improvement of the agriculture and education sectors holds a key for the future development of Cambodia. These sectors are one of the high priorities of the Cambodian Government as well as for Japanese assistance to Cambodia. In fact, Japan has been vigorously supporting Cambodia’s development in these sectors over two decades by transferring cultivation technology, rehabilitating irrigation systems, constructing school buildings and providing training to teachers.

The first grant project, which amounts to \$102,245, is provided to Svay Rieng Provincial Department of Agriculture for the construction of Thnaot Agricultural Cooperative Center in Kampong Ro District. With this project, agricultural cooperative center with rice mill facilities, guard house, husk shade, and natural fertilizer shade will be provided and about 5,500 farmers will be able to gain better living condition by selling rice at fair price to the agricultural cooperation.

The second grant project, which amounts to \$76,606, is provided to Svay Rieng Provincial Department of Education, Youth and Sport for the construction of a school building with sanitation facilities and the installation of furniture at Prey Mnos Primary School, Kampong Ro District. This project is expected to provide safe and comfortable educational environment for around 450 students who are currently using the dilapidated school buildings.

The third grant project, which amounts to \$87,949, is provided to Svay Rieng Teacher Training College for the construction of a science laboratory equipped with school furniture and sanitation facilities at the college. The project is expected to directly benefit about 120 trainees who will become primary school teachers after their graduation. I have learned that, one Japanese volunteer from CIESF has been closely working with teacher trainers at the college.

The construction work of these projects will start soon and is expected to complete within one year. Although there might be some difficulties to continue the work during the rainy season, I am hopeful that these projects will be implemented without delay. In April, Spian Tsubasa will be officially opened and expected to accelerate flow of people and products. I hope the bridge will be able to bring a further development of Svay Rieng and to help priority wellbeing of people there.

Last but not least, I strongly hope that the facilities constructed by these projects will be maintained properly so that they are maintained for many years and bring benefits to as many people as possible. I also hope that these projects can help strengthening the friendly relations existing between Japanese and Cambodian people.

Thank you.