

**Speech by H. E. Mr. HORINOUCHI Hidehisa,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan
to the Kingdom of Cambodia
at the Inauguration Ceremony of the Project for Constructing School Building
at Keo Por Lower Secondary School in Puok District, Siem Reap Province, December 1, 2016**

- Venerable monks
- His Excellency Mr. Sieng Nam, Parliament Member of Siem Reap Province
- His Excellency Mr. YANO Tetsuro, the former Senior Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs
- Mr. TSUKADA Muneo, the Chief priest of Shofukuji Temple in Utsunomiya city
- Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to attend today's inauguration ceremony of the Project for Constructing School Building at Keo Por Lower Secondary School, with the presence of His Excellency Mr. Sieng Nam, Parliament Member of Siem Reap Province, His Excellency Mr. YANO Tetsuro, the former Senior Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. TSUKADA Muneo, the Chief priest of Shofukuji Temple in Utsunomiya city and all guests. First of all, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Department of Education, Youth and Sport.

Understanding the importance of education to achieve sustainable development, the Government of Japan has been supporting Cambodia through various schemes including Grass Roots Grant Assistance (Kusanone programme). This project marks the 2nd one implemented through the Kusanone programme in Siem Reap province.

I heard that 233 students at the school had to study in an unstable learning environment. This project provides a school building with 5 rooms with school furniture, and a toilet with 2 rooms.

I am delighted to see that the students at Keo Por Lower Secondary School are able to study in this safe and comfortable educational building. I hope the school building will be maintained properly as a symbol of the friendship between the Kingdom of Cambodia and Japan for many years to come.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all the people who have contributed to the smooth implementation of the project. I strongly hope that this cooperation will further strengthen the friendly relationship between the Cambodian and Japanese people.

Thank you very much for your attention.