

**Speech by Mr. CHIBA Taizo**  
**Second Secretary of the Embassy of Japan in the Kingdom of Cambodia**  
**On the occasion of the Inauguration Ceremony of The Project for Constructing**  
**Dangtong Bridge in Samraong District, Otdar Meanchey Province**  
**18 January, 2017**

- H.E. Mr. Sor Thavy, Governor of Otdar Meanchey Province,
- H.E. Mr. Yim Then, Chief of Otdar Meanchey Provincial Council,
- Mr. Sang Bunthen, Director of Otdar Meanchey Provincial Department of Public Works and Transport,
- Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is a great pleasure for me to attend today's ceremony, in the presence of H.E. Mr. Sor Thavy, Otdar Meanchey Province, and H.E. Mr. Yim Then, Chief of Otdar Meanchey Provincial Council, to celebrate the completion of the Project for Constructing Dangtong Bridge in Samraong District, Otdar Meanchey Province.

As it has been a priority of Japan's cooperation to Cambodia, various projects to improve infrastructure have been implemented in rural areas. Now, I am pleased to see the newly constructed bridge built by the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects.

I understand that the new bridge would benefit nearly 3,400 people living in the region. It is expected that it will provide the local people with easier access to schools, hospitals and markets and promote transportation of agricultural produce.

I sincerely hope that Otdar Meanchey Provincial Department of Public Works and Transport will maintain the bridge in a proper manner so that the local residents could benefit for a long period of time.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the all people concerned who have contributed to the smooth implementation of the project. I strongly hope that this bridge 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.**