

**Speech by Mr. KUROKI Masafumi,
Ambassador of Japan to the Kingdom of Cambodia
At the Grant Contract Signing Ceremony for
Japan's Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects
October 4, 2012**

- Mr. CHEA Cheath, Director of the Department of Education, Youth and Sport of Phnom Penh Capital City,
- Ladies and gentlemen,
- Dear students,

It is a great pleasure for me to sign the contract of the Grant Assistance with the Department of Education, Youth and Sport of Phnom Penh Capital City. The Grant Assistance of USD 98,880 is provided for the construction of a new concrete school building with 7 classrooms and a sanitation facility at the Kauk Banchoan Lower Secondary School.

We understand that a part of the students of the Kauk Banchoan Lower Secondary School are currently using the classrooms in adjacent primary school and there is an urgent need to increase the classrooms at the lower secondary school, due to the increase in number of primary school students.

With this project, over 600 students at the lower secondary school will be able to study in their own classrooms and at the same time, the primary school can be fully used for its own students. In addition, the project will encourage primary school students in the area to proceed to the lower secondary school.

Education and human resource development build a foundation for future development of a country. The Government of Cambodia places a high priority on these areas, which constitute one of the four pillars of the Rectangular Strategy for national development. Accordingly, the Japanese Government has been extending assistance to education and human resource development in Cambodia.

I hope that the students at Kauk Banchoan Lower Secondary School will study hard in new classrooms and keep the school clean for themselves as well as for the future students.

Finally, I sincerely hope that this cooperation will further strengthen the friendly relations between Japanese and Cambodian people.

Thank you for your attention.