

Speech by Mr. NAKAJIMA Yohei  
Second Secretary of the Embassy of Japan in the Kingdom of Cambodia  
At the Hand-Over Ceremony of the Project for Installing Medical Equipment  
at Bakan Referral Hospital in Pursat Province  
7<sup>th</sup> October 2016

- H.E. Professor Eng Hout, Secretary of State, Ministry of Health,
- H.E. Ms. Chouk Sophany, Vice- Governor of Pursat Province,
- Dr. Khoy Dy, Director of Pursat Provincial Department of Health,
- Mr. Sao Dareon, Governor of Bakan District,
- Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to attend the hand-over ceremony of the project for installing medical equipment at Bakan Referral Hospital in Pursat Province, in the presence of His Excellency Professor Eng Hout. First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to His Excellency Professor Eng Hout and those who attend this ceremony.

Over two decades, Cambodia has been making significant 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.

As a part of such endeavor, Japan has helped to install a set of medical equipment at Bakan Referral Hospital in this project. The number of patients at the hospital is rapidly increasing and the demands for medical care are becoming higher and higher in recent years. Before implementing this project, the X-ray machine and ultrasound had not been working for years and the dental unit had lacked necessary functions. Also, there was no chemistry analyzer and hematology analyzer at the hospital before. Thus, it was difficult for medical staff to strengthen diagnosis and to meet the patients' demands. The new equipment, which is installed by Japan's Grass-Roots Human Security Grant Assistance, enables patients to receive better medical treatment and it is expected to contribute to the improvement of the health services in the region.

Finally, I sincerely hope that the medical equipment will be maintained properly and utilized effectively over a long period of time as a symbol of friendly relationship between Cambodian and Japanese people.

Thank you for your attention.