

Cambodia National Day Special

Strong ties built on robust cooperation, high-level visits

TUY RY
AMBASSADOR OF CAMBODIA



Every Nov. 9, Cambodians celebrate Independence Day at the Independence Monument, where the lighting of the victory flame symbolizes Cambodia's freedom and sovereignty.

Such an auspicious occasion marks the nation's liberation from French colonial rule under the royal crusade of His Majesty the late King Preah Borom Ratanak Kaudh Norodom Sihanouk, the king-father of independence. Over the past 72 years, the courageous movement for national unity initiated by the late king has remained a significant memory for the Cambodian people.

Cambodia has a tragic history marked by coups, civil war and genocide in the 1970s. The hard-earned peace that Former Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen obtained under the successful Win-Win Policy in 1998 has been continuously safeguarded. This policy ended decades of conflict and has laid a foundation for sustainable peace through national reconciliation, unity and development.

Before the pandemic, our economy grew at an annual rate of around 7%. Current projections for gross domestic product growth are 5.2% for 2025 and 5.0% for 2026, positioning Cambodia to graduate from least-developed country status by 2029. Through this development, millions of people will have been lifted out of poverty.

Each year, millions of international tourists, including investors, visit Cambodia. The seventh legislature, led by the Prime Minister Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei Hun Manet, has worked tirelessly to accelerate socioeconomic growth, guided by its Pentagonal Strategy-Phase I, and drive development toward

the national vision of becoming a high-income country by 2050.

The Cambodian government and people extended their deepest gratitude to U.S. President Donald Trump for his decisive leadership in supporting lasting peace, and to Malaysian Prime Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim, in his capacity as chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, for his unwavering support in facilitating the peaceful resolution of the Cambodia-Thailand border conflict. This led to the official signing of the Cambodia-Thailand Peace Deal by Manet and Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul on Oct. 26 in Kuala Lumpur, witnessed by Trump and the Malaysian prime minister.

We are also deeply grateful to the ASEAN member states, China, Japan and other partners, who have supported the ceasefire from the very beginning.

Cambodia and Japan have consistently maintained enduring relations, underpinned by frequent high-level visits and robust cooperation across a wide range of sectors. This year marks the 72nd anniversary of diplomatic relations, and during the successful official visit of Manet to Japan in late May, the prime ministers of both countries reaffirmed commitment to strengthening their comprehensive strategic partnership, a new milestone reached in 2025.

They also adopted the Economic Co-Creation Package as a platform to attract more Japanese investors to Cambodia, strengthen trade and lay a solid foundation for future cooperation. Cambodia's relationship with Japanese legislative institutions was also reinforced.

The affirmation to further deepen the Cambodia-Japan partnership has been assured through the separate congratulatory letters from the Senate President Hun Sen and Manet on Sanae Takaichi's election as prime minister.

We extend our warmest congratulations on Japan's successful hosting of the Osaka Expo, and are pleased that the Cambo-

dia Pavilion won the prestigious Bronze Award for Exhibition Design at the event.

Furthermore, bilateral relations have been further reaffirmed through the congratulatory letter from Deputy Prime Minister Prak Sokhonn, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, to Toshimitsu Motegi, minister of foreign affairs.

Japan ranked as Cambodia's fourth-largest trading partner for the first nine months of this year after logging \$1.87 billion in trade, up 17% from the same period in 2024. We highly value the Japanese private sector, noting that from 1994 to 2025, Japanese corporate investment in 154 projects in Cambodia amounted to \$2.94 billion (roughly ¥452.4 billion).

New developments, including Sihanoukville Port development, the four-floor Techo International Airport opening and Air Cambodia's commencement of a new direct flight route, are expected to enhance connectivity, promote tourism and contribute to fostering deeper cultural and economic ties between our nations.

Cooperation in the defense sector has strengthened significantly as well. Our strengthening cooperation in regional and international arenas has been reaffirmed for the mutual benefit of both nations and for the advancement of peace, stability and prosperity in our region and beyond.

Cambodia is the first country in the ASEAN region to publicly support Japan's "Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy." Most recently, the 28th ASEAN-Japan Summit in Malaysia reaffirmed our commitment to advancing the ASEAN-Japan comprehensive strategic partnership.

Finally, I would like to extend Cambodia's heartfelt gratitude to the government and people of Japan for their significant contributions to Cambodia's peace process in the 1990s, and their invaluable assistance to Cambodia's socioeconomic development.

May the enduring Cambodia-Japan friendship continue to prosper.



His Majesty King Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni (center) presides over the Victory Flame Lighting Ceremony marking the 71st anniversary of Cambodia's Independence Day on Nov. 9, 2024. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF CAMBODIA

Working together on humanitarian issues

YUKO OBUCHI
CHAIRPERSON, JAPAN-CAMBODIA
PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDSHIP LEAGUE



On behalf of the Japan-Cambodia Parliamentary Friendship League, I extend my warmest congratulations to the Kingdom of Cambodia on its Independence Day.

Since the establishment of diplomatic ties, Japan and Cambodia have built a relationship of trust and friendship that has endured through many challenges.

Today, under the comprehensive strategic partnership, our cooperation is expanding.

This year featured vibrant high-level exchanges, notably the official working visit to Japan by Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei Hun Manet, prime minister of Cambodia, in May, reaffirming our shared resolve to deepen bilateral ties. Collaboration now spans key sectors such as investment environment enhancement, infrastructure upgrades and expansion, digital transformation, cybersecurity, telecommunications and clean energy, underscoring our common vision for sustainable growth and security.

I am especially proud of progress in humanitarian actions to address land

mines, which Japan and Cambodia have long worked on together. Our joint efforts in Cambodia now extend globally through initiatives like the Africa Mine Action Platform and the Ukraine Mine Action Support Initiative, making Cambodia an indispensable partner in Japan's worldwide mine action programs. Together, we strive toward a world free of land mines.

Amid global uncertainties, Japan and Cambodia will continue to advance peace, resilience and innovation while strengthening the bonds between our peoples. On this significant day, I convey my heartfelt congratulations and pledge unwavering commitment to the prosperity of both nations.

Congratulations

to the People of Cambodia

on the Occasion of the Anniversary of Their Independence

The Honorary Consulate of the Kingdom of Cambodia in Fukuoka is honored to have developed the following activities:

- ❖ Visa issuance
- ❖ Promotion of two-way tourism
- ❖ Organizing cultural events in Fukuoka to showcase Cambodian arts and culture
- ❖ Introduction of Cambodia to young people in the Kyushu and Okinawa regions to promote their interest in building bridges between Japan and Cambodia



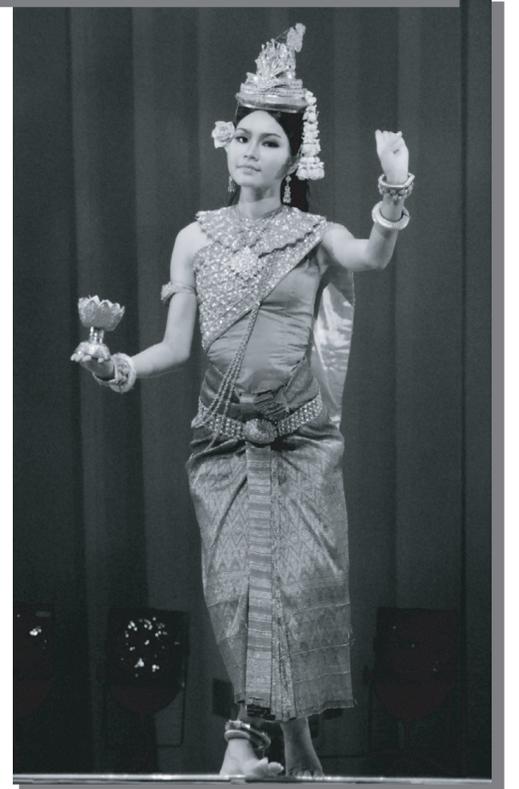
Haruhisa Handa
Honorary Consul of
the Kingdom of Cambodia in Fukuoka,
Advisor to the Royal Government of Cambodia
with the rank of Senior Minister



Honorary Consulate of the Kingdom of Cambodia in Fukuoka

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Cambodia National Day Special

Providing global opportunities

YOSHIHISA KAINUMA
REPRESENTATIVE DIRECTOR, CHAIRMAN,
CEO, MINEBEA MITSUMI INC.



First, my deepest condolences to those who have lost their lives in the armed border conflict that began on May 28.

On the auspicious occasion of the 72nd anniversary of

Cambodia's Independence Day, on behalf of Minebea Mitsumi Inc., I would like to express my sincere congratulations and best wishes to the people of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

I also offer congratulations on the grand opening of Techo International Airport. Upon landing at the new airport recently, I was once again astonished by the speed of Cambodia's growth.

Minebea Mitsumi has been a pioneer-

ing electronic components manufacturer in Cambodia since launching Minebea (Cambodia) Co. in December 2010. Our precision business has expanded steadily, with the Phnom Penh factory growing to 200,000 square meters of floor space. This first factory now provides employment opportunities for 9,000 Cambodians, an increase of 2,000 people from last year.

The second factory in Pursat province, for which we held a groundbreaking ceremony last September with many distinguished guests, began operations in October as planned.

We also plan to start power generation in December at the large solar plant we are building in Pursat province. The electricity generated at this plant will be enough to cover our business activities. This means the products we produce in Cambodia will be made with 100% renewable energy.

We plan to continue creating new businesses and expanding our 30 megawatt-scale solar power generation business in Cambodia. We want to place a strong

emphasis on contributing especially to the people of Pursat province and their communities, as they are supporting our new business.

We currently have 172 colleagues from Pursat who are undergoing overseas training. We want to grow the precision machine parts industry, which is in its infancy in Cambodia, to its full potential and give Cambodia's younger generation the opportunity to compete globally. We hope they feel a sense of confidence and joy from that experience. It would be our greatest pleasure to create these opportunities.

Thanks to the unprecedented support from the Royal Government of Cambodia and the efforts of our Cambodian employees, these new business expansions are now possible. We will continue to contribute to the further development of Cambodia.

Again, I cordially extend my heartfelt wishes of prosperity and happiness to the Kingdom of Cambodia.



Association of Southeast Asian Nations leaders and Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi pose at the 28th ASEAN-Japan Summit in Kuala Lumpur on Oct. 26. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIR AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF CAMBODIA

Building bilateral economic relations

NORHIKO ISHIGURO
JETRO CHAIRMAN AND CEO



On the occasion of the 72nd anniversary of the Kingdom of Cambodia, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the people of Cambodia.

The country has made remarkable progress since gaining independence, and I express my profound respect for the country's steady development and the tireless efforts of its people.

I sincerely wish for the continued prosperity of Cambodia and its citizens.

In May, the Japan External Trade Organization hosted the Cambodia-Japan Business Forum in conjunction with the visit

of Prime Minister Hun Manet to Japan. Through a business networking session, a panel discussion featuring Japanese companies operating in Cambodia and a keynote speech by Hun Manet, the forum provided valuable insights into investment opportunities, collaborations and partnerships with Cambodia.

Amid growing interest in the country as an investment destination for Japanese companies seeking to diversify their supply chains and respond to rising labor costs in Association of Southeast Asian Nation countries, the forum attracted over 300 participants.

We are encouraged by the Cambodian government's efforts under the leadership of Hun Manet to address and improve tax-related challenges faced by Japanese companies operating in Cambodia.

During the forum, a memorandum of cooperation was signed between the Cam-

bodia Chamber of Commerce and JETRO Cambodia. Through joint activities such as business matching, seminars, exhibitions and trade missions, we have established a cooperative framework for strengthening economic relations between our countries in the commercial sector.

Cambodia's economy continues its remarkable growth, having achieved a high gross domestic product growth rate of 6% in 2024. The decision to allow Cambodia to graduate from its least-developed country status in 2029 marks a significant milestone in its sustainable development.

To contribute to Cambodia's goal of becoming a high-income country by 2050, JETRO remains committed to promoting trade and investment, further deepening the bonds between our nations.

In closing, I sincerely wish for the continued happiness and prosperity of the people of Cambodia.



Left: Cambodia's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Prak Sokhonn joins then-Foreign Affairs Minister Takeshi Iwaya during a meeting in Tokyo on May 25. Right: Angkor Wat is a symbol of national pride. EMBASSY OF CAMBODIA



Congratulations
TO
THE PEOPLE OF CAMBODIA
on the Occasion of the Anniversary of
Their Independence



「佛教之王堂」 The Royal Grand Hall of Buddhism <https://www.royalgrandhall.jp/eng>
念佛宗 三寶山 無量壽寺 Nenbutsushu Sampozen Muryojuji Head Temple <https://www.nenbutsushu.or.jp/eng>

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to the People of Cambodia
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the Anniversary of
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Congratulations to the People of Cambodia on the Occasion of Their Independence Day

Respectful greetings from:

Mr. Hideo Yamada, Honorary Consul of Cambodia in Osaka
Mr. Susumu Tai, Honorary Consul of Cambodia in Sendai

Cambodia National Day Special

Striving to bolster tourism interest

KUNIHICO HIRABAYASHI
SECRETARY GENERAL, ASEAN-JAPAN
CENTRE



On this joyous occasion of Cambodia's 72nd Independence Day anniversary, I am delighted to offer my warmest congratulations to the Cambodian people. This milestone provides an opportunity to reflect on the country's remarkable journey, which embodies resilience, cultural richness and a forward-looking spirit.

At the ASEAN-Japan Centre, we believe that people-to-people connections are the foundation of lasting friendship and cooperation. Tourism remains one of the most vibrant bridges linking Cambodia and Japan. On Oct. 4, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce and

the Ministry of Tourism of Cambodia, the center hosted a captivating tourism talk show at the Cambodia Pavilion of the Osaka Expo. Two well-known Japanese travel influencers, who had previously participated in a familiarization trip to Siem Reap organized by the center, presented exclusive visual stories offering Japanese audiences a fresh and contemporary view of Cambodia's charm. Their inspiring storytelling resonated so strongly that an exit survey revealed 99.4% of the 348 participants expressed a desire to visit Cambodia.

Beyond tourism, the center also strives to deepen regional economic collaboration. Held in conjunction with the Cambodia National Day at the expo, the Cambodia Business Mission in Kansai 2025 brought together Cambodian investment authorities and Kansai-based Japanese firms to strengthen bilateral economic ties. The discussions highlighted both the challenges and the emerging opportunities, including Cambodia's "Plus-One" strategy for companies looking

to increase their production in countries other than Vietnam and Thailand. Other topics covered included the country's growing digital economy and the strong government incentives for investing in information technology, green energy, logistics and human skills development.

The country's commitment to clean energy was also viewed as a competitive advantage. It already accounts for 62% of Cambodia's energy supply, with the aim of reaching 100% by 2050.

As we celebrate Cambodia's achievements and its bright future, we also reaffirm our commitment to strengthening the bonds of friendship and partnership between Cambodia and Japan. Together, let us continue building bridges of mutual understanding, prosperity and trust across our region.

This content was compiled in collaboration with the embassy. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.

Business growth through collaboration

TAITO SUZUKI
PRESIDENT OF TAICA CORP.



On the 72nd anniversary of the independence of the Kingdom of Cambodia, we would like to congratulate and thank the people of Cambodia for their friendship and cooperation.

Taica Corp. has five business areas, and our relationship with Cambodia started when we established a factory in 2012. In over a decade since, we have done more

than conduct business activities; we have deepened our relationship with the Kingdom of Cambodia by donating futsal courts and stationery based on our corporate philosophy of making international contributions.

We opened our first Marugame Udon restaurant in 2019, and this year we have expanded to five restaurants. Thanks to everyone's support, our sales have increased more than sixfold over the past six years and we have received great praise locally.

We believe that this achievement, made possible through the collaboration and shared efforts of both Cambodian and Japanese staffers, is a testament to the strong bonds we share with everyone in Cambodia.

We are confident that the Kingdom of Cambodia will make further progress and growth as it moves toward its next anniversaries, and as a company with locations in Cambodia we will continue to seek new ways to contribute to its growth and act as a bridge between Cambodia and Japan.

On Oct. 26, Cambodia's flag carrier Air Cambodia made its first flight to Japan, enabling travel in about eight hours via Fuzhou, China. As the number of people coming and going between our countries grows, let us help each other and move forward together toward our 100th anniversary.

We hope that the bonds of friendship between Japan and Cambodia will be further strengthened.



Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet shakes hands with then-Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba during a summit meeting on May 30, 2024. STPM



Aspara dance is among the traditional dances of the Royal Ballet of Cambodia. EMBASSY OF CAMBODIA

Congratulations to the People of Cambodia on the Occasion of the Anniversary of Their Independence

MinebeaMitsumi
Passion to Create Value through Difference

<https://www.minebeamitsumi.com/>

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Congratulations to the People of Cambodia on the Occasion of the Anniversary of Their Independence

Respectful greetings from:

Toyama-Cambodia Friendship Association
Junichi Takata, *Chairman*
Kazuo Takagishi, *Vice Chairman*
Ryoichi Takai, *Vice Chairman*
Masao Yachi, *Vice Chairman*

West Japan-Cambodia Friendship Association
Kazuhiro Manabe, *President*

Congratulations to the People of Cambodia on the Occasion of the Anniversary of Their Independence

We, five companies of the Toyota Tsusho Group in Cambodia, continue to contribute to the development of the country.



Toyota Tsusho Corporation
Phnom Penh Liaison Office