



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA  
NATION RELIGION KING**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

**General Department of Asia-Pacific**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Fruitful outcomes of visit by Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister to Republic of Korea**

**Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei HUN Manet**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, accompanied by First Lady Her Excellency **Dr. PICH Chanmony HunManet**, and senior government officials including His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister **SUN Chanthol**, First Vice-Chairman of the Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC), and His Excellency **SOK Chenda Sophea**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, paid a fruitful official visit to the Republic of Korea (ROK) from 15 to 18 May.

In addition to a bilateral summit with His Excellency President **YOON Suk Yeol**, **Samdech Thipadei** had separate meetings with His Excellency Prime Minister **HAN Duck-soo** and His Excellency **KIM Jin-pyo**, Speaker of the National Assembly.

**Samdech Thipadei** and **President YOON** had in-depth discussions and exchanges in a cordial atmosphere, covering many areas of cooperation under bilateral and multilateral frameworks including ASEAN-ROK and Mekong-ROK cooperation, as well as regional and international developments. Encouraged by the progress of Cambodia – ROK relations, the leaders agreed to elevate ties between the two nations to a Strategic Partnership. They reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen and expand cooperation in areas such as politics, security, defense, trade, investment, finance, labor, tourism, culture, environment and development cooperation as elaborated in the Joint Statement on the Establishment of a Strategic Partnership between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Republic of Korea. **Samdech Thipadei** requested **President YOON** to encourage Korean airlines to consider new routes to Siem Reap from Incheon and Jeju.



In the meetings with **President YOON**, **Prime Minister HAN** and **National Assembly Speaker KIM**, **Samdech Thipadei** expressed deep gratitude to the Government and people of the ROK for their invaluable assistance to Cambodia's socio-economic development and care for the well-being of the Cambodian community, workers and students in the ROK. Korean leaders highly appreciated Cambodian contributions to the Korean economy and efforts to promote Cambodia as an attractive investment destination and partner for Korean companies in sectors such as tourism, agro-industry, automobiles and electronics. **Samdech Thipadei** and Korean leaders shared their resolve to enhance people-to-people ties and strengthen the strategic partnership between the two countries for greater tangible mutual benefits. They applauded the recent successful conclusion of the first meeting of the Cambodia-Korea Free Trade Agreement Joint Committee. The ROK welcomed the establishment of a consultative mechanism between the CDC and the ROK Embassy to Cambodia to facilitate and promote Korean investment and was strongly interested in **Samdech Thipadei's** idea to create a customized Special Economic Zone in Cambodia for ROK companies.

**Samdech Thipadei** met with several other dignitaries during the visit including:

- His Excellency **AHN Duk-geun**, Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy of the ROK, **Mr. LEE Hee Beom**, President of the Korea-Cambodia Economic Cooperation Committee, and **Mr. MARN Ki-jeong**, President of the Korea Industry Alliance Forum, to discuss strengthening economic, trade and investment cooperation between Cambodia and the ROK.
- His Excellency **CHUNG Eui-yong**, President of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP), who briefed **Samdech Thipadei** on preparations for the 12th General Assembly of ICAPP in Cambodia in November 2024.
- His Excellency **OH Young-hun**, Governor of Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, to discuss strengthening relations and cooperation with Siem Reap province under the MOU signed between the two provinces.
- **Dr. YUN Seog-dae**, Chief Executive Officer of Korea Water Resources Corporation (K-water) and President of the Asia Water Council to discuss sustainable water resource development and K-water's interest to continue supporting water management and infrastructure projects in Cambodia.



During the official visit, **Samdech Thipadei** addressed a Cambodia-Korea Business Forum attended by some 300 delegates from around 200 companies. He encouraged ROK investment in areas such as agriculture, food processing and advanced manufacturing. **Samdech Thipadei** expressed optimism that Korean companies will increase their presence in Southeast Asia and play a key role in shaping the region's future by strategically investing in Cambodia with its enabling business environment.

**Samdech Thipadei** received courtesy calls from eight leading Korean companies, including Daewoo Engineering & Construction Co, Daejoo·KC, Booyoung Khmer II Co and Hanshin Engineering & Construction Co which are either operating in Cambodia or seeking investment opportunities in the fields of finance, agriculture, tourism, education, technology, industry, energy, construction, real estate, and logistics.

In a meeting with the Cambodian community, **Samdech Thipadei** and the First Lady were warmly welcomed by some 2,300 people. He reaffirmed the Royal Government's commitment to address all challenges faced by Cambodians to ensure their welfare during their stay, study and work in the ROK.

In addition to official events, Her Excellency **Dr. PICH Chanmony HunManet** received courtesy calls by **Dr. JUSEON Byun**, founder of Friends of Asia Pacific, and **Mr. KIM Woojung**, director of Hebron Medical Center. She also visited Soochunhyang Hospital and an exhibition at Gallery Guruji.

During the visit, 13 documents were signed including a loan from the Economic Development Cooperation Fund and other agreements on rural road improvement, investment, intellectual property, narcotics control and cross-border QR code payments.

Seoul, 18 May 2024

