



Phnom Penh, June 29, 2020

PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

Signing of the Grant Agreement on “The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS)”

On 29th June 2020 (Monday) Grant Agreement for "**The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS)** (former Japanese Grant Aid for Human Resource Development Scholarship)" with total amount of **JPY348,000,000** (approximately **USD3,23 million**), was successfully signed between the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Cambodia and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

The Project aims to resolve development challenges in Cambodia by supporting the young government officials who are expected to become leaders in Cambodia for obtaining master's or doctor's degree in Japanese higher educational institutions. JDS fellows can utilize their learnings, experiences and human network gained through the Project to formulate and to implement socio-economic development plans in Cambodia.

JDS project started the selection of fellows in 2000, and sent the first batch in 2001, so this year marks the 20th anniversary. Since the Project started, 470 young government officials have been awarded full scholarship and other assistances to obtain Master's degree or Ph.D. in Japan.

This project has contributed to exceptional human resource development, leading to the social and economic development in the country. Many of JDS fellows have become senior officials in various ministries in Cambodia. Furthermore, JDS project is the bridge to strengthen the good relationships between the two countries, people and people, and government and government.

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