



News in Cambodia

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POLITICS

23,500 Local and 58 International Election Observers Registered for Cambodia's Upcoming Election

Up to July 16, some 23,500 local and 58 international election observers have registered to monitor Cambodia's fifth parliamentary election on July 28, said H.E. Tep Nytha, Secretary General of the National Election Committee (NEC).

He further said the number of the election observers would increase as NEC is now in a process of considering the applications being sent for monitoring the election.

The international election observers are from 11 international organizations and foreign countries including the International Foundation for Electoral Systems, the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI), World Renew, People's Forum on Cambodia, Japan (PEFOC,J),

Khemara Learning Centre, Indonesian Embassy, Brunei Embassy and the delegation of Brunei Darussalam, New Zealand Embassy, and the guests from EU Election Observation Mission.

The deadline for the registration of national observers is July 18 and that for international observers is July 25.

RGC Condemns IRI's Fake Survey Document Producers

The Spokesperson of the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) issued this morning a statement condemning an evil group who has falsified the survey document of the International Republican Institute (IRI).

The full statement reads as follows:



Economy

First Semester 2013: Cambodia's Trade on Positive Trend

Cambodia's trade in the first six months of this year is on the positive trend toward strong and sustainable economic growth in the future.

Even though no official data has been released yet, the preliminary figures showed that the Cambodian trade with foreign countries was on the rise during the first half of 2013, reaching some US\$7.62 billion, up 20 percent from US\$6.36 billion during the same period of 2012.

The country exported products with a total amount of US\$3.15 billion, up 26 percent, and imported goods with a total value of US\$4.47 billion, up 16 percent.

Garment and textile remained Cambodia's major exported products, earning more than US\$2 billion, while rice export saw also a dramatic increase thanks to the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC)'s endeavors in market and exported product diversification.

The value of milled rice export to international market cannot compare with that of garment and textile exports, but it is on the positive trend toward the achievement of the RGC's target of exporting at least 1 million tons of milled rice by 2015.

From January to June 2013, milled rice export was recorded at 176,000 tons, up 125.56 percent from 78,000 tons during the same time last year.

Besides, cassava, rubber latex, cashew, corn, pepper, ... are also the main exported products contributing to balancing Cambodia's exports and imports.

Mr. Kong Putheara, Spokesperson of the Ministry of Commerce, has recently said that Cambodia had currently over 100 trade partner countries around the world.

In addition, some 1,368 new companies have been registered in the first semester of this year, almost half of them are foreign companies from China, South Korea, Japan, Malaysia, and Vietnam.

In conclusion, the Cambodian trade in the first half of this year remained strong even though the country is going to hold the national election in July.

Cambodia Receives US\$3.9-Billion Investment from South Korean Companies

Cambodia has so far received an investment of US\$3.9 billion from some 845 South Korean companies, over 100 of which are trade firms and others run investment firms, said H.E. Mao Thora, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Commerce.

He said this at a workshop on Korean Market Access on Textile and Home Décor Products held at the Himawari Hotel in Phnom Penh on July 17.

The secretary of state considered this event as contributing to the development of trade and Cambodia's products, mainly the improvement of Cambodian design pattern-incorporated products to have an access to Korean market.

It also helped Cambodian handicraft producers and exporters to get a new innovation of designing and home décor, according to the standard of Korean market in the present, he added.

Bilateral trade between Cambodia and South Korea reached over US\$328 million in the first five months of this year, up 13 percent over the same period last year, according to ASEAN-Korea Center's report.