



**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA  
NATION RELIGION KING**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

General Department of Asia-Pacific

Press Release

**Cambodia and Thailand Pledged to Further Advance the Strategic Partnership**

At the invitation of Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei HUN Manet, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, Her Excellency Paetongtarn SHINAWATRA, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand and her spouse, His Excellency Pidok SOOKSAWAS, paid their first official visit to the Kingdom of Cambodia from 23 to 24 April 2025. The visit marked a significant milestone in further strengthening the long-standing friendship and strategic partnership between Cambodia and Thailand, as the two nations are commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations this year.

Her Excellency Paetongtarn SHINAWATRA laid wreaths at the Independence Monument and paid homage in memory of the great heroes and heroines of Cambodia. Her Excellency Prime Minister also paid tribute and respect at the Royal Memorial of His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah NORODOM SIHANOUK, "PREAH BOROM RATANAK KAUDH", the Late King-Father of Cambodia.

During this visit, Her Excellency Prime Minister and His Excellency Pidok SOOKSAWAS had a royal audience with His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath NORODOM Sihamoni, King of Cambodia. Her Excellency Prime Minister paid separate courtesy calls on Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN Sen, President of the Senate, and Samdech Rathsaphea Thipadei Khuon Sudary, President of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

In a spirit of traditional friendship, good neighborliness, and mutual understanding and trust, Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister and Her Excellency Prime Minister held in-depth discussions on bilateral relations, covering a wide spectrum of shared interests. The two Prime Ministers expressed satisfaction with the remarkable development of bilateral relations and mutually beneficial cooperation, and reaffirmed their commitment to further deepening cooperation in key areas, such as politics, defense and





security, border affairs, trade and investment, labor, education, culture, tourism, connectivity, environment, technology and innovation, and people-to-people exchanges.

On political cooperation, the two Prime Ministers underscored the importance of conducting frequent exchange of all-level visits and regular communication between the two countries to further deepen bilateral ties and expand cooperation. They encouraged relevant institutions of both countries to early conclude a Joint Plan of Action to implement the Strategic Partnership between the two countries. They agreed that the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation between Cambodia and Thailand should be convened at the earliest opportunity. They also agreed to convene the 4<sup>th</sup> Joint Cabinet Retreat in Sakaeo province, Thailand, by the end of this year.

On security cooperation, the two Prime Ministers applauded relevant institutions and competent authorities of both countries for their close coordination and dedicated efforts in addressing transnational crimes, including online scams, drug trafficking, and trafficking in persons, among others. They reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing cooperation in these critical areas to ensure the safety and well-being of their peoples. Cambodia appreciated Thailand's policy of not allowing anyone to use Thailand as a platform to interfere in internal affairs, or conduct harmful activities against Cambodia and reiterated that the Cambodian government will reciprocate this principle.

On economic cooperation, the two Prime Ministers noted with satisfaction a remarkable growth in a two-way trade, which surpassed USD 10 billion for the first time last year. Building on this positive momentum, the two leaders aimed to reach a target of USD 15 billion in the near future. In this regard, they encouraged relevant institutions of both countries to consider convening the 7<sup>th</sup> Cambodia-Thailand Joint Trade Committee (JTC) meeting this year to further advance trade relations. They also agreed to instruct relevant institutions to accelerate the implementation of cooperation projects and conduct consultations aimed at facilitating cross-border trade and foster economic synergies, including through complementary special economic zones in border provinces, for the mutual benefits of both nations. The two Prime Ministers agreed to officially inaugurate the Cambodia-Thailand Stung Bot-Ban Nong Ian bridge in July 2025.

On tourism cooperation, the two Prime Ministers welcomed the steady increase in tourist flows between their respective countries and encouraged their tourism ministries to continue close collaboration in promoting the "Two Kingdoms, One Destination" initiative. They underscored the importance of effectively implementing the Joint Action Plan on





Tourism Cooperation 2023–2025, with the goal of attracting more visitors to both nations. Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister, also expressed support for the “Six Countries, One Destination” initiative, which is expected to further enhance intra-regional tourism and reinforce Southeast Asia’s status as a premier global travel destination. In 2024, Thai tourists ranked first among international visitors to Cambodia, with over 2 million arrivals.

On labor, Samdech Thipadei highly appreciated the Thai government and private sector for providing Cambodian workers in Thailand with employment opportunities, accommodation, and safe working conditions. Samdech Thipadei valued Thailand's continued efforts to safeguard the rights and well-being of Cambodian workers who, in return, not only contribute to the Thai economy, but also gain valuable skills, knowledge, and experience that they bring back to Cambodia.

On cultural cooperation, Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister expressed deep appreciation to the Thai Government for returning the remaining 20 Khmer artifacts confiscated from smugglers in 1999.

The two Prime Ministers congratulated the establishment of the Cambodian Consulate-General in Songkhla and the Thai Consulate-General in Siem Reap, which will further facilitate bilateral engagement, providing consular services for their respective citizens.

The two Prime Ministers also discussed a wide range of other important areas, including banking, education, agriculture, environment, transport and connectivity, and information and communications technology (ICT).

Apart from bilateral cooperation, the two Prime Ministers exchanged views on regional and international developments of mutual interest. They reaffirmed their shared commitment to contributing to global and regional peace, security, and stability, as well as to continuing mutual support in international fora. They underscored the importance of ASEAN centrality and unity, and expressed their determination to jointly advance ASEAN Community-building efforts while deepening engagement with external partners.

As Thailand prepares to host the 33<sup>rd</sup> SEA Game this December and ASEAN Para Games next year, Samdech Thipadei Prime Minister extended his warmest wishes for the successful organization of these important regional events. He also reaffirmed Cambodia’s strong support for Thailand as the host country.



Prime Minister Paetongtarn SHINAWATRA and her spouse, His Excellency Pidok SOOKSAWAS, extended their heartfelt appreciation to Samdech Thipadei HUN Manet and the First Lady, as well as their supporting teams for the excellent arrangements and warm hospitality extended to the Thai delegation during the official visit.



Phnom Penh, 24 April 2025

## ANNEX

At the conclusion of the bilateral meeting, the two Prime Ministers witnessed and welcomed the signing of the following bilateral documents:

1. Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Environment of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Kingdom of Thailand on Transboundary Environmental Pollution Cooperation.
2. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand on Labour Cooperation.
3. Agreement on the Employment of Workers between the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand.
4. Agreement between the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand on the Management, Maintenance, and Usage of the Cambodia-Thailand Friendship Bridge ( Stung Bot - Ban Nong Ian ).
5. Agreement between the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand on the Construction of the New Border Bridge at Prum – Ban Pak Kard.
6. Record of Discussion between the Ministry of Public Works and Transport of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Neighboring Countries Economic Development Cooperation Agency ( Public Organization ) of the Kingdom of Thailand for the Technical Assistance on the Detailed Design for the Improvement of the National Road No. 57 ( Section of Battambang-Prom International Border Checkpoint ) Project.
7. Exchange Note of Project on the Strengthening the Capacity of the Cambodian-Thai Skills Development Institute.

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