

H.E. Dr. Sok An, Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Accreditation Committee of Cambodia, Presided Over the Certificate Awarding Ceremony of Build Bright University

H.E. Dr. Sok An presided over the Certificate Awarding Ceremony of Build Bright University held in the morning of December 30, 2009 at the National Institute of Education in Phnom Penh. The 2,890 graduates including those who have completed Bachelor, Master and Doctorate degrees have been awarded with their respective certificates on that occasion.

Speaking to almost 3,000 participants in the ceremony, **H.E. Dr. Sok An**, on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, regarded the certificate awarding today as evidence of the students' very hard work. This is the achievement made by Build Bright University in human resource development which is a strong foundation to the boosting of education sector and socio-economic development in Cambodia, leading to the poverty reduction of the people. **H.E. Dr. Sok An** said that this 21st century is the century of knowledge, education and training, meaning that it is an investment to ensure effectiveness of work performance for the present and to be prepared for the future to meet market demand and to develop intellectual capital for promoting national economic growth. **H.E. Dr. Sok An** highlighted that "those who got rid of poverty, they are the learned one" and nowadays there is imbalance between supply and demand in labour market. However, it is not hard for qualified students to get employed if they really earn both the knowledge and know-how. Moreover, educational development does not only aim at knowledge and technical skills, but is also linked to ethics and virtue, instilling the spirit of national culture and upholding national identity; which is, as a result, beneficial to individuals, community and society as a whole.

Mr. Dearb Seiha, Rector of Build Bright University, said that up to the academic year of 2009-2010, the scope of training has been expanded up to 8 branches in cities and provinces. At present, the university employs 1,127 people, including the board of managements, staffs, and teachers. At the same time, there have been totally of 38,317 students in which 11,378 are ladies now studying in all the branches of the university.

The rector also said that up to more than 88% of the graduates from the university has been employed by many institutions including public institutions, non-governmental organizations, banks, and private companies.

Responding to the efforts, the rector said that every year, in order to contribute to the human resource development, which is the main force of the nation, many scholarships have been provided through **Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and **Lok Chumteav**; and through **H.E. Dr. Sok An** and **Lok Chumteav**, to the poverty-stricken students, to the widows and ethnic minorities in the remote areas so that they could continue their study to the higher education, turning them into driving forces in the national economic development like other developed countries in the world.

(Press and Quick Reaction Unit of the Office of the Council of Ministers)

