



National March 2, 2020

Garment workers end three-day strike over unpaid wages

Sen David / Khmer Times /



Archive.

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A representative of the SEPIA garment factory in Por Senchey district's Kakab commune yesterday welcomed the return of its workers amid incurring financial problems that led to the late payment of wages and bonuses to their employees.



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SEPIA chief of administration Kong Sambath said the Chinese-owned factory has more than 600 workers with nearly half of them holding a three-day strike from February 26-28 to demand the month's wages.

He said on February 29, the workers decided to report to work. He expressed hope they would continue working as usual while the factory deals with its financial problems.

Explaining the delay, Mr Sambath said the bank in China which the factory is affiliated with had been closed for some time due to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

“The factory finds it difficult to withdraw money from the bank in China due to its temporary closure but we are trying to find a solution to pay for the workers’ wages,” he said. “We don’t want to see the workers out of jobs so we are trying to find the financial resources needed to keep supporting their livelihood.”

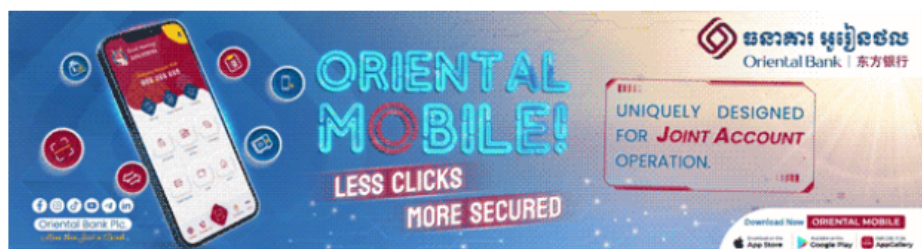
One of the workers Hor Veasna said the strike was carried out to demand for their February wages and bonuses, noting they only decided to return to work on February 29 after they were promised to be paid by the factory.

“The factory on February 29 paid for two weeks’ worth of work in February but had not yet paid our bonuses. We are worried the same problem will continue in the succeeding months,” he said.

At present, the Labour Ministry said about 7,000 garment workers across the Kingdom will face layoffs if the delivery of their wages does not materialise. If the financial shortage drags on, about 90,000 workers will be suspended at the end of March.

However, Prime Minister Hun announced last month garment workers who have lost work due to temporary factory closures amid the COVID-19 outbreak will be paid 60 percent of the minimum wage.

Of this, he said 40 percent will be the factory owner’s responsibility while the remaining 20 percent will be provided by the government.



Parties struggle to keep up with the ruling CPP

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Opinion



Cambodian Oknhas should become the real ‘Captains of Industry’

When Asia faced the financial crisis in 2008, the Korean investment boom in Cambodia came to a halt, as did the construction of the 42-story tower in the heart of Phnom Penh. Korean investors were the main players at that time, mainly in the real estate sector, and there was not a large presence of Chinese and Japanese investors like today.



The Funan Techo Canal’s Advantages for Cambodia and the...

Cambodia is about to start a massive project that could greatly advance its advancement and economic expansion. The

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Funan Techo Canal project has been hailed as a revolutionary engineering achievement that will link different parts of Cambodia and open up a wealth of advantages for the country.



Will Red Sea trigger a new supply chain crisis?

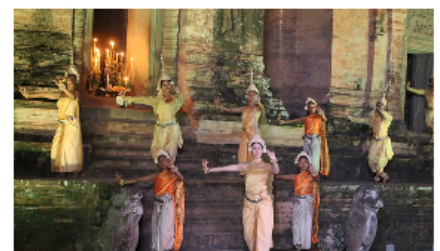
In the near term, the global container shipping industry will likely absorb the shock to capacity caused by attacks on vessels in the Red Sea, because demand is generally soft in January and February.



Cambodia's Journey to Promoting Gender Equality

On 15 February 2024, an article titled "Why Cambodia needs to incorporate more women into its foreign policy process" was published on the Diplomat and has caught attention from various readers including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia, who is also now requesting for clarifications from the author.

Features



Sacred Dancers on a thorny path to creating the authentic Apsara

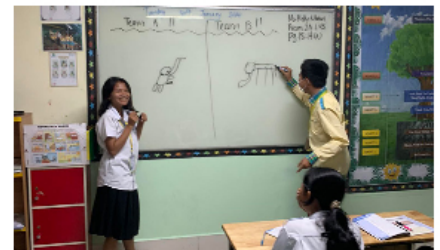
This excerpt is from the 1012 book

THIS EXCERPT IS FROM THE 1912 BOOK *Danseuses Anciennes et Modernes* about the classical dance of Cambodia, written by George Groslier (1887–1945), the creator and first curator of the National Museum of Cambodia and the director of the Service des Arts Cambodgiens from the 1920s to the 1940s.



Harnessing the Power of Bees

Qbee, led by Ms. Man Rathea, has a captivating story of entrepreneurship and a commitment to sustainability. Despite working in an unrelated field, Ms. Rathea's life took a new direction when she decided to empower Cambodian beekeepers and promote superior quality honey production through Qbee.



Why self-care curriculum is needed in today's education system

Education continues to be one of the leading factors in empowering positive change. In Cambodia, community members are encouraged to increase their skills and knowledge through a variety of additional educational programs.

Good Times2



An on-again, off-again year for Siem Reap's arts

Siem Reap's 2020 arts and lifestyle coverage

kicked off the year on an optimistic note that, with the wisdom of hindsight, turned out to be somewhat ironic.



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Because our baby is now at the centre of our life, it has been mentally challenging since even getting a good night's sleep or a decent meal has suddenly become a real task.



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