

**KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
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MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

CLOSING REMARKS

By

His Excellency *Kitti Settha Pandita* CHAM Prasidh

Senior Minister and Minister of

Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology & Innovation

of The Kingdom of Cambodia

at

The 3rd ASEAN-India Grassroots Innovation Forum 2022

19-21 December 2022

At The Institute of Technology of Cambodia

- Honorable Representatives of ASEAN Member States, ASEAN Secretariat, and India
- Honorable Representatives from the line ministries, universities and research institutes, and the private sector,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great honor as Cambodia's Minister of Industry, Science, Technology & Innovation and ASEAN Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Minister for Cambodia to preside over the closing session of **the 3rd ASEAN-India Grassroots Innovation Forum 2022**. I would like to express my high appreciation to all the speakers, moderators, panelists, and judges for their valuable contribution to this forum during these 3 days. My deepest gratitude also goes to all who have taken a big slice of your precious time to attend and help make this Forum such a successful event.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As a result, **the 3rd ASEAN-India Grassroots Innovation Forum 2022** went smoothly, ended successfully, and achieved good results as expected. The three-day forum provides a platform for participants to share experiences and best practices in grassroots innovation among ASEAN and India communities. The forum comprises 3 Panel Discussions, Exhibitions of Innovations from the ASEAN Member States (AMS) and India with 60 booths, Grassroots and Student Innovators Pitch Competition, and Government 2 Government (G2G) Meeting.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Three Panel Discussions yielded fruitful results by further strengthening cooperation and collaboration among ASEAN Member States and India in science, technology, and innovation in the future, in particular on grassroots innovation

development endeavors. In addition, the outputs of the sessions will surely serve as the basis for the future development of technology and innovation development policies to be more inclusive and sustainable in line with the context of each respective country and the region.

2. The Grassroots and Students Innovation Competitions and Exhibitions were organized not only to promote science, technology, innovation and entrepreneurship but also to attract interest and awareness about STI, to indicate what opportunities were and are waiting for smart students and grassroots innovators to learn from other people's creativeness and innovation, and as well as to showcase their innovations during the competitions. I learnt that the innovation exhibition was flocked with many people – especially young students - very eager to see and learn about the STI Eco-system and what the future lies in front of them. These people will certainly be the participants in our future fora on grassroots innovations in the region and in the world.
3. Another important activity is the G2G meeting in which the representatives of AMS and Indian government discussed the continuity of the project and future collaboration. This will be a platform to build strong networks and collaboration between AMS and Indian government. The Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology & Innovation of Cambodia is surely open to hosting in Cambodia more such events, and to send Cambodia

innovators to other countries' events on STI and grassroots innovation.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Before I conclude, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my officials at the General Department of STI of MISTI that in charge of ASEAN COSTI for Cambodia for their team spirit and excellent arrangements of the 3rd ASEAN-India Grassroots Innovation Forum 2022.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all the honorable representatives from the ASEAN Member States, the ASEAN Secretariat team, universities, and private sector, and especially to Her Excellency Dr. Devyani Khobragade, Ambassador of the Republic of India to the Kingdom of Cambodia, and through her to the Government of the Republic of India for their active contribution and support for the 3rd ASEAN-India Grassroots Innovation Forum 2022 in Phnom Penh. I am optimistic that cooperation between ASEAN and India will enjoy broader prospects and we will share an even brighter future. My best wishes to all of you for a very good health, happiness, and a lot of successes in your future endeavors.

May I now declare the 3rd of ASEAN-India Grassroots Innovation Forum 2022 close.

THANK YOU AND HAVE A SAFE JOURNEY HOME