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NOTICES VES MEKONG NET STAKE

NOTICE

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ANNOUNCEMENT ovider FPT Telecom is negotiating with Mekong Net to acquire up to ou percent of the firm, its owner and CEO Sok Channda said yesterday.

"We have agreed to cooperate," the Mekong Net chief said, while emphasising that no deal has yet been struck.

FPT has expressed its interest in acquiring between 40 percent and 60 percent of Cambodian internet service provider Mekong Net, according to Sok Channda, but a deal would hinge on the value the Vietnamese firm would bring to the business.

"We've not answered yet if we want to sell," she said.

Mekong Net would look at the personnel FPT Telecom could provide in technical and management fields before making a decision on a deal, she said.

She cited experience partnering with foreign firms through Angkor Net, a Cambodian ISP that she founded.

"Before, Angkor Net partnered with a Singaporean company, but [business progressed] very slowly," she said.

No price tag had yet been discussed, as Mekong Net had not yet been valuated, she said.

FPT Corporation's Vietnam-based public relations department did not return a request for comment on the deal yesterday, but a Cambodia-based representative of the firm said its telecom wing plans to have a domestic presence by the end of the year.

"FPT Telecom will be opening a branch office soon, and they have plans to invest a lot of money at the end of this year or early next year," FPT Information System's Cambodia chief representative Nguyen Trung Bac said Tuesday.

He said his knowledge on the move was limited as he was an employee of a separate wing of parent company FPT Corporation.

Together, Sok Channda said, Angkor Net and Mekong Net have the largest bandwidth for operation among the Kingdom's ISPs and are the second-largest ISP by subscriber numbers next to Online.

Vietnam Business News reported earlier this week that FPT Telecom was looking to start a mobile service in the Kingdom. It said FPT Telecom intended to spend between \$6 million and \$10 million in Siem Reap, Sihanoukville and Phnom Penh.

However, many Cambodian industry experts and government officials said when contacted by a reporter that they had no knowledge of such a plan https://www.phnompenhpost.com/business/fpt-eyes-mekong-net-stake

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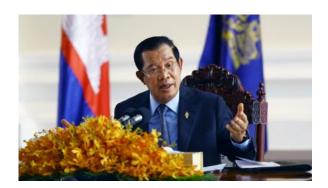
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Spokeswoman Nguyen Thi Thanh Nga confirmed that FPT Telecom was involved in discussions with Cambodia's Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications when contacted on Tuesday, but declined to clarify the nature of the discussions.

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Phnom Penh placed in two-week lockdown

The government has decided to place Phnom Penh in lockdown for two weeks, effective April 14 midnight through April 28, as Cambodia continues to grapple with the ongoing community outbreak of Covid-19, which has seen no sign of subsiding. According to a directive signed by Prime Minister



Cambodia on the verge of national tragedy, WHO warns

The World Health Organisation (WHO) in Cambodia warned that the country had reached another critical point amid a sudden, huge surge in community transmission cases and deaths. "We stand on the brink of a national tragedy because of Covid-19. Despite our best efforts, we are



Taxpayers still able pay online during lockdown



The General Department of Taxation (GDT) has advised taxpayers and tax service agencies located in lockdown-restricted areas to electronically file income tax returns and avoid



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Hun Sen: Stay where you are, or else

Prime Minister Hun Sen warned that the two-week lockdown of Phnom Penh and adjacent Kandal provincial town Takmao could be extended if people are not cooperative by staying home. "Now let me make this clear: stay in your home, village, and district and remain where



Businesses in capital told to get travel permit amid lockdown through One Window Service

The Phnom Penh Municipal Administration has issued guidelines on how to get travel permission for priority groups during the lockdown of Phnom Penh, directing private institutions to apply through the municipality's One Window Service and limit their staff to a mere two per cent. In



Vaccination open to foreigners in Cambodia

The Ministry of Health on April 8 issued an announcement on Covid-19 vaccination for foreigners residing and working in Cambodia, directing the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training and local authorities to register them. Health minister Mam Bun Heng, who is also head of the inter-ministerial



Ministry names types of business permitted amid lockdown

The Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training singled out 11 types of business that are permitted to operate during the lockdown of Phnom Penh and Takmao town, which run through April 28. Those include (1) foodprocessing enterprises and slaughterhouses; (2) providers of public services such as firefighting, utility and

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