

March 5, 2022

Labour Minister lauds GMAC for efforts to push growth

So Cheata / Khmer Times



Minister of Labour Ith Sam Heng on Thursday expressed his appreciation to the Garment Manufacturers Association in Cambodia (GMAC) for its continued efforts to push for the growth of the garment, footwear, travel goods and bags sector.

He expressed this during a courtesy call by the new executive members of GMAC who were elected for the term 2022-2023.

Their visit was aimed at discussing ways of continuing to help sustain the Kingdom's economy.

GMAC chairman Kong Sang recalled the good cooperation between the association and the ministry and reported on the general situation of the garment, footwear and bags sector.

He said the Labour Ministry is still the most important and relevant one for the labour-intensive sector. Sang noted that if the labour sector is not well prepared, it would not be sustainable and grow regardless of how successful the other sectors were.

Last year, the garment export value was around \$1.389 billion, an increase of around \$1.505 billion or 15.2%, of which garment raked in \$8,017 million, footwear \$1,390 million and travel goods \$1,490 million. The remainder was from textile exports.

However, Sang noted that profitability kept reducing due to high cost on wages and Covid-19 disruptions.

He urged the government for continued support in the future, especially during the crisis.

Currently, GMAC has 462 members in the garment industry, 13 in footwear and 92 in the travel goods sector.

In response, Sam Heng said he highly appreciated the unified efforts of GMAC leaders to push the sector to grow to date.

He also advised his subordinates to continue to cooperate with GMAC to solve the remaining challenges, such as labour shortage, occupational safety and NSSF contributions.

Sam Heng also mentioned the steps the government has taken to support this sector during the Covid-19 crisis.