

The Phnom Penh Post

HOME NATIONAL BUSINESS LIFESTYLE SPORT COLUMNS POST WEEKEND PROPERTY SIEM REAP INSIDER MULTIMEDIA POST JOBS

Villagers refuse company cash

Mon, 26 January 2009 [Kun Makara](#)

Villagers standing in way of satellite city development in Siem Reap province are holding out for more money from local developer

VILLAGERS from Siem Reap province's Varin district have turned down the compensation offered to them by developer Banya Group Co Ltd, which is building a US\$12 billion satellite city 50 kilometres north of Siem Reap town.

Peang Kosal, Banya Group's executive director, said the company had offered villagers \$200 per hectare for their land in Utey village, Lvea Kraing commune, but local residents told the Post many families are holding out for more money.

"I won't accept the compensation of \$200 per hectare because it is too cheap," said Hap Heu, a villager of Lvea Kraing commune, adding that around 350 of the village's 500 families had turned down the company's offer.

"We will try our best to keep the land until the company gives us \$3,000 per hectare for our orchard land."

Earlier this month, 540 local families lodged complaints with rights group Adhoc over the proposed satellite city, which is to be located on 7,000 hectares of land near the Thai border, but Peang Kosal said around 1,025 hectares of land remained in dispute.

Business as usual

Sam Rainsy Party lawmaker Yim Sovann said that the legitimate development of the land required agreement between the company, community and local authorities, but said that the norm in land dispute cases was for private developers to work with land authorities to strip people of their property.

"Most development projects are marked by collusion between companies and governmental officials, which allow the company to violate people's property," he said.

"Even if all three sides agree, the government has to closely examine the environmental impacts."

"The government has to allow the participation of both foreign and local investors, to ensure the effectiveness of national revenue collection," he added.

But Peang Kosal said that "if they still insist on refusing the company's compensation, we will resort to enforcing the forestry and land laws to allow us to develop the area".

Related articles

- \$12 billion satellite city project protested by Siem Reap residents
- New US\$1.25 bn development project headed for Siem Reap
- 30 questioned in land dispute, groups say
- Villagers hold third protest
- Guns subdue farmers as senator clears land
- Eviction looms for Bassac squatters
- Kep farmers wait on new dam payouts
- Villagers say SKorean land concession is a threat to livelihoods



Latest Video



Deadlock broken, CNRP pols released

The longest parliamentary impasse in Cambodian history looks to have ended with the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party agreeing to take their seats in parliament exchange for political concessions from the gove



Rainsy returns to political turmoil

Seven of his party's lawmakers-elect are in jail, more may be soon to follow and the negotiations to end Cambodia's near year-long political deadlock have come to a grinding halt.

This month 20 years

1994-07-15 07:00
[Rights groups mull if they abet crime](#)

1994-07-01 07:00
[King washes his hands of politics](#)

1994-07-15 07:00
[Sar Kheng: "We can survive this"](#)

1994-07-01 07:00
[NA winds up current session](#)

1994-07-01 07:00
[Concern over press law draft](#)

1994-07-15 07:00




www.avis.com.kh

0 Comments Please, [login](#) or [register](#) to post a comment

The Phnom Penh Post

Post Media Co Ltd
888 Building F, 8th Floor, Phnom
Penh Center
Corner Sothearos & Sihanouk
Blvd
Sangkat Tonle Bassac
12301 Phnom Penh
Cambodia

Tel: +855(0) 23 214 3 11-17
Fax: +855(0) 23 214 318

Company

- [About us](#)
- [Staff list](#)
- [Advertising](#)
- [Contact](#)
- [Privacy policy](#)
- [Refund Policy](#)

Supplements

- [7Days](#)
- [LIFT](#)
- [Real estate](#)
- [Siem Reap](#)
- [Insider](#)
- [Special reports](#)

Sections

- [Business](#)
- [Lifestyle](#)
- [National](#)
- [Sport](#)



Facebook



Twitter



Google

