



MEDIA ALERT

13 Feb 2013

Prey Lang Residents seek to save forests from destruction

On Wed 13 Feb, 300 Prey Lang Community Network and Friends of the Forest will seek intervention from the district governor in an effort to stop the ongoing destruction of the Prey Lang forest.

Prey Lang area is being threatened by agro-industrial plantation and mining companies. Once Indochina's most common landscape, this lowland evergreen forest in north central Cambodia is now seriously endangered.

The Prey Lang community has called on the government for protective action to support the forest but to no avail. There is clear and increasing evidence of forest being logged and farmed.

Part of Prey Lang, which covers four provinces (Kampong Thom, Stung Treng, Kratie and Preah Vihear) is under the control of CRCK Company, which is clearing community forest to expand the agricultural area for rubber plantation. Prey Lang residents now fear there will be nothing left of the forest which supports their livelihoods.

CRCK was granted an Economic Land Concession but its actions would appear to be exceeding the conditions of its Concession. Residents are concerned that massive deprivations have already occurred at the hands of the company.

WHAT: 300 members of the Prey Lang community in Sandan district, Kampong Thom will go to protest to the Governor at the Sandan district offices. The purpose is to seek the intervention of the district governors to stop the CRCK activities in clearing the villagers farm land, rice fields and other forest areas, and seek his and other senior officials' support for protection of the forest from agro-industrial and mining company activities.

WHEN: Wed 13 Feb, leaving at 7 am to arrive at 9 am.

WHERE: Sandan District Hall, Kampong Thom Province

WHO: Local speakers for Prey Lang community:
Mr Hoern Sopheap 012 356 043
Mr Kim Chheng 012 618 748

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