

Cambodia says visitors to Angkor temples must dress properly

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — Visitors who dress immodestly will not be allowed to enter Cambodia's famed Angkor temple complex, the agency that oversees the site has said.

Long Kosal, a spokesman for Apsara Authority, which oversees the archaeological complex, said beginning August 4, local and foreign tourists will be required to wear pants or skirts below the knees and shirts that cover their shoulders. Those not dressed appropriately will be required to change their clothes before being allowed to enter the temple site in northwestern Cambodia.

Long Kosal said the ban was implemented because "Wearing revealing clothes disrespects the temple's sanctity."

He said his organization advised tour agencies, hotels, and airport officials last December that all foreign visitors should be aware of what type of clothes they should wear when they visit.

Illustrations of what is considered inappropriate clothing and behavior are posted on the organization's website, an English version of which is still under construction.



APPROPRIATE ATTIRE ONLY. Tourists walk near Banteay Srey temple at the Angkor complex in Siem Reap province, about 199 miles north of Phnom Penh, Cambodia, in this April 15, 2016 file photo. Visitors who dress immodestly will not be allowed to enter Cambodia's famed Angkor temple complex, the agency that oversees the site has said. (AP Photo/Heng Sinith, File)

Angkor Wat, the spiritual center of the Khmer empire that dominated the region from the 9th to 15th centuries, is Cambodia's biggest tourist attraction, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and a symbol of national pride that is emblazoned on the Cambodian flag. About 2.1 million foreign tourists visited last year.

Immodest dress is not the worst breach of modesty the temples have suffered. Early last year, there was a small spate of western tourists who posed naked for snapshots; those who were caught were fined and deported.

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Vietnam says Taiwanese company is responsible for fish deaths

By Tran Van Minh
The Associated Press

HANOI, Vietnam — Vietnam's government has announced that a Taiwanese-owned steel plant was responsible for massive fish deaths along the central Vietnamese coast and said it has pledged to pay \$500 million in compensation.

The head of the Government Office, minister Mai Tien Dung, told a news conference that the subsidiary of Taiwan's Formosa Plastics Group was responsible for an estimated 70 tons of dead fish that began washing ashore along more than 125 miles of coastline in four central provinces in early April.

Dung said the subsidiary, Formosa Ha Tinh Steel Corp., located in the Vung Anh economic zone in Ha Tinh province, has agreed to pay \$500 million to compensate affected people, clean up the environment, and help fishermen find new jobs.

The \$10.6 billion steel complex, which includes a steel plant, a power plant, and a deep sea port, has been conducting test operations. Dung said problems during the test run caused wastewater to be discharged into the sea containing toxins such as phenol and cyanide that exceeded allowable limits.

The company's chairman, Chen Yuan Cheng, apologized in a video shown at the news conference.

"Our company takes full responsibility and sincerely apologizes to the Vietnamese people ... for causing the



TOXIC EFFLUENT. Dead fish are seen on the shore in Quang Trach district, Quang Binh province, Vietnam. Vietnam's government has announced that Taiwan's Formosa Ha Tinh Steel Corp. was responsible for an estimated 70 tons of dead fish that began washing ashore along more than 125 miles of coastline in four central provinces in early April. The company has pledged to pay \$500 million in compensation. (Chi Nam via AP)

environmental disaster which seriously affected the livelihood, production, and jobs of the people and the sea environment," he said.

Cheng also pledged to resolve the shortcomings of the waste treatment facility to ensure there would be no repeat.

The pollution has badly affected fisheries and tourism in the four affected provinces of Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, and Thua Thien Hue.

It also sparked protests in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, and Ha Tinh. The protesters were swiftly dispersed by authorities and many were briefly detained.

Minister of Information and Communications Truong Minh Tuan said authorities will not tolerate

abuse of the incident to stir unrest.

"Our position is that we respect the legitimate anger of the people. We, however, will not accept the abuse of that anger to instigate the sabotage of the (Communist) Party and government."

Tuan said law enforcement agencies will consider whether to launch a criminal investigation into the incident.

Deputy minister of Planning and Investment Dang Duy Dong told the news conference that the government wants to attract foreign investment that is technologically advanced and friendly to the environment, and will not lure investment at any price.

"We will not trade the environment for foreign direct investment," he said.

Wanda to organize China Cup to improve national team

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese real estate, entertainment, and sports conglomerate Wanda says it will host an annual "China Cup" tournament which will begin next year and feature four national teams.

Wanda said it reached an agreement with Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA),

soccer's world governing body, for the China Cup to be an officially recognized tournament — meaning results would count toward the FIFA rankings. Wanda said it would invite "first-class national teams from Europe and the Americas," so that the Chinese team would learn from playing against high-quality opposi-

tion.

Under President Xi Jinping's direction, China's entrepreneurs and public sector have been investing heavily in the domestic league in a bid to strengthen the national team, which is currently 81st in FIFA rankings and widely derided by the soccer-loving public.

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