

Beat: Sports

Mr. Park Hang Seo officially became the new Vietnam national soccer coach

Vietnam Soccer News

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"I am only just getting to know the Vietnamese side and I do not have much information yet. However, after seeing how they performed against Cambodia yesterday (AFC Asian Cup 2019 qualifying match on Tuesday). I knew there are similarities between me and the team in terms of playing style," Park said through an interpreter.

"Vietnam is the 130th in the world and I hope during my term here I can propel them into the top 100," he added.

Mr. Park arrived in Hanoi on Tuesday and watched the match Vietnam defeated Cambodia 5-0 at the My Dinh Stadium.

He congratulated the team, saying he was satisfied with the players, their playing style and the result. However, one thing concerned him, which was that Cambodia was able to bring the ball very easily to Vietnam's side and even broke through deep into the penalty area. He said he would have to fix this problem first.

Speaking to reporters, Mr. Park said soccer was a team sport, and not about an individual. He would build a team which maintained discipline, was well organised, and one that was well prepared to deal with all sorts of situations during the course of a game.

"I will ask players to use rapid and short balls and they should always be moving around. To do this, they will have to focus and maintain strict discipline," Park said.

"Under my charge, Vietnam's playing style will be a combination of their strong points and new things they learn from me".

"I believe it is important to improve training activities and develop young talent. We will have to utilise to our best our advantages and source of personnel to achieve our target.

"Everyone (in the team) must understand their duty and work hard. They need to have the best spirit and physique. I will ask the federation to summon the players sooner so that they can practice more with each other."

When asked about his targets for regional tournaments during his two-year stint in Vietnam, the 58-year-old coach said winning in the Southeast Asian arena was obvious. He would also try his best to help Vietnam compete competitively at Asian competitions.

Mr. Park will coach his first match when Vietnam vs. Afghanistan on November 14th 2017 during the AFC Asian Cup 2019 Qualifiers.

"I do not have much time to prepare for that game. I will select a team based on the recent list. And I hope Vietnam will have more wins," Park said, who will also take charge of the U23 team and the Olympic squads at the same time.

Coach Mai Duc Chung, who was in charge of the team during their two wins before Park's arrival, hoped the South Korean trainer would do a better job than him. Vietnam will play two more games at the AFC Asian Cup 2019 Qualifiers, and under new coach Park, it is hoped the team will play well and earn a ticket to the finals. Vietnam needs only 1 more point in next 2 matches to have this ticket (VNA)

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