



27 May 09 — Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen and Lok Chumteav, other Government and Municipal officials observe the Preah Monivong Thmei Bridge (Kampuchea Thmei)

27 May 2009 (With Selected Comments)
Inaugurating the Monivong Thmei Bridge, Phnom Penh

... I am pleased to be here again to join Preah Moha Somethea Thepadei, Your Venerable Monks, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen in the inauguration of the **New Preah Monivong Bridge** and the opening of a **New Skyway's Construction Site** in Phnom Penh ... I would like to show my appreciation to the Municipality of Phnom Penh and all related institutions for completing the construction of this bridge which is a new hope and reflects the participation from all level of authorities in the Royal Government's pursuit of developing infrastructure. Along with this, we also hope that the historic bridge and opening of the construction site of a new skyway will help promote Phnom Penh's reputation as a centre for politics, administration, diplomacy, economy, trade, industry, and tourism as well as broaden Phnom Penh city.

According to the **H.E. KEP CHUTIMA**, the governor of Phnom Penh, around USD 10 million have been used to finance the construction of this bridge which has taken 2 years and 5 months to complete. This bridge is identical to the old one, it measures 269.5 meters long and 14 meters wide and is supported by many pillars, and the distance between the new and old bridge is 30 meters. This is another flagship achievement of the Municipality of Phnom Penh in the 4th term of the Legislature of the National Assembly. The New Monivong Bridge will bring about both economic and social benefits to the people and passengers travelling across Phnom Penh. Adding to transport benefit, this bridge will also enhance the beauty of Phnom Penh city. Moreover, I am also pleased with the opening of the construction site of a new sky-

(Continued on page 2)

26 May 2009 [Unofficial Translation of Selected Comments]
Cambodia's Maritime Security Seminar

... The meeting today is very important ... and we need to establish a national committee and the Minister of National Defense will be posted as Chairman together with composition from various institutions concerned ... One may pose a question as to why with so small maritime boundary, Cambodia needs to act on this matter. Cambodia is indeed a member of the international community with equal rights and footing in all issues ...

ficking has been raised as issues concerned but as of now terrorism and piracy have become critical issues in maritime security ...

Plundering ships in Somalia have gone from bad to worse and the situation has brought about some countries making decisions to send in their destroyers to help safeguard their ship security ...

In the region if I am not mistaken, Prime Minister Koizumi of Japan raised this issue in the Summit in Bali of Indonesia and only recently the newly sworn-in Prime Minister of Malaysia expressed his

(Continued on page 8)

We have the obligation to share with other countries in the fight against piracy which is on the rise ... Before only issue of drug and human traf-

19 May 2009 [With Selected Comments]
Reassign Leaders of National Anti-Drug Authority (NADA)

Today, I am pleased to participate in this important ceremony to reassign the leadership of the National Anti-Drug Authority ... I would like to convey my profound gratitude to H.E. Deputy Prime Minister **SAR KHENG**, Minister of Interior, who have taken the highly challenging responsibility as the head of the National Anti-Drug Authority for the last 10 years and brought about countless achievements and pride to the country ... at the time when H.E. **SAR KHENG** is busy with the management and leadership of the Ministry of Interior, especially in the decentralization and de-concentration process, along

with our needs of new human resources to lead the National Anti-Drug Authority. In this spirit, I strongly believe that H.E. Deputy Prime Minister **KE KIM YAN** is fully capable of assuming the leadership position of the National Anti-Drug Authority to achieve further outcomes in the prevention and fight against drug trafficking and use.

Under the management of H.E. Deputy Prime Minister **SAR KHENG**, the National

(Continued on page 4)

In This Issue
Bridge Monivong Thmei — p. 1
National Anti-Drug Authority — p. 1
Maritime Security — p. 1
Senior Secondary School Thanot — p. 8

(Continued from page 1)

way that are located at the end of both old and new bridge. The skyway will be built of reinforced concrete measuring 308 meters long, 14.2 meters wide and 7.4 meters high. The budget for the construction of this skyway is USD 6,048,424 and it is expected to complete within 12 months after the opening of construction site. This will become the first-ever skyway in the history of Phnom Penh, and I think this construction is just the beginning of more skyways throughout Phnom Penh city and other provinces while the country is moving forward. I strongly believe that the Municipality of Phnom Penh will work harder to improve the infrastructure and beauty of the city by using own or mobilized resources.

Obviously, social demand is increasing from day to day in all sectors while traffic and transportation will also increase significantly. Being in this situation, if we are not promoting the construction, expansion and improvement of roads and bridges infrastructure, we will not be able to address issues of traffic jam, internal integration and to achieve economic efficiency and equitable distribution of growth, and as a result people living in the rural area will still face with obstacles and would not be able to benefit from the fruits of development. Infrastructure development is a very appropriate scenario which is consistent with the current circumstance and geography of high economic potential which we must support and promote.

Currently, Cambodia has rehabilitated and improved quite a number of physical infrastructure as foundation for socio-economic develop-

ment such road, transportation system, telecommunication network, electricity and energy system...etc... Infrastructure development such as the construction of roads and bridges is the key priority as inscribed in the **Rectangular Strategy-Phase II** of the Royal Government, and is of strategic nature in the implementation of pacification and physical integration policies and policies for promoting and supporting economic growth and poverty reduction of the people. As a result, the improvement of physical infrastructure has provided supports for Cambodian economic growth and development for the last several years.

The construction of roads and bridges is task of strategic nature in carrying out pacification and physical integration policies of Cambodia and policies for promoting and supporting economic growth and poverty reduction. Through these, the government has always been making the effort to restore and build roads and bridges nation-wide. Separately, the **New Phreah Monivong Bridge** which we are going to inaugurate and the opening of the construction site of a new **skyway** will be become a historical construction for dwellers of this area as well as all people living in Phnom Penh because this bridge is a strategic channel for economic integration which will link one economic hub to another ... Of course, this did not happen accidentally, rather it occurred from the effort and the decision of the Royal Government for the cause of internal integration, economic efficiency, equitable distribution of growth, and the solution to traffic jam.

Indeed, political stability, peace, security, social order, economic development and macroeconomic stability are prerequisites which require the Royal Government to keep making further effort to develop infrastructure nationwide and respond to the current need of the civilized society such as the construction of this skyway. Presently, although the infrastructure has been proudly expanded and improved we should not stop here. For the last three mandates, the Royal Government has made huge investment in repairing, constructing, rehabilitating all kind of infrastructure, both in social and economic sectors, such as schools, hospitals, pagodas, roads and bridges, ports and airports. Of that, the construction and rehabilitation of bridges and roads were given priorities, which reflected the Royal Government's prioritized policies i.e. **"Water, Road, Electricity, Education and Health"...**

With a long-term vision of developing the country toward progress, I reckon that we must seek for new means and mobilize resources from all corners to develop Cambodia's infrastructure with high quality, and durability to upgrade Cambodia's image as a modern society like other developed countries. In the mean time, while modern and high-rise buildings are under construction in the country, particularly in Phnom Penh city, we should also consider about the balance between the construction of high-rise buildings, skyways, and their impact on the residence and traffic...

The new achievement which will be inaugurated will ease traffic jam and transportation, and the skyway which will

be put under construction soon will also help address the above issues. Taking this opportunity, I would like to appeal to all residents living near the skyway's construction site and local authorities at all levels to well cooperate, a Khmer good culture, to facilitate the construction so that it can be carried out smoothly and timely as scheduled. On behalf of the Royal Government and myself, I would like to dedicate the **"New Phreah Monivong Bridge"** as belong to all people living in Phnom Penh as well as all those living in the Cambodia. Enjoying and benefiting from the great heritage depend totally on the utmost efforts and determination with talent of all our people. Taking the chance, I would like to urge and ask all citizens to create and improve cooperation with high sense of responsibility and good tolerance in using the historically new achievement, by avoiding disputes stemming from its usage ...

Selected Comments

My wife and I have a great pleasure to be able to join with all of you to put into use the Bridge of Monivong Thmei and the groundbreaking to build the first skyway ... I am so glad to see the realization of our project after I announced on December 23, 2006. Though the time-frame has been extended a little longer than previously planned for because of some obstacles beneath that new ball holes hit the old bridge which was built in 1929, technical readjustment was necessary that the gap between the two foundations was widened 30 meters ...

The people of Cambodia as a whole, especially the people
(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)
of Phnom Penh capital in particular are joyful to have received one more achievement in addition to achievements that we have built together over the past 30 years. With the new bridge in place now our people will travel out of Phnom Penh on National Road 1 by the Bridge of Monivong Thmei and those who come into the capital from the NR 1 will use the Bridge of Monivong – the single direction traffic by each bridge will relieve the weight of having to take both at the same time which we have been worried because of water current during flood time and the bridge's aging.

I would like to take this opportune moment to express my pleasure and thanks to the Governor of Phnom Penh, the Municipal officials and construction companies that are involved in this bridge construction ... I used to say we apply the policy of leasing and collecting rent of state properties and from privatization to develop infrastructure and this kind of expense will leave a transparent form for the younger generation when they ask the staff of the Royal Government - how is the income from so and so is being used?

I am so thankful for the efforts made together in infrastructural development and to meet the deadline ... As far as I know, though the company has leased a construction company from China "Sino Pacific" to take over the project, still most of the construction engineers and specialists have been Cambodian and I would urge this kind of cooperation in the future ... I also learnt that the construction has been inspected by a company from

Hong Kong with few technicians from China ... I would like to take this opportune moment to call on all development partners to use more of Cambodian human resources whose capacity could be equal or even better than those imported ...

Phnom Penh is gearing up for its 575th birthday ... How much time have we put into building the city? From one stage to another, from Doun (grandmother) Penh to Preah Baat Punnhea Yat, Phnom Penh had gone under various complicated political difficulties and divisions, especially at the time when the country was divided into three ruling factions ... only after Samdech Phreaj Baat Ang Duong, Preah Baat Sisovat and Preah Baat Norodom had the city had made progress especially at the time of peace between 1953/1954 and 1970 under the leadership of Preah Baat Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk as head of state ...

Achievements in the whole Kingdom of Cambodia and in Phnom Penh in particular had been brought to ashes by the regime of Lon Nol and the genocide of Pol Pot ... We related to Lon Nol because it was Lon Nol who toppled Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, an act of which resulted in war throughout the country where infrastructures had been destroyed by heavy bombardments in between 1970 and 1975 ...

The Cambodian People's Party with Samdech Chea Sim, Samdech Heng Samrin and I as well as many other leaders have stood up laying down our lives to liberate the Capital of Phnom Penh of which at that time was found to be a no man's land or a

ghost city ... From our lives and empty hands we have brought this city back to life ... One hand was to build the country and city and the other was to prevent the return of the Khmer Rouge ... Phnom Penh has evolved far from the bitter state of 1979 and has enlarged itself of about twice the previous size ...

Former mayors of Phnom Penh after 1979 were HE Khang Sarin, Keo Chenda, Chan Ven, Thaong Khon, Sim Ka, Nguon Nhel, Hok Landy, Chea Sophara and now HE Kep Chukdema, all have been working hard for the city development. Drinking water we must think of its source ... Phnom Penh has changed from a city with many small dirt streets to larger and concrete ones etc.

The new bridge is called Monivong Thmei ... Here stands the first bridge called Jroi A Aok and then later called Monivong and now we have the bridges of Monivong and Monivong Thmei ... I would like to take this solemn occasion that May is the month that HM the King will come to his 56th birth anniversary, and in the few weeks ahead we will celebrate the 73rd birthday of Samdech Mahaksatri Norodom Monineath Sihanouk, the heroic Queen Mother of the Khmer nation, to wish them good health and continue be a cool shade for Their Majesties' children and grand children ...

The Kingdom of Cambodia in the 1960s built the Monivong Bridge whereas the second Kingdom with the leadership of the Cambodian People Party, according to the words of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk in his conversation with Samdech

Chea Sim, is the younger brother of Samgkum Reastr Niyum ... This is quite a coincidence of the two and the continuation of national construction and development after disruption by Lon Nol and Pol Pot ... As we put into official use the bridge, I would like to inform you that today we also break the ground to build a skyway about 308 meters with its width of 14/8 meters and about 8.4 meters high ... which is considered to be the first skyway in the Kingdom of Cambodia and in twelve months from now, this place where we sit will be under the skyway ... The skyway will cost about 16 million US dollars and it will not be the last skyway in Cambodia ... I would seek understanding by people living along the construction site ...

We need to build more bridges like the Takhmao bridge at Svay Rolung, so that people living downstream will not have to come all the way to the Monivong Bridge to cross the Bassak river to the city ... We have two bridges across the Tonle Sap under constructions at Prek Kadam and Prek Phneo. We also study the possibility to build a new bridge at Jroi Jangva because the current bridge could not respond to the increase volume of transportations ... As for the Mekong upstream and downstream, we have already the Stoeng Treng's Sekong bridge, the Kizuna bridge, the Prek Tamak bridge, which is under rapid construction, and there will be another bridge at Nak Loeung ... We also have planned for the railways to Vietnam from Phnom Penh which will go through with two more bridges across the Bassak and the Mekong rivers ... ■

(Continued from page 1)

Anti-Drug Authority has made numerous significant achievements in the fight against drug trafficking and use, either at national, regional, and global levels. I am extremely proud of all past achievements made by the National Anti-Drug Authority, especially with regard to policy formulation and international cooperation. So far, the National Anti-Drug Authority has continuously strengthened and expanded its activities by integrating itself into all sub-regional, regional and global mechanisms even though this body is young and lacks experience compared to other anti-drug bodies in the region and the world. These achievements represent the national pride and reflect the proper implementation of the Royal Government's strategy in the fights against drugs. In this sense, I would like to praise the National Anti-Drug Authority for all of its achievements.

I would like to take this opportunity to go back to the history of anti-drug effort in Cambodia. The first-ever anti-drug body in Cambodia was the Anti-Drug Office which was established in 1994. Later on, in 1995, given the nature and complexity of anti-drug job, the Royal Government established the National Anti-Drug Authority which comprised of ten ministries/institutions as member and was chaired by the then Co-Prime Ministers. Adding to this effort, the first Anti-Drug Law was approved in 1996, followed by the Sub-Decree on the Establishment and Operation of Secretariat of the National Anti-Drug Authority. This secretariat acts as an agency of the National Anti-Drug Authority. Later on, as the Royal Government faced with more challenging tasks, I

proposed the King to transfer the leadership of the National Anti-Drug Authority to H.E. Deputy Prime Minister **SAR KHENG**. The transfer of leadership from H.E. Deputy Prime Minister **SAR KHENG** to H.E. Deputy Prime Minister **KE KIM YAN** is based on the identical ground when H.E. Deputy Prime Minister **SAR KHENG** assumed this position. This attributes to actual implementation of reform programs with the Royal Government's firm and determined political will.

Along with this, I would like to stress that the fight against drug is not that simple as this job involves multi-sectors and complexities and requires close cooperation between competent agencies, such as law enforcement, education, and rehabilitation agencies. I think no single institution or country can succeed on its own in the fight against drug. Drugs have been threatening both developed and developing nations as they are striving to seek solutions and effective responses to this problem.

In particular, it should be noted that, prior to 1990, the use and production of drug did not take place in the country. However, after the 1993 General Election, as the market is opened, drugs start to take root in the country, in particular, during recent years. Cambodia used to be a victim, when the international mafia, capitalizing on our lack of law and regulation, instability, and unawareness, induced the people to plant cannabis and export overseas, which severely damaged the country's reputation. Moreover, while the Royal Government is fighting hard to eliminate cannabis and locked in the rehabilitation of economic infrastructures aimed at inte-

grating into the region, the criminals take the opportunity to traffic in drugs, especially they even attempted to use Cambodia as their secret production ground.

After years of experience in addressing the issues relating to drugs, I would like to commend all levels of drug enforcement forces and related units for their efforts and timely crackdown on all attempts to use Cambodia as a route, market, and production place.

Along with this, the crackdowns and prevention of drug usage require cooperation from all related governmental institutions, civil society, and private sector which must do it in parallel and strike a balance between law enforcement and education to ensure that the public are fully aware of the danger of drug and rehabilitation measures for addicts. These three strategies complement each other, namely law enforcement, education on the danger of drug, and rehabilitation for drug addicts must be implemented in parallel. This approach is necessary in order to promote social moral, security, and order.

The government is absolutely determined to protect the independence, sovereignty and land integrity of the Kingdom of Cambodia by combating any attempts to threaten peace, political stability, security and social order, and maintaining peaceful livelihood of the people. At the same time, the Royal Government is of clear view that socio-economic development is associated with the rehabilitation and development of many sectors; hence it is a must to prioritize growth base sectors. Obviously, ensuring peace, political stability, secu-

rity and social order is the prerequisite and vital supporting environment for economic growth and social development. Of course, we have laid out numerous measures for these matters and made quite a number of prideful achievements.

Despite all the achievements made so far, we are still confronting with some remaining issues besides drug, particularly issues of gangster and traffic accident which are the obstacles to social and economic environment. Even though these issues look small and light, if we do not prevent and eradicate them early they can have disastrous consequences on socio-economic development in the near future.

Issues of teenager and gangster are directly related to the delinquency of overjoyed teenagers, making friends with gangsters, loss of conscience, forgetting gratitude of parents, guardians and bring society with insecurity and disorder. With respect to these issues, we must take measures in all forms in order to send them back to school for the sake of their future and the society at large. Through this, I would like to appeal to all teenagers to give up all indecent activities, because socializing with the delinquents and gangsters and using drugs would bring no benefit and light to your future and families.

Although education and human resource development must be done through education at schools where there are available teachers to teach, there must be also cooperation from parents, guardians, the elders and all members in the family and the whole society. Also, we must acknowledge

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

that inadequate education and family breakdown are also the motivations for teenager groups or gangsters to commit crime and misconduct. Therefore, parents and students' guardians must make effort to instruct their children to go to school, to be at home, to be with the family and make good friends in order to keep them from socializing with gangster group, escaping from home, playing truant and sparking problem at public compound and schools. I think that this is the common concern for families, the government and the whole society, which we must jointly prevent and combat, especially through existing measures such as good communication between schools, families and society.

Separately, the issue of traffic accident at the present time has become a chronic social disease which can spread rapidly and turn unmanageable. The traffic accident issue is a huge one and poses long term impact on socio-economic development as well as poverty reduction of the people. If we examine the figure of fatal traffic accidents, we know that it is pretty shocking. Obviously, the increase in the mean of transportation is a sign of progress; however anarchic traffic is the symptom of disease which causes social disorder. Therefore, traffic issue is both the determinant of honor and pride of the nation and the determinant of disgrace and shame of the nation.

Regarding the issues of drugs, we have always considerably and timely suppressed and prevented the crimes of trading and trafficking drugs in a large and medium scale. However, some other crimes such as the distribution, retailing,

which have always happened at the local level, seem not to have been extensively cracked down yet. At this juncture, although the selling and distributing scale is petty, it posed anarchy and insecurity in the local community, affecting the national security and social order. This problem has created the unhappiness and open criticism from the local people. In this regard, I would like to suggest all levels of provincial and municipal authorities to take immediate actions in those areas or locations where drugs are being distributed and used. Along with that, all levels of local authorities, law enforcement agencies and court must cooperate based on the spirit of ownership in implementing these works with consciences and abide by the professional code of ethics aiming to make the community safe from the threatening of drugs, armed robberies, gang, mob bullies and traffic accidents ...

I would suggest and appeal to all ministries and institutions of the Royal Government, especially the National Anti-Drugs Authority ... to pay attention and strictly implement the points as follows:

1. Participate in and cooperate with every activity related to the dissemination, education on the danger of drugs use and treatment in order to rehabilitate the drugs addicted people ...

2. The National Authority must prepare a circular or declaration on defining the roles and functions of the ministries and institutions, which are members of the National Anti-Drugs Authority, for the Royal Government to adopt for the sake of efficiency of their duty implementation. The law enforcement agencies and state-

owned civil institutions, which are members of the National Anti-Drugs Authority must design the education programs on the danger of drugs for their own institutions and actively and permanently participate in the activities of public dissemination ... set up the Rehabilitation Center for Drugs Addicts, gangsters by providing vocational trainings, jobs and sports ...

3. Strengthen law enforcement ability and take permanent measures to crack down, prevent and eliminate gangsters, mob bullies, robberies, production, trading, distribution and use of drugs, illegal acts and prostitution. Along with that, the law enforcement agencies must take immediate action in solving armed robberies, gangsters, mob bullies, drugs and traffic accidents by turning down all kinds of interventions, which violate the legal procedures and must punish and fine all crimes without discriminations.

4. The Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, while giving license, must require all productions to produce drugs education spots (one minute at least) in all tapes, CDs, VCDs, DVDs. In the mean time, drugs education spots are required to be played before the movies show in every movie hall, aiming to keep the people in public informed about drugs.

5. Call on all kinds of media, newspapers, radio, state-owned and private-owned TV stations to disseminate articles on drugs education and actively broadcast drugs education spots free of charge ...

6. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports must publish and disseminate the danger of drugs to students at all levels more extensively and

integrate the study of law on controlling drugs into higher education curriculums and put some of those contents into all levels of education programs. The Ministry of Cults and Religious Affairs must encourage and appeal to the Buddhist monks and pagodas to join hand in education on the danger of drugs to all parishioners as well as savaging the drugs addicted people in various pagodas.

In sum, in order to make the above work effective and efficient, I would like the National Anti-Drugs Authority to coordinate and pose favorable conditions for all ministries and institutions, all levels of local authorities, civil societies and private sector to participate in all activities. At the same time, the National Anti-Drugs Authority must record the total and evaluate those contributions in order to consider about the possibility of providing certificate of congratulations or honorary medal every year for the sake of contributing to fighting against and eliminating drugs. This work is the art of attracting the contributions and increase the spirit of competitions with an intention to make sure our country is away from threat of drugs...

Selected Comments

... Let me have your attention ... the National Anti-Drug Authority to (NADA) has gone through the most complicated period started from the time when the Prime Minister the President, but its General Secretary and Deputy General Secretary were not in similar tone with one another. I was the President of NAFAD because all others members were ministers – Defense, interior, foreign affairs and international coop-
(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)
 eration – the most powerful authority ... Over the past ten years the job had been placed under HE Sar Kheng and a lot of efforts have been made ranging from managing to training ... If I were to stay as head NAFAD would not have been functioning because I have too much responsibilities overseeing the operation of NADA or other authorities – the Council for the Agricultural and Rural Development is one of them.

Today though we are focusing on issue of drugs but I should also have your attention on issue of traffic which is the most serious case for us these days and I would like to take this opportune moment to place an appeal to all of our people that we have to work hand in hand to seek for a solution to the problem ... This is because what I called we have become the victims of our own healthy condition ... Why is that so?

In between 1979 and 1980, Cambodia was poor and unhealthy, and in the country there was hardly any cars and people could spend the day or the night in public places and we would not be concerned as we could not be hit by a car ... As we have come this far, the number of vehicles both cars and motorbikes have reached about one millions pieces ... It is true that our people are making better living condition that they could spare money for personal means of transport but we now have turned to be unhealthy because of them ... We have taken many arduous measures ranging from requiring commuters to keep their heads protected while commuting and to have their means of transports wearing back-view mirrors ... we have noticed that some people have

understood and bought helmets to protect their heads while driving motorcycles but because many did not bother, the previous group seems to think it is useless if only some observe the instruction while others not ... In order to improve this situation, I would seek relevant institutions to look at this possibility of getting hold of the means of transport and placing them in some place, if commuters are found to be wearing no helmets, and would give them back only when they return with helmets on ...

I would like to take this solemn occasion to reiterate my appeal for those who have already had helmets to put them on as the Royal Government is doing all it can to get all of our people to put on helmets. As of now the rate of helmet-on commuters is still low and not only so, and this incidence has contributed to further recklessness of not putting on helmets by others ... I order to look into the legal status if it would be unlawful to keep personal means of transport, we then should see to making law immediately ... and once it has become a law, people are being forced to abide by and not to do it voluntarily anymore ...

Another case which is also a serious factor for accident to happen is driving without license ... it has been knowledgeable that about only 50% drive with a driving permits while the rest are doing so without ones and they do not learn traffic rules and regulations at all ... This is the case in violation not only by youngsters but also by almost all circles because of two main reasons – 1) being ignorant or unknowledgeable and 2) being disrespectful or obedient to no law ...

As we are dealing today with issue of law abiding I would once again for the very last time to give my order for giving an ultimatum to confiscate those vehicles commuting under the license number of KM (issued by the Ministry of National Defense) and NB (issued by the National Police) as state properties ... I went to the backyard of my house and I saw about four or five cars wearing no numbers at all ... This means that my bodyguards have also hung the above KM and-or NB number plates and just had them taken off ... It does not matter they belong to who but after the ultimatum, the cars have to be registered as the state's property ... It is time the two institutions have to decide and come up with the total number of Oknha in their lists which their private cars have been given KM or NB registered number.

As for me none of my car wears official numbers, but private numbers, The reason is simple as I would not be Prime Minister forever and I would not want to see them coming to my house to get the cars back for the state since they are cars paid from my own money. So I hope this matter is clear and made clear to all of us ... and this is what I say we have created problem out of our healthy status. It is so sad to have made all roads in good condition that speed driving caused too much problems, but we could not leave the road in bad conditions anyway ...

As the report of transportation exceeding permitted load is on the increase, it is still worse to see that accidents caused by drunk driving is also on the rise. At the time of the Khmer New Year, there were traffic incidents that drunk driving caused on the Monument of

Independence, the parks ... I think we have to make a full implementation of the law if drunk driving is to be punished by imprisonment, it has to be so ... This is also a crime as s/he not only neglects his/her own live but also causes harm to others ... If we were to compare the number of death caused by war in Sri Lanka, the number of deaths caused by traffic accidents in Cambodia is about one third of their deaths ...

Another serious case that I also seek remedy is that some influential persons or Okhnas who have connections with law enforcement officers have, in case of being stuck in traffics, asked them to divert them out of the crowd, and most often in an opposite direction and/or in reverse order to the traffic directions ... It is even more shameful that after making the situation worse they gave money to the policemen and military police officers in token repayment to helps they offered ... But one thing they forget is what they have done is to degrade the value of law enforcement forces or to devalue the law enforcement in Cambodia ... Their charity is worth a respect but it has been only to show their contempt to law enforcing officers and to the law itself ...

I demand this kind of intervention be stopped and if they happen to be in jammed traffic they better be stayed so like others because doing otherwise would cause further congestion especially because of the two main reasons I said earlier ...

I remember HE Ung Huot when his entourage was stuck on the bridge, at the time of the water festival, he simply
 (Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 8)
 matter to Samdech Patriarch if it is necessary to organize training courses for Achar ... otherwise, like in some of the wedding ceremonies I attended, the Achar seems to have performed the conduct of ceremony at his own will and with no rules ...

On this solemn occasion, on behalf of Samdech Chea Sim and Samdech Heng Samrin and the whole Cambodian People's Party, I would like to express my greatest thank to members of communal councils of the Cambodian People's Party for voting for members of the Councils of Capital, Province, District and Khan of the Cambodian People's Party on Sunday, 17 May ... In addition to this, thanks also go to those from other parties to have voted also for CPP ...

In recent development, I have been displeased by the fact that some politicians, who I am not sure if they are fools or not. They dishonor me and the Royal Government while saying that it is their freedom of speech but when I rebuke they seem to have taking it as attacking them and said they are being dishonored ... Does this mean they can say anything to anyone, including me, but no one should be saying anything in return, including me too? I would not let my arms be tied for you just to get hit ...

There is another fool though in recent weeks that I wish also to clarify here. They made a statement that the Cambodian People's Party never won elections in 1946, 1947 and 1948 ... the victory was the Democratic Party's ... Maybe there needs a clarification as follows – 1) the Cambodian People's Party was founded in 1951 and

there were no reason whatsoever to have contested in the elections in 1946, 1947 and 1954; 2) If there was CPP at that time and Samdech Chea Sim, Samdech Heng Samrin and I in their leadership, we would not have participated in the elections because the country was under the French colonial regime. And what is the meaning of the elections? What is the meaning of power when the country was not independent?

Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk also did not do politics but led a crusade for independence. Only when the French left did Samdech lead the movement of Samgkum Reastr Niyum ... In short, I would conclude that it was because CPP at that time did not have a chance, the country was at war and because now CPP has got a chance, the country is at peace and development – the only force to topple the Khmer Rouge is the CPP, to prevent their return is the CPP and to establish their trial is the CPP, to dismantle their organization militarily and politically is the CPP ...

More than that Sangkum Reastr Niyum was not being dismantled by the CPP and the support rendered to Lon Nol on March 18, 1970 was not from the CPP but current members of the CPP were those who responded to calls by Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk to join him ... I then was 18 and my wife was 16 ...

All is good nowadays because CPP is in power. Before the elections in 2008 there had been campaigns that if the CPP wins the elections, the CPP will broaden its power while the monarchists would be destroyed ... What now? CPP has got its two-third ma-

majority and if a change in the Constitution deems to be necessary, it needs no one's help. But is there a threat to monarchy or HM the King? It has shown clearly to be on the contrary that when CPP musters full power, the throne and monarchy enjoy stability and HM the King himself and the Royal families have not been dishonored ... I doubt it if they could claim themselves to be Royalists when they could not even protect them in the parliament ... Can they do that without the 90 seats? They better change their wordings ...

All have been taken by them – democrats, royalists, nationalists – what is left for us though is people and we think this is the real power base the Party stands on ... Then they said CPP is dictatorship, have they thought a little that if the CPP is dictatorship, what happens to our national motto? Would they be able to preach like that? So I would advise them CPP should not be a comparison to the so called Democratic Party which they claimed to have won the elections whatsoever under Prince Yutevong or Grandfather Ieu Koes ... It was a totally different story ...

On May 15 I took the whole family to see HM the King to offer him best wishes during the HM's birthday anniversary and I have reaffirmed before HM and my families that in my absence they have to continue what I have done ...

I said my father was the first generation, I am the second generation, my children are the third generation and there will be the fourth generation – my grandchildren – who have been faithful and educated to be faithful to the throne ... ■

(Continued from page 6)
 got off and walked ... This is what I called a tradition of calling for an intervention and a gratitude is given in return for the service which I am sure is an insult to a great extent to law enforcing forces ...

In close proximity to this, intervention seeking behavior is a bad thing to go by ... an accident happened, the police is in the process of writing report and there was this intervention from so and so to do so and so, and I sometimes heard on the radio that the officers in case relayed his distress to another "what can he do if he is actually doing the case survey, an intervention has come otherwise," which makes the whole law abiding and implementation impossible ...

As for advertising strategy is concerned I think we can seek help from movie production companies and TVs to run capturing slogans like "drugs kill you" ... and the Ministry of Culture should be able to do some good help here ... I think the performers or stars either in audio or video could use a few words to urge youngsters not to use drugs or to tell them of how bad and fatal it is to drug ... I would not like to see this issue of drug to mushroom into bigger operation like in Mexico or Colombia where they involved thousands of troops in fight against bigger and advanced weapons and systematic drug mafia ... So we should do everything we can to get rid of it while it is still small ...

Let me take this opportunity to urge the Ministry of Interior to look into some hotels, guesthouses and/or discotheques to observe this matter

(Continued on page 8)

**21 May 2009 [Unofficial Translation of Selected Comments]
Inaugurating Hun Sen—Trapang Thanot Secondary School**

It is indeed a great pleasure to be able to come to Ang Snuol district once again to put into official use the Secondary School of Hun Sen-Tropenag Thanot in the district which is to the north of the National Road 4. May I ask for our people's understanding that I have been absent from this district for so long but Ang Snuol is by no means far from me and my actions here like when I came to inspect the canal ... I have the most school buildings (551 or 2,735 classrooms) built in Kandal province or 31.61% in the whole country ... I have a strong commitment to make Cambodian children to suffer no lack of school buildings like when I was a kid ...

I had to leave my family in search of education when I was 13 years of age and when I came to power I have turned myself to become a faithful servant to the people as I have learned truly all the difficulties of our children at their young ages in relation to lack of schools, teachers etc. Though 30 years have gone by but I have a strong memory about the hardship that I encountered in those days ... That is why to expand primary education, we have gone this far to state in the Constitution that the Cambodian children must finish their nine year education to the very least ...

At this stage we have made every effort to bring junior secondary level education down to the communal level and in some communes this effort has come almost to an end already ... Take for instance the district of Ang Snuol, we have junior secondary school in almost every communes, except in two communes – Tchak Tchoe Nieng and Kantork – and I am

willing to build one in Tchak Tchoe Nieng ... We have made it national effort to bring education at junior secondary school within easy access to students ... Which is to be equally benefited by both female and male students ... I wish to provide further a set of solar energizing lighting that would help you read at night and also would like to concretize the road from National Road 51 to the College and to the pagoda ... of Ang Snuol ...

The School was actually built under Sangkum Reastr Niyum under Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk but it was totally destroyed in the war in 1975 under Lon Nol ... In 1982 we rebuilt the place and in 2006 the junior secondary school has been transformed into the Senior Secondary School Hun Sen-Tropeang Thanot ... What is worth mentioning here is that we now have teachers who hold bachelor's or master's degrees to teach here ... We have now passed the stage of those who know more teach those who know less and who do not know through this pedagogical system of bachelor + 1 (year of pedagogy) for junior and senior secondary education and 12 (graduation from senior secondary school) + 2 (years of pedagogy) to teach in the primary and secondary levels ...

I have one thing to share with you. We now seem to have problem of shortage of Achar who is conducting the ritual and protocol procedures, and traditional reading either in the wedding ceremony or funeral, which the Achar of one could not be allowed to perform the others, and vice versa ... I would raise this

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 1)

concern and attention on issues relating to piracy in the strait of Malacca ...

As for me, besides asking this question of threats from piracy, trafficking of human and drugs, I wish to sound out my thought as to whether the terrorists can use the sea as their safe havens or hideouts ...

When there is forceful operation to clear them off the mainland, would terrorist leaders - like Al Qaeda for instance, go into deep sea areas and hide themselves in huge ships or not? That is why though Cambodian sea is not that big but negligence could allow our sea to be operational and/or crossing areas for them too ... We have this experience in some operations with Australia and I have shared with you before ...

Cambodia before was a neglected place and that situation brought Cambodia to be a point for departure to Australia and the Australian side and the Cambodian police have played a very effective role in preventing this kind of terror crossing operation ... Cambodia in one trafficking case has been used as a getting together point ...

It is in this instance that we must strengthen capacity of our armed forces and law enforcing mechanism all in the aim to let Cambodia be no sources of any human or drug trafficking, tax evasion, terrorism ... On top of that because we are in the process of searching for oil and gas, so ability to protect, defend and provide security to those companies is indeed important ... but as I said earlier, to have our forces ready is not the only effective option but we need also to be prepared with law and other related norms

too ... For example, the French Prime Minister, I think back in 2003, asked for a permission from Cambodia to stop a ship that was going to dock in a port and I returned his call saying go ahead as Cambodia never has any ships going anywhere at all ...

I think the world has evolved to a time when all should not increase their military might aimed at fighting each other to claim ownership on so and so islands or sea space at all but to get together and fight against pirates and leave the issue of sovereignty to diplomacy ...

Therefore, building up naval capability should not be in the sense of fighting but for bettering capacity to protect from and get rid of the pirates ... I would seek to see that the mechanism is ready in three months and I would seek helps from Ambassador of the United States and Australia and others present here to help in this effort of capacity development... Cambodia has the will but is lacking the means ...■

(Continued from page 7)

closely ... by which owners of hotels, guesthouses and/or discotheques should refrain from being a site for distribution of drugs or they would be fined or be forced to close down and our intention is for everybody's own good ... I have a few words to mention about broadcasting for free ... some spots have been paid by sponsoring agents like UNDP, ADB or JICA but when it is aired, no charge has been made, which I suggest TVs to give a good look into this ... If any program is sponsored by foreign agencies in Cambodia, those advertisement or information program must pay for their air time ...■