

Youth Volunteers to Measure Land for People

26 June 2012 (Unofficial Translation of Selected Comments)

1,100 Youth Volunteers in New Actions on Existing Policies

I have a great pleasure today to have a chance to meet with nephews/nieces as voluntary youths and students, who are taking part in the campaign to take new actions based on existing policy on land issue in response to the official order which came into force since June 8 along with public elaboration on June 14.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation and thanks for the 1,100 nephews/nieces who are students and intellectuals – 312 from the pagoda boy group, 216 from Federation of Cambodian Democratic Students and Intellectuals, 391 from the Royal Agricultural University of Chamka Daung, 83 from the Cambodian Institute of Technology, 12 from the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction - for their part in this mission.

It is to our joy that what I have declared on behalf of the Royal Government has been welcomed by people throughout the country. I know that people not only greet and welcome the statement but also make thousands of AV copy of my elaboration on 14 June for purpose of documenting,



27 June 12 - Samdech Techo Hun Sen accompanies the Crown Prince Naruhito of Japan to review the guards of honor in the Peace Palace (Kampuchea Thmey).

Dear Cambodia New Vision Readers,

For impromptu comments of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen on the Commune Councilors elections held on June 3, readers are advised to visit the www.cnv.org.kh and look for the 7 June 2012 Launch of the Construction of the NR 56 from Banteay Meanjei's Svay Sisophon City to Uddar Meanjei's Samraong City.

analyzing and keeping as tool to protect their cases.

As far as I know, the CTN and the Angkor Beer company helped make those copies and are sold out well. I think since it is not Prom Manh's joke story, may it be given out for free.

Seeing this development I think that officials should be careful when talking to our people. They should be cautious as, by watching and listening to those disks, inside and outside the country alike, thanks to modern telecommunication means, people will indeed make comparison between their actions and what has been said by the Prime Minister.

It could be the case that some

of our officials might have not listened to and/or taken the statement into serious consideration as policy and order for such implementation. I would urge that if they are not sure of what to do, they should replay the tape/disk, TVs as well, with emphasis made on specific comments on land issues so that everyone understands and does not misinterpret.

On CTN I learnt that some people have gone out, after hearing about (the Prime Minister's new actions on) land issue, to plant their land's border markers. Those pole plantings are not acceptable as they are not those planted with the measurements by the local authorities and/or related

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New Actions on Existing Policies

14 June 2012 (Unofficial Translation of Selected Comments)

Here followed are selected impromptu comments during the official launch of mid-term 2009-13 Review Report of the Royal Government of Cambodia.

New Actions on Existing Policies for Fisheries

Today I have some important issues to share with our people, some of you may have learnt about it but our foreign friend would also be interested to know. It is what I call the *new actions on existing policies on issues of fisheries and land issues.*

I may raise this issue to illustrate some of the actual developments relating to the Royal Government's actions so far. As I have denoted "new action on existing policies" is in fact because it is not a new issue to be encountered and settled by the Royal Government, or to be frankly speaking, by the Cambodian People's Party at all. Take for instance fisheries reforms is in fact a traditional issue. The way we do it is to take actions, make experiments and move slowly but surely.

As of March 8, we came to a point that all fishing lots were to be dismantled and given for people's fishing access. We only conserve some fishery basins where fish population and species are being bred for

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land survey departments. There could also be some who would do that in order to demand cash from our people. It seems, according to what I heard, this has happened in Kuah Kralor of Battambang province. Claiming land by oneself will not be acceptable.

300,000 Families, 1.2 million Hectares of Land

I am so glad that for what we are doing, we have been doing in prompt manners – national and sub-national levels – to implement new actions based on existing policies. Each province has been especially active on this matter. As of the day that I returned from foreign mission, on June 12, our estimate figures were somewhere 150,000 families and some 70,000 hectares of land.

However, as is reported by Senior Minister HE Im Chhun Lim of the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction (MLMUPC) to me at 5:30 of 24 June, the number of families to have their lands measured and their titles sorted out have reached over 300,000 and the size of land has come to over 1,200,000 hectares awaiting for us to take actions.

This is the figure on paper though. What we want to fulfill is not on paper only as before. That is why we term it new actions based on existing policies. They are not new issues for the Royal Government. It has been that some actions have been taken in certain degree in some places but not promptly everywhere.

This time our action will be a forceful moment. Yesterday some provinces sent in some papers – including drafts of sub-decree and related decisions – for me to give my sig-

nature to. There are three papers from the province of Preah Vihear and four from Kompot that I call for immediate inspection meeting before I could give my signature to. I would elaborate more shortly on a commission that has been set up yesterday in which a number of Deputy Prime Ministers plus the Minister of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction are members and they will have to move on it as urgent matter.

They will have to review the papers as signing on sub-decrees and decisions as such would require proper coordinates, legal formulation and even typographical errors being corrected prior to requesting for approval signature from the Prime Minister so that no negative consequences for state and/or people to deal with at the later date.

From Beginning to End

This is not a kind of work that is said but insufficient actions are taken as before. These new actions will be carried out constantly. We are determined to fulfill this mission to the complete end on three types of land – Forest Land Concession, Economic Land Concession and land that are illegally occupied.

We also will take further step in social land concession as well. We will see that it be fulfilled completely even if we need to expend 1.2 million hectares of land. Doing this is not a problem because the land belongs to the people.

What we are doing is to provide land titles to them so as to achieve stability on issues of land possession and occupation, social safety, effective land use, poverty reduction and economic growth.

Social aspect to be obtained from such policies and actions would contribute greatly for the betterment of the people's livelihood. I have said it already that people could feel this point and already made right assessments.

I invite you to wait and see more new houses and new cultivations after we provide our people with titles to their lands. While that is achieved, in that stage, we no longer have to give them rice but they would give us Ambok (flatten newly and greenly harvested rice) in return.

As they lack ownership titles, they build no solid homes for they are concerned and uncertain if they could go on living and using the land at all at some stage. It is aimed at resolving this issue that we will help them legalize their land occupations/possessions.

In the first step they will be provided with *Primary Land Titles*, which before long, since they are now going to the print shop, will come out. The primary land titles will eventually be replaced by *Final Land Titles*.

A good thing for people is that their primary land titles can be used to deposit in banks in request for loans. I also confirm today that there will also be a title for social land concession so that the bank can recognize it too. But first we will have to sort this out. So far, people are given with social land concession agreements and they use the agreement to secure loans from banks.

They will no longer use the agreement paper but their social land concession titles. We just add: *“titles must be attached with the social land concession agreements, both of which have corresponding*

use value as ownership titles, until final land ownership titles are issued for social land concessionaires who have fulfilled required conditions for social land concession.” This means concessionaire can deposit the title to secure loan from banks. This should help people to develop fast and have vast economic effect on their own livelihood – each family or the whole society.

Some press has given unprofessional comments, and I think that should be brought up here, that *“though the Prime Minister has stated, no one has taken action to measure land for the people.”* Let me have your attention that measuring land that we are talking about is not some joke at all.

We cannot just get a few families along and measure land for them as doing it this way would take a long time in waiting. The worse thing is people might have conflict among themselves. Land boundary is a serious issue. We cannot afford to get only a specified number of families to involve in measurement while others do not.

I would urge the press and people to understand about the system that we are putting in place for the measurement and provision of primary land title recognition. We could not employ any system that lacks procedures and/or does not correspond to the people's need.

All land belongs to the state. Whether land given out as concession or land people possessed illegally, we are in the process of making legal consecration, except those that people already have their ownership titles. I learnt one

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story very truly from the former time. It was a conflict of land boundary between siblings. They went all the way to the court and they became poor altogether.

My grandparents gave three pieces of land to my grand-aunt, my uncle and my father, which was adjacent to land of some relatives. What they did was during the flood season, at around 4pm, you would see that they rowed the boat to take a bath. As we caught it without their knowledge, they pulled out the poles along the boundary and placed it inches into our side. We went to bath later and moved the poles some inches back. This could be one serious issue.

Let me clarify that in this mission these nephews/nieces are participating voluntarily. I am you commander in chief, HE Im Chhun Lim is like Chief of General Staff. So you are not soldiers under the command of HE Tia Banh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defense and HE Pol Saron, the RCAF's Chief of General Staff.

You may have noticed that on the uniform you are carrying a sign of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction. MLMUPC will send you to different provinces and villages thereafter. The Governor of the province is the Head of state land management commission. So I suggest that all Governors must look after their (land management) soldiers.

I urge again that for what we are doing today we must guarantee that there are no retrograde consequences for our people at the later date.

There are going to be some 168 provincial working groups and there could be few

more subgroups for each working group. In each volunteer group there are 12 members in which one of them will be responsible together with a deputy. Let me clarify that I am not making use of state budget to financially support the youth volunteers. I am determined to feed them and make their missions work.

Authority Possesses Rights

The land survey department will be responsible for their task. As far as our youth are concerned, once they are on the ground, I urge that they would do whatever they are asked to.

I know that there are youths from two non-governmental organizations – the Association of Pagoda Boy Students/Intellectuals and the Cambodian Democratic Youth and Intellectual Association.

There have been requests from some NGOs to get involved too but I think it is not yet time for them to do that. I said already that this problem can only be solved by the authority defined by law.

I advise some NGOs not to instate themselves as equal as those who have been elected by the people and set up by law. Though we recognize the role and function of NGOs and civil society, we urge them to be cautious of this. Though I do not have to mention them by name, some have come out with a statement like “some NGOs are potential and some are not.”

What do they mean? We could understand. They wanted to talk about small versus big, poor versus rich organizations. Does this correspond to what you have been doing to actually demand for equal rights with the Government whom the people

elected?

All NGOs are equal. There is no rich or poor NGOs as far as voting is concerned. They welcome my statement but they wish to monitor the implementation. I think it is not necessary and they can write a report according to their wish.

Incomprehensive Press

Please allow me to take this opportunity say something. We have called for correction twice already – one for the Cambodia Daily and one for Phnom Penh Post. I find the press respectful but for unprofessional and/or professionally incomprehensive and/or destructive intention press, I am of the opinion that they should publish corrections. If they do not make correction on papers, we would do it on TVs and Radios.

The other day was the Cambodia Daily and today it is Cambodia Daily again. It was a hit on the head but a pat on the tail. We will from now on for once demand correction and also send the demand to all TVs and Radios at the same time.

In one article they wrote: “*Land Concessions Signed After Hun Sen Ordered Moratorium.*” I demand that Cambodia Daily and Phnom Penh Post run in full the Royal Government's order 01 dated May 7, in which there exists four points and I would bring only two points to your attention: “*Point 1 - Make a provisional halt to all economic land concessions. Point 4 – For all economic land concessions that the Royal Government approved before the order's issuance will continue to implement according to legal principle and procedures in force.*”

Let me advise the Phnom

Penh Post and Cambodia Daily, including also those who claim to be lawyers and monitor land issue, to have a look from head to heel in order to conclude that it is a man or a woman.

Poor sight analysis would show that one is the silliest and would not be respected. There have been serious implementation of the order and I never sign more concession at all. I wish they read the order at Point 4 in full before they cry foul about it.

I have advised on various occasions that for things to be properly verified, one has to look at it from beginning to end and not to look at one particular point alone (without understanding the whole) with relatively destructive intent.

According to Point 4, the Prime Minister would have to sign transferring public state land to private state land, for example. This is just one among many procedures before it comes to approval notification. As I brought the approval notification to the public the other day that the concessionary company would have to collaborate with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to define the boundary and cut out lands relating to reserved forest and/or local community accordingly.

These are what we call procedures. Does the Cambodia Daily or Phnom Penh Post know that? Or do they have bad intention?

You have your means, newspapers, but we have ours as well. My response today has to be broadcast in full. If you are to participate, you have to respect the truth. That said, I am sure they will complain that Hun Sen is angrily re-

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proving. I cannot be nice as a wise man when it comes to bad intention. It is no threat. You may want to run more articles of the kind but with our reactions, trust on your (journalist) profession would decline for you neglected the whole truth.

I would be grateful and appreciating very much if the two newspapers were to issue in full the Royal Government order 01, thereby the two points I mentioned above could be brought to light before the readers. In order to maintain the value and trust of the press in Cambodia it is necessary to make one's reporting professionally comprehensive.

Mission Schedules and Mechanism

As far as works to be fulfilled in this mission we have got specific schedules. This evening HE Im Chhun Lim will lead further meeting. What will serve as tool in implementing this campaign is the sub-decree 118, which clearly defines the provincial and district roles, and the circular 02 concerning illegal occupation of state land.

Also important mechanism is the sub-decree 88 issued in December 2000 on the establishment of the land policy council. As I have mentioned earlier about the formation of the commission to inspect new actions based on existing policies on issues of land, HE Im Chhun Lim is the chairman, HE Uk Rabun, HE Prak Sokhon, HE Chhan Saphan, HE Rath Sarin, HE Ith Nody, HE Chheng Kimsun, HE Chay Samith and HE Sar Sovan are members.

The work of this commission is *to inspect and give opinion on decision to be made to the*

head of the Royal Government on proposed sections of forest land concession, economic land concession and state land to be cut out and given to the people for their legal ownership.

In order to give those lands to the people we have got to measure and transfer them from public state land to private state land. Only this is fulfilled could ownership titles proceed.

As for economic land concession, if transference has already been made, there is no need to issue further sub-decrees but an approval notification. The commission will have to inspect this work as urgent issue and I would need no more than 48 hours to approve.

It is important, for example, that the proposed cutting of sizes of lands from specified places would come with coordinates that are matching with those in maps at the central level. We may either communicate through VDO conference to address measurement differences or get to the place together. It would be easier as I would give my approval on one side and a signature to transfer it from public to private state land on another. Since we also have the Secretary of State of the Council of Ministers (in the commission), I think approval notification (Sech Kdei Jun Damnoeng) could also be prepared and ready to be issued once I give my approval.

The mechanism at the ministry level has sent working staff to the provinces and those at the provincial levels already start working with provincial offices of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, Environment, Forest Administration. From the central level we also

have the Ministry of Economy and Finance and the Council of Ministers because we have matters concerning authorities in charge of state property and national budget issues, which would be needed to implement actions like buying some equipments to be used for many more years.

We may as well divert forces from other fronts to serve this campaign so as to finish once and for all the land issue. As of now the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction has gathered some over 2,000 workers already and people's participation in form of physical and mental efforts is very important.

Proposal for decision or sub-decree on land ownership titles in this campaign must be addressed directly to the head of the Royal Government. The Cabinet (of the Prime Minister) or the Council of Ministers must process the proposal immediately to the commission, where the proposal will be inspected before submitting for approval.

We have modern equipments to facilitate the communication such as VDO conference and email. On top of these, the Metfone company has offered some 400 pieces of four digit phone to be used free of charge.

I have given 350 pieces to the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction and 50 to students. Again the provincial level (commission) must propose directly to the Prime Minister and not to the Minister.

However the Ministers concerned will have to inspect everything. The central level will give all inspections and

we have here HE Chay Samith from Environment and HE Ith Nody from Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and one from Forestry Administration.

Let me stress that members have not got rights to veto. For instance, once the approval notification is out, concerned parties have to implement according to the instruction. It was because actions in negligence of what was instructed in the notification that brought us problems.

As members no one could object on giving but only inspecting and approving if the coordinates given are correct or not. In some cases we have cut the land out already but once we come to solve the problem with people's participation, the size of cut-out land could be bigger than originally secured by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

In this case of economic land concession, this action would address to the wish of both companies and people's communities as they would know where their borders meet. It is more so as people would also use their land titles to secure loans from banks too. It is going to be win-win situation for all, the investors and the people's communities win.

While attracting foreign investments, it is important to make sure that they all are abiding by the Cambodian judicial system. We are now solving the tiger stripe situation (land intertwined between state and community) plus 10% reservation for future population growth.

Taking this opportunity I would advise all to give their opinions on how things are being carried out. As I men-

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tioned several times in this meeting that we must not leave our people to be in conflict because of unclear land boundary after we issued them the titles at all. I am calling the people to have understanding to each other and not to infringe upon one another.

According to the work schedule, as is presented by HE Im Chhun Lim, yesterday June 25, there was a meeting with all provincial level LMUPC and today June 26, a meeting and listening to instruction of Prime Minister. On June 27 and 28, lecturers will be dispatched to northeast, northwest and southeast and June 28, youth volunteers will head to action in the field.

Primary and Final Land Titles

As far as the provision of Final Land Titles is concerned, I suggest to the people not to sell and transfer possession (in the mean time) as according to what we are planning to do selling or transferring would lead to issue of unclear ownership again. For example, when starting with issuance of Primary Land Titles, a plot of land is registered under A, so after processing the paper, the Final Land Titles will also be under A. So, while waiting for the issuance of final title, I urge our people not to sell or transfer their land yet. This should help.

According to plan, *the primary land titles will be issued within three to four weeks* after the first day of field work and the measurement has reached to three hundred registrars. *The final land titles will take up to six months* at the longest.

What important in speeding this work is that people brace for no conflicts but sorting out

differences among themselves so that this job of providing everyone with land title can be fulfilled speedily.

I have learnt about one fact that I do not forbid but am happy for it. As I arrived to this meeting, the families reported for the need of land measurement were only 150,000 but now it comes to 300,000 already. I do not obstruct them. People know better than us what they are doing. According to land law, we could only provide each family with five hectares.

With now ten hectares in his/her holding, we would have to issue title of five hectares for him/her and another five as small-scale economic land concession. S/he would not accept this small piece of economic land concession. They would split the family into two and each has a holding of five hectares already.

What we have to be clear is that self-occupation and possession of land, take for instance, what happened recently in Kompot and Kep cannot be recognized and/or provided with land titles. We call on people to participate and collaborate while not encroaching upon more new land or it would create more obstacles in resolving the problem and it would take much more time to process the titles while there are anarchic actions in the area.

If ever anyone demands money for their works or service, please arrest him/her, the officials also included. Please be sure that the work to issue people land titles this time is for free and I wish our people to know that. Our people only spend their time to help measure the land they possess.

I have read a report by a newspaper that there has been

an organization that acts as a mastermind in measuring land for people. They should be arrested for what they are doing as the institution with rights and privileges to do so is here.

No State within the State

I take this opportune moment to appeal to those with arrest warrants for what they did in the village of Kompong Damrai to come out and confess. I already affirm that the Royal Government would relieve them of their wrongdoings by grading them up from the accused to the witness. There has been one coming out already among the warranted five.

If ever anyone demands money for their works or service, please arrest him/her, the officials also included.

Among the seven people who came to Phnom Penh to get the order of the mastermind in Phnom Penh, three came out already. We are waiting for four more. We would follow them wherever they may be. As for the mastermind, we know what he has done and he dare not enter the country now. We must resolve this issue once and for all as some NGOs accuse the Royal Government of chasing people out of the village. Nothing of that sort was done. In the recent commune councilor elections, the Cambodian People's Party won all five seats in the commune too.

We did not touch people's land. It was anarchic group led by someone in Phnom Penh who set up the so called Association of Democrats did all this. They have the intention to create a state within the state. They dissolved villages and created seven new ones. They charged people for piece

of land they promised. This is not acceptable at all.

The Royal Government can shift your case to that of witness, those who come out, as you are also cheated. Now this mastermind is with Suon Ratha, whom we are seeking arrest too. This man intended to downfall the Royal Government by force and appeared on the Thai yellow shirt TV last year. The mastermind dare not enter the country now. Trial in absentia can go ahead and demand for extradition will be carried out.

Your action of occupying land by yourself is wrong. That what you did is unacceptable. What happened in Kbal Chhay of Sihanouk province too is unacceptable. I told Sbaong Sarat, governor of Sihanouk province to find them a plot of land.

There is no country on earth that allows anyone to do that. Try the US, if you occupy the park, you would certainly be handcuffed, not in front like in Cambodia but from the back. Once we get some one arrested, immediately they cry out that we violate human rights. So what do you call it when you dissolve the village administration and block the road?

Who built those homes in Kompong Damrei? They all were going from other places. Have they not chased out the locals? What is a village? Could you define? Is it a village just yet it comes together in one or two days? Would the case of Kompong Damrei be defined as a village? It is ridiculous that they say the Royal Government chased people out of the village.

How could they set up NGOs if they do not know all this? I am afraid what they did may

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be involved in state within the state matter.

I re-appeal to the people that anyone – government official, soldier, police officer, etc. assures you that s/he could get you land here and there on condition you pay her/him this amount or that amount of money, let us know immediately and we will arrest him/her.

We arrest all crooked people no matter from where they could be, including those wearing the sign of the Cambodian People's Party. For the latter they would be sued by the Cambodian People's Party and by the Royal Government as well.

Recommendations and Advice

I have some recommendations and advice for the youth volunteers with a mission this time. I have one prohibition for you all to remember no matter where you are in this mission. What is it?

I advise you not to ask or to seek to find out from anyone you are serving what party they belong to or vote for. The work that you are doing in the name of the Royal Government is to give out land to people of Cambodia not to political party. Having come to this let me have the attention of one organization who claims that it has concern about political discrimination.

I can conclude that this organization or person knows Hun Sen too little. It is you who discriminate when you look at the Royal Government as a group of people different from you. But you are just a bunch of people who nominate yourselves. We are the ones that people elected with full rights to represent the

country in and outside.

So what important here is to help people. I have a slogan for you - *“staying with the people makes them like you, and leaving the people makes them think of you.”*

I would urge you not to do it differently like they said – *“staying with the people makes them dislike you, and leaving makes them forget you.”* There was also this saying that *“as those coming from the south will take coconut, those from the north will take chicken.”*

People may serve you with their coconuts. While thanking them for their sympathy, you may as well have to give pay for it. This is the Cambodian psychology and you would gain by saying “thank you.”

You can thank them in words but also in cash for what they offer you. Do not enjoy their service for free. You may tell them what you give them is not for the coconut they offer you but a reciprocation so that they can use for things in daily life.

(It should be noticed that) those who promised to give petty cash to elderly people are now facing problem when the latter are after them to demand their promised money. It seems s/he now is telling people to wait till s/he becomes Prime Minister for her/his promise to be fulfilled.

It is ridiculous that in the recent communal councilor elections they campaigned to give 40,000 Riels (to elderly people as petty cash money) if they get elected. Well, we do not promise but we are doing service to help them. Once you are there, if anyone people is sick, and if you happen to have medicine for her/his

illness, you may want to give it out to her/him.

There is one more thing for you to do. I am advising you to learn from the people while fulfilling this mission. Some of you come from the University of Agriculture at Chamka Daung and may still remember one of my recommendations there that students should come up with thesis on development in these areas. Now it is a great chance to do your study right in the field.

While learning from them, you can also share your ideas with them. For example, you may want to bring coconut saplings and plant them in everyone's home as a memory. I think it would be a great thing if you can do it. In three or four years you can go back and find out the difference and rate of development in the area. That is not a difficult task at all.

As far as necessary utensils and tools for personal need, I am sure your aunt, the President of the Cambodian Red Cross, has them all under control. You will have enough not to bother people in the village, though I am sure villagers would not allow you to set up tents. I have high responsibility to your parents and supervisors. You have here HE Im Chhun Lim as chief of general staff and (my son) Hun Manet will be in charge of logistics.

I may bring it for your knowledge that you all will eat collectively and I sponsor you with 30,000 Riel per diem, which would be 900,000 Riels per month. Before end of the month, the logistic people will come to pay you on the spot. I may have to spend like 33 million Riels per day or 990 million Riels per month when all of the mission people are out in the fields.

Let me warn against some for making a fuss about getting my children to do the job. I wonder here why I cannot give my children who have finished their post graduate studies some jobs to do. Why should I give them chance to get educated then? Some even talk about the Bayon TV that is managed by my daughter. So what? Do they have a share there?

All my sons are soldiers. The US also helps train them. Hun Manet studied at West Point Academy and the other one went to the National Defense University of the United States of America. I did not send them there. The US selected them. But why did they not say a word when the husband and wife are members of the National Assembly? And so is his second wife.

Irreconcilable Funcinpec

As for the case of accidental death of a young girl at Kompong Damrei I solemnly expressed my condolence and I made the point already that it was caused by the Association of Democrats. So the person to be placed in responsible for this is the mastermind. You have no rights to represent the people. If you want the rights, you get to make it your win in the 28 July 2013 elections.

As of now it is the coalition government of the Cambodian People's Party and Funcinpec. Having come to this, I would say that in some way I am happy too that Funcinpec could not reconcile with each other and I have nothing to bother anymore.

There was a discussion that they want to make it (Funcinpec) like other opposition parties that scold the

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more. In these basins no one is allowed to fish, either state or private or people.

We have brought this issue to a close after we had had the fishing lots for 104 years or since 1908 according to the royal regulation of Samdech Preah Sisovath in relations to the establishment of the fishing lots, the auction of fishing lots for fishery merchants and taxing on fishing according to fishing tools. However, in our time, no tax has been imposed on fishing tackles.

We remain to be the issue in this reform effort is to continue to strengthen the management of those fishing lots that are given out for people's fishing access. It should be noted and shared with all of you here that the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, with the guidance of HE Yim Chhay Ly, Deputy Prime Minister, has organized here at the Council of Ministers' building training for some 500 fishery communities with an aim to encourage our people's participation in the protection of fishery resources so that they themselves would be the ones to benefit from it.

Issues of fishing restriction as imposed on the size, number and scale of various fishing tackles – traditional and modern one, have been brought for discussion and finally regulated. Lately there has been a specific request by the Muslim community for the permission to use dragging net in their fishing activity. We have allowed such net to be operated but only by 10 horsepower machine to the maximum.

I would urge the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to continue to work

closely on this matter as sometimes some fishing tools defined in the law and regulation by the Ministry would not be sufficient for all seasons. Sometime fishing by certain tools and at certain time in a specified area would not cause impacts. We may have to update the law and regulation accordingly.

New Actions on Existing Policies for Land Issues

Maybe the thing that I am going to talk about in this issue of new actions on existing policies with regard to land reforms would take a long time. Please allow me to take this floor to send the Cambodian people this message on land issue that on last Friday, we had conducted a VDO Conference meeting between Phnom Penh and all provinces.

Property Ownership and Land Backgrounds

Pol Pot had actually stripped every citizen off his/her land ownership/title. In the early days (after the liberation on January 7, 1979) no one fought for land as they are nowadays. The then Government of the State of Cambodia had in those days, till 1987, provided people with some resources, money also included, for the people to claim new land. You may see it as the state hired them to claim new land. I am sure people remember it, especially HE Suy Sem, who worked then in the Ministry of Planning.

However, the situation then was not similar to the present. Our people dared not go far from the city (because of insecurity). We had abundance of arable land and the Government saw that it was a good opportunity for people to claim and work on them.

Land reform has always been a challenge for me and I wanted to resolve as quickly as possible the problem for the people.

Despite my strong commitment and determination, the issue had been too large to deal with. Initially, we were faced with the problem of ownerships from the period prior to 1975. Should we recognize the ownerships from then or the current ones after the liberation? It had become the topic of electoral campaign in 1993 and was also a topic of harsh words exchange between myself and other political faction leaders presented in the former Supreme National Council (SNC) in one of the meetings in Paris too. HE Tia Banh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defense and HE Im Chhun Lim, Minister of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, who were then members of the SNC could have remembered that.

I may as well excuse the sole of the late Samdech Son San, for what I am going to bring up. I sat next to Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, while the Khmer Rouge representatives were seated in opposite to us in a meeting that was held in what is currently the Cambodian embassy (in France). Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk said that there was nothing to be afraid about and if anything happened, let's all embrace HE Hun Sen. If the bomb exploded, we should as well be dead together. There was this issue of bodyguards. I told them to bring theirs but I offered to provide them with weapons.

In that instance, Samdech Son San said to Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk "Your

Highness, I have a house in Phnom Penh. But the puppets have taken." I reacted (you may ask HE Tia Banh, Dit Munti, Hor Namhong, Ieng Mouly) to him (with the presences of Khieu Samphan and Son Sen): "*Your Excellency, those who should be held responsible for chasing people out of Phnom Penh are the Khmer Rouge, not me. What else could I do when people entered Phnom Penh and cleaned those houses and occupied. Some of the houses have changed even more than one owner too. Not to mention that you go from France to get back the house, even if I am the Prime Minister, I would not be safe to take those occupied houses from them.*"

Samdech Son San then said "*I would take up the challenge (of being hacked) as I am now an old man.*" That was what then the situation. How many percent of the people in Phnom Penh who actually live in houses belonged to them prior to the liberation? It was a big issue in the field of ownership between 1975 and those of the present. After a long and thorough discussion, we had come to a conclusion that if we were to revise the ownerships, to recognize the ownerships from before 1975, we might have to evacuate the people in the whole country. That was how the issue had become a hot topic of electoral campaign in 1993.

Land Reforms Started in 1980s

We then commenced the land reform issue by allowing people who resided and worked in actuality on a particular place to occupy the land. We called them "possessors." We then issued them *hard and soft, and bird feather-*

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imprinted land possession papers. As you can understand the land reform and ownership/title has not been a new issue for the Cambodian People's Party or for Hun Sen.

It was in the 1980s that the (State of Cambodia's) Government issued bird feather-imprinted land possession papers for the people. They have become the basis for land registration and issuance of land titles and ownerships these days. No matter what we all must understand that between now and then we have come away twenty years. The Cambodian population has grown from between 7 or 8 millions then to some 14 millions now. Land issue has become a pressing issue and urgent consideration must be made on providing them with more land in some areas in addition to process of social land concession.

As of now I learn that all provinces are getting down to work already. Yesterday I called to a number of provincial governors but some I could not reach them. They maybe were on their ways to Phnom Penh. I talked to Sar Chamrong, governor of Kratie, I called to Cheang Am, governor of Svay Rieng, to Kang Hieng, governor of Kompong Speu, etc. I called to Ung Oeung of Banteay Meanjei and he promised that he will carry out the order in just two months. I have given all provinces a period of six months and if they could do it less than the time provided it is even better.

Three Categories of Land Given for the People

Now let me detail for you as to what land that the Royal Government will be giving

people the rights to own. This is going to be a political message to the people of Cambodia as well as those partners and friends of Cambodia. This is not by any mean an indicator of international pressure on Hun Sen. In fact this is an indication of the Royal Government (of Cambodia)'s commitment on the issue of land reform. Where are the lands to be given out to the people? In fact three types of lands are for giving out to people in no longer than six months.

Forest Land Concession

The first category is what we know it to be *Forest Land Concession*. We learn that some of the land has been owned by the people already while some has not. I may clarify that the forest land concession is not (economic) land concession. The forest land concession characterizes those former forest concession lands which have been ordered to halt since 2000.

You may have noticed now that there are no more scenes of heavy trucks carrying logs as in between 1993 and 1998. There are still some hidden theft of logging and trading Kranhoung (a kind of Cambodian rosewood) though. Loggings and transporting of heavy logs are no more and (the Royal Government's) order is there to stay. I wish to see no logging and timber business recurring in Cambodia. Permission is given for logging in **production forest for local consumption and not for export**.

Let me first divide the forest land concession into two. Firstly, *the suburban area of forest concession land where people already occupied*, for instance the case of people taking occupancy on the land

that was offered in concession to Samling. It is still the state land though. According to the report by the provincial governor of Kompong Cham, we are talking about 20 or 30 thousand hectares land. Since most of them occupied the land more than five years, and some have been there ten years already, we must cut the land off the concession and give the people their rights to own the land.

You may remember that this incident happened during the flood situation in 2000. Up to the moment of speaking, it is now over ten years already. Some have even built solid structure housing such as tile-roof homes. Some are not sure and waiting to see though. Judging on this development I am instructing the trimming of those occupied land off the concession, either from Samling or Kasotim and the like. As people already cultivate in the area we may as well provide them with rights to own the land based on the mechanism of Sub-decree 118 on the state land management. Let's just make a proposal to the Prime Minister and I will cut the land from the concession for the people.

Secondly, *the forest land concession itself*. Just now I was talking about those who occupy and cultivate the suburban area of the forest concession land. What are we going to do now to those of you that are deep inside the forest land concession area? Some already have been given the land titles and some not yet. So for those who have not got the land ownerships yet, two types of ownerships will be provided.

Type A – *ownership for each family who occupy in actuality of no more than five hectares of land will be recog-*

nized and provided. The Cambodia's Land Law allows people to own only five hectares. You may ask so what happen to those who have more than the permitted size? If the household has like ten hectares, we would provide them with the land ownership of five hectares, while five more are to be registered as small-scale economic land concession given out to them.

Type B – *a minimum reservation of 10% as the community forest is secured from every forest concession land.* I would be even happier if you could secure larger size of forest community for the people. I anticipate one village one forest attached to it so that villagers could depend on its production, firewood for instance.

The people have to understand that the forest community is indeed their own forest for whatever production they may need. They may need to go there for tree sap, leaves for roofing, etc. They may also reserve the forest for use as ecosystem site for tourists and/or plant more trees to make it green. Take what I have done in Kraingyov in Kandal province, where newly married couples will have to plant trees.

Though what I mention is about forest concession land, the same concern also appears relating with protected forest and national forest parks. It has been our practice that we draw up a map in Phnom Penh of what we call the national parks. Having done that we have no idea what impacts that may have on those who reside and depend on the forest areas for their lives. To amend this, we are now leaving the work to be carried out by provincial authorities, in

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cooperation with those of the districts and communes, who are on actual cohabitation with the people, to figure out the existing condition so that proper policy and decision could be made for the people.

The Royal Government is, especially I myself am, ready to approve the requested alignment. As far as that of the National Parks is concerned, we need the Royal Decree and Sub-decree to undo things. All this will depend on how fast the sub-national authorities could process the jobs and papers in providing land ownership rights to the people. The Ministry of Environment has so far organized numerous forest communities in the suburban areas of national parks, a buffer zone where people depend on for their day to day life. I am seeking the Ministry of Environment to continue with this important job.

Take for instance the case of protected area of Daun Sam in the province of Battambang. We mapped it out in 1994/95 or before the internal integration of Cambodia. We mapped it out including also the area under the Khmer Rouge's control. Now we all have to observe and fix things up. The land belongs to the state and the state has no reason to hesitate to resolve the problem. There have been measures and actions but this time it will have to be a whole country's actions. If you do not have sufficient number of staff to deal with large scale prompt actions, I suggest you contact with the Phnom Penh Students group.

I urge that HE Im Chhun Lim, Minister of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, to organize appropriate skill training courses

for those students to operate the GPS that will be used in measuring the land size. I will cover all expenses incurred. Let's consider it is their practicum too.

Economic Land Concession

The second category is *economic land concession*. Please allow me to take this opportunity to express to the people and related actors that on May 7, I issued an order to halt the provision of land concession on certain reasons and the halt would be for a long time. We have to sort things out with all these or we do not give new ones. However, I wish to bring your attention to the notification paper here, as an example, as to what are the criteria for giving out land concession. Here inscribed is my signature and instruction and here is that of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

Please allow me to read the notification for you so that you have an idea of on what bases and arguments that we grant the companies (economic) land concession. In actual implementation, some companies have abided by the instructions and some do not. Take for instance in this proposal the company requested for 10,015 hectares. While the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) went to visit the requested land, we informed the company that only 7,866 hectares could be provided as we had to cut some 32,000 hectares, according to the report from HE Chan Sarun, in the requested land concession, which are the people's land.

Despite all this, *in the notification of approval, inscription of the Prime Minister's instruction* was as followed: *firstly, "aside from the ap-*

proval of the economic land concession of 7,866 hectares, the following work to be carried out by the company is to cooperate with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and competent authorities to determine the border points of the concessional land and to trim out concerned lands according to actual existence."

As you can see that despite there has a visit and inspection by the MAFF, the stated 7,866 hectares was also to be reexamined. If the land border encroaches upon people's land and/or reserved forest areas, more would have to be cut out. You may agree with me that it is not reasonably right actions to remove large trees, where local people depend on them for sap and other stuff, and replace them with cassavas or rubber. In fact the notification gives ample instructions but certain (companies and related institutions) have not yet fulfilled.

It has been noted that some intruded into people's occupation and/or reserved forest areas. As long as they are so, we will cut them all out for the people. Take this notification in point into consideration, out of the remaining 7,866 hectares, more has been cut away and the remaining size now is only 4,000 hectares. Now it is up to the company to decide if they want to do it or not? If they do not accept it, we then have to take them all back.

Secondly, *the company must make transference of public state land, and register the land, as private state land* in order to sign an investment deal on economic land concession with the MAFF. The state in this case will have to make a consecration of public state land to private state land.

Thirdly, *as far as protected land and bushy area buffering along the waterways, which have been cut out, the company will have to protect from damages and losses with legal responsibility*. Whereas damages and losses incurred, the Royal Government will annul all existing principles and contract.

Fourthly, *the company will have to register private state land title as required by the legal procedure and will have to make a report on environmental and social impacts after the investment contract is signed*. The company has no rights to start preparing the ground until these conditions – environmental impacts, air pollution and first and foremost those on the livelihood of the people – are met.

From hereon *the company will have to respect all conditions that are set by guaranteeing that people in investment area will benefit from the project and that the project would freeze in places where conflicts of ownerships with the people arise until a proper solution is reached*.

As far as this point is concerned we have to look into two elements here. Firstly, the people will benefit (from the stated investment project). I have mentioned this point a long while now about what I call the tiger's (stripe) skin situation. It went as far back as 2001 or 2002. I made it one final address in Kompong Thom's Tumring in 2008 and the inauguration of the NR 76 at Mondulkiri. Another point that is made clear here is *"all actions will cease immediately if they encounter people's protest."*

If all of the companies imple-
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ment according to the instructions inscribed in the notification of approval, there would not be land conflict problems. If they encounter protest in a place, they must stop and move to work in no protest part of the land. The place where there is a protest should be left for negotiation while the people's side and priority would be given heed to.

Before starting their ground works, *the company will have to come up with a clear management and development plan recognized by expertise institutions, and participated by local authorities and people.* In reality, we noted that this has not been the case. Local authorities were present only as a witness, and in certain circumstances, districts and/or communes leaders, and worse still the people, did not even know about it. People in local areas did not know and understand, while in those places there are no boundary markers. To be frank, people know their land very well and for those who actually own the land, they rarely have ownership papers unless they need one to deposit for bank loans.

Finally, prior to the land preparation, *the company will have to seek permission from the MAFF, while remaining of fallen trees from land preparation in the land concession area will have to be collected and kept according to technical standard defined by the Forest Administration, and settlement and premium must be made to the state in conformity with the Law of Forestry.* In every land concession there has to have some kind of forest, where both big and small trees will have to be chopped. They need to be collected and kept while making settlement and

premium available to the state.

There are some companies that are cohabitating harmoniously with the people and besides providing people with jobs they are going to apply job skill integration too. Once the infrastructures are in place, people will send their children for jobs in the place. With land that they have people will also plant the crops – such as sugarcane, etc. - that are needed for factory that the company is setting up. Company may provide them with seed, techniques in cultivation, etc. If everything works according to the instructions, our economic land concession will do our country a world of good.

Look to Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, they have millions of hectares of rubber. They also remove forest and plant them. We could do that too but we did not do it properly as instructed by the Royal Government.

As was video conferencing the other day, immediate actions must be taken to measure land for people applying the two models. **Type A** – *provide people with actual size of occupation and cultivation*; and **Type B** – *reserve 10% for their community needs.* I am of the thought that what we are planning to do now – giving land and land ownerships to the people - is so easy a job. What is difficult is if we had to take the land back from the people. I am sure related institutions and officials are getting themselves ready now. If you are not in full swing, I would come out myself.

Dealing with companies is forbidden. I also warn our people from encroaching cultivated land of the company

and occupying them because of the Prime Minister's statement. I would not let that pass. In some place, like Kompong Damrey, where they organized protest, blocked roads and infiltrated for occupancy, I think that has gone too far and there would not be an understanding for that kind of drastic actions.

The Royal Government, let me assure you, has got its land policy. If you are in need of land, the Royal Government would provide land on social concession for you. I have in mind some 10,000 to 20,000 hectares for giving out to the people, judging by the population growth indicator. In the 1980s, in my house there are only my wife, I and my eldest son, Manet. The situation now is different. I have five children, five children in law, which make ten, plus 13 grandchildren. The same is true for our people while in the 1980s, there are only two peoples in their family, they have more now.

It is in this respect that we have diverted our development from extensive to intensive, while resolving issues of irrigation and techniques to increase yields of rice on same rice fields. We are doing it in such a way that on the same land size that we used to feed five people can now feed twice or thrice the number. This should also include the reservation of new land for more people. It is a land policy of the Royal Government, but frankly speaking of the Cambodian People's Party. The policy has not been wrong but the actions are. That is why I am defining it as "taking new actions on existing policies" and we will do it together at the same time throughout the country.

I may ask HE Sar Kheng,

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Interior, as we had a discussion already the other day on video link, where there is a concentration of people but it has not become a village yet, let's set up one for them. If they have mobilized together some twenty or thirty families, let's set up a village for them. It will take a short time for those families to grow bigger, and therefore bigger villages. There has been high concentration of population in some provinces – like Kandal, Kompong Cham, Prey Veng – as in some villages there are up to a thousand families.

State Land Property

The third category is the *state land property*, on which people illegally occupy. We could recall that anarchic occupation of state land happened uncontrollably and the state has had to issue orders to take the land back. However, on reality, a few paid heed to the order while the majority chooses to stay.

I went to Banteay Meanjei and Siem Reap and I learnt of a few cases. In Siem Reap I summoned the Head of Forestry Sector to bring me the statistics of the land that we took back from (cases of) illegal occupations. In the statistics, the total land confiscated was 49,000 hectares. I asked him where are the land now? He told me people are actually occupying them. I asked and every where gave me the same answers. So, what we say it to be coverage of forest, it no longer exists, only cassava, maize, bean, etc. So, let's leave the forest coverage of 2002 alone. As the people are here to occupy them now, let's give them the ownership titles.

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What we are doing every day is to give out thousands hectares of land on social concession to the people. We measure sizes, make plan, mobilize people with identifications to be selected at random to occupy it and to even clear the land for them.

While tens of thousands of families already occupy the land, why else shall we make random selection, just go in and build them roads, schools, hospitals, etc. I would urge HE Sar Kheng to instruct officials to do that in the case of Boeng Pram and Roneam Daun Sam. Let's make a village for them.

Once the ownership rights are given out, you may want to wait and see there will be many tile-roof houses going up. They will have grown various fruit trees and the rate of poverty would lower too. I would urge HE Chhay Than, Minister of Planning, which involves in following up the poverty rate, to go on with this work of socio-economic survey, particularly those areas after we provide them with ownerships rights to see the difference they will be making to their living condition and standard.

Primary Land Ownership Titles

I think we will satisfy our people's aspiration and would urge them not to create conflicts about land boundary and/or to encroach upon others to enlarge what one has. What has been from May 8, the day the order comes into force officially, the status quo must be kept.

For the moment we could not issue our people hard ownership title but primary title paper will be printed for the

people. I would urge Banks and Microfinance associations to recognize and treat the primary titles as equally legal as that of the hard titles in their banking loan process. The primary land ownership titles will become hard land ownership titles only matter of time. The final land ownership titles, which could have been printing now, will be given at any time later.

The Mechanism of Sub-Decree 118

We will have to deal with this issue using the Sub-decree 118, which is relating to state land management. We have already delegated the power and task of issuing land titles to the provincial Head of Office of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction. We also have the Sub-decree 118 guides on the formula of giving related functions to the provincial governors. Now that we have given the governors the power, I hope they would do a pretty good job for the people, or I would have to come set up the tent myself. I think the provincial governors are happy now. Now HE Im Chhun Lim will have to be active together with the provincial governors and send out topography staffs. Some people said what Hun Sen does is to gather supports and votes. I may respond to them that being in power I am thinking of the people's interest than you are for the votes.

I heard that in Kompot there are also actions to mobilize people to occupy community land. I am warning you not to set up a state within a state. A commune is not a state. A district is not a state. The province is not too. We have only one state – Cambodia. There are neither secessions nor illegally powerful persons.

The circular 02 dated February 26, 2007 states on illegal occupation of state land and orders confiscation. Still, in point sixth, we have a policy that goes: *“the landless, poor, vulnerable family/person who illegally occupies the state land is entitled to no indemnity, but the Royal Government could allow them an appropriate size of land for cultivation or residence as is defined in point seven of the circular.”*

What we have come up in point seven about giving land to people is not by chance. So, you may reconsider your reactions that all we did is for gaining supports or votes.

With Prime Minister Hun Sen, People Get Land

That is not what they thought and said it is. (I have) done everything from the time when people died everyday to the time people are saved and now free from war and in development, in my term of power and as long as Hun Sen is in power, it is my right that people will get their share of land. You (in the opposition) do not have the rights yet. I also make it clear to our people that no one could beside the Royal Government to give you the rights to own the land. You may support the opposition or join with so and so NGOs, but it is the rule that you have to bring your attention to the sub-national level authorities and legal state institutions. The opposition parties could give us recommendations but they do not have rights to grant you anything as they do not have it.

Let me make it clear too that for all three categories of land mentioned above, actions must be taken swiftly. The day after tomorrow I will leave for Mexico and I will

review that on video conference when I return to find out what has been done and what remains to be taking care of. Please allow me to reiterate and urge HE Im Chhun Lim once again about the topography staffs. As for the students who will get involved, I will cover their expenses. In some provinces, as far as I am informed, they may have their staff ready too.

Social Land Concession

Now is issue of *social land concession*. This job is to be continuing. All land that are confiscated from companies failed in economic land concession projects last year and this year, HE Chan Sarun may note this, will be given to the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction. This year we have taken the land back from five more companies and they will be kept for giving out as land on social concession. I urge people who are in need of land to demand for it but not to use threat of any kind as what happened in Kbal Chhay, where hundreds of houses were built overnight and claimed to have been there since 1982.

How could various human rights organizations and the like believe so when in 1982 the place was actually battlefield? How could they make it so damn that the Government is killing its own people? Take for instance what happened in the commune of Prama, they mobilized people to build thousands of cottages and declared dissolving the authorities and acted as one with rights and power to give land to people, who had to be member of Association of the Democrats. Would a country of yours allow this? An association instated itself to be a

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state. I think the human rights commission in Phnom Penh also went to see it. You may ask those people in the place if the state took away their land. Luckily despite all that those people could finally go to vote (in the communal councilor elections).

In this case people have been misled by some chieftains in Phnom Penh and they are under arrest warrants. They do not recognize the village, communal administration and placed a barricade at entry forcing people to become its members. Warrants of arrest have been issued for five people. I urge them to step out and confess so that they could be relieved of the wrongdoings. No matter where you are, extradition will be coming to you.

We will go for them no matter where they maybe. At the same time I am regretful for the death of a young girl in the event of removing the anarchic people. We are regretful for losing flesh and blood of Cambodians and share her family's grief and condolence. This is nothing though compared to those who have committed various mistakes like wrong target bombings which killed many people in Afghanistan but no one dare condemn them. Maybe it is now time to understand about Cambodia and Cambodians. Let's stop tell others to be clean while you are so dirty.

In the old days, under the regime of Sangkum Reastrnium, people were sent from the plain areas to settle in highland areas. In 1985/86, I went to Takeo and sent 100 teachers to Ratanakiri province. Only six stay there now. In the 1980s, we spent money for people to reclaim land but now they have done it them-

selves. I also warn our people not to claim land anymore (without the permission of the state). You now can demand for social land concession, on which after five years it will be yours.

I would urge the Minister of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction to give it a size larger like two or three hectares as they may have bigger family sooner or later. If they could grow rubber altogether, it will be marvelous for Cambodia.

Let's wait for the reaction to this message. They may say what power does Hun Sen possess that he could give land to the people? It is the power vested in me by the people. If I do not have rights to give land to people, I do not need to be a Prime Minister. They said something in support of our policy of fishery reform but also make it to their gain that that was what they have proposed long time ago. How could that be as this happened since when her/his party was not even born yet? S/he has not yet become a member of the National Assembly. It is not even more so if they claim it to be carried out because of pressure from the opposition parties or international community.

Water Territory and Island Ownerships for Further Study

As far as ownership titles to water territory and islands, I am leaving them for further study and thorough legal consideration by the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction.

As of the moment, people are entitled to two out of the three rights – rights to reside, rights to use but not rights to manage/regulate het. It is in this

context that people do not have ownership titles yet. Take for instance, shall we or shall we not give ownership titles on land in the lake of Tonle Sap? It is a huge issue.

We still have islands in the sea, what do we go about doing with them? As of now we only provide them with rights to use and reside but not manage/regulate, only all of which could make it ownership title.

Leaving the lake of Tonle Sap aside, some places in the Kandal's districts of Sa Ang, Koh Thom, and places like them, where residents spend six moths on land and another six months underwater, but all fishery lots had been removed, ownership titles could be given. Some kind of certification must be given for them to ascertain their residence and use in specified areas in the lake of Tonle Sap so that no one would bother their livings.

Let me assert here to HE Im Chhun Lim about illegal occupation of state land. For these cases we need to issue transferences from public state land to private state land according to the circular 02. Public state land, which has been redeemed from illegal occupation, according to the circular, could not be object of sale, long-term lease, giving out as concession or as private ownership.

Therefore, forest covered land which is illegally occupied must be consecrated from public state land to private state land so that they could be given out to people. As far as the economic land concession is concerned, such transference has been done already. All we need to do is to issue a notification of approval and measure size for the people...■

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Royal Government, at least 50% like them if not 100%. I told to (HE Nhek Bun) Chhay, Deputy Prime Minister that judging from what I have learnt, as soon as that party with that state of mind joins with Funcinpec in the coalition government, I would chase (Nhek Bun Chhay's) Funcinpec out of the coalition.

I would not allow those parties to be part of and scold the Royal Government. They come to me for help. I did help. When they lost the elections, they blamed me for having created another political party to run in opposition and drew the votes from Funcinpec and the Royal Government did not react when the opposition party scolded the Royal Government. That faction always threatens us that it would become an opposition. They may be one now and does not have to wait any longer. On June 16, there was a letter written to me and upon my return from abroad I instructed: "I have seen it. No need to respond." With that up in their sleeves we could not afford to risk giving the sword handle to someone who might thrust through unpredictably anytime. I have seen the two splashing at each other. Now I am standing in protection of Nhek Bun Chhay as I asked him to make his decision.

The Cambodian People's Party has no necessity to include you into national force because of such intention of yours. Funcinpec in the coalition government is already a national force and that national force is in the coalition with this national force (CPP) already. I am sorry that we could not play together. I will go on with Nhek Bun Chhay and there is no need to include anyone else...■