

# Cambodia New Vision

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**26 May 2005** (Unofficial Translation of Selected Comments)

## Visiting a Water Reservoir in Kompong Cham's Oreang Ov



12 May 05 - Samdech Hun Sen at the inauguration of the National Institute of Polytechnics in the suburb of Phnom Penh (Photo: Virakmuny)

*During a visit to the water reservoir of Krahamkor in the commune of Srah Chalk, district of Oreang Ov of Kompong Cham province, Samdech Hun Sen discoursed on selected memories relating to the site, issues of drought and rain prediction.*

... After the report by HE Lim Keanhor, Minister of Water Resources and Meteorology, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the efforts made by the people of the three districts around the reservoir of Krahamkor, Oreang Ov of Kompong Cham, Kanhchreach and Komchay Mea of Prey Veng province. After my visit here on January 07 this year, today's visit is indeed a chance for me to recall my living here in the past. If I was not mistaken, I came by and spent the night in February 1973 in the village of Tuol Takey.

... Our people here may remember that somewhere nearby the Tuol Takey pagoda, there was then a Pol Pot troop location taking part in a military exercise aimed at

opening attack on the (Lon Nol's) troops at the Tonle Bet barrack. The third anniversary of the March-1973 declaration and appeal of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, who headed the Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea, to liberate our people from foreign expression, eventually brought me to this area. In 1973, as a commander from (the Kompong Cham) military region and those from the (Prey Veng's) region met for a discussion near the rubber plantation, in what was an order to launch an assault into the town of Kompong Cham.

... After being wounded in the assault, I was brought to the hospital KII in those days for the treatment of my eye's wound. It was also from this place since before my eye wound I was in the Baoslung's military training camp, and from there I was sent to Doeum Sdao in the district of Koh Sotin. My wife was also sent to Prek Komg Khnong and Prek Komg Krao for labor work to  
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**19 May 2005**

## Opening the Drug Control Cooperation Meeting

... I have great honor and pleasure to join you all in the opening of this Ministerial Meeting of Signatory Countries on the 1993 Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control Cooperation. At the outset, I would like to convey a warm greeting from His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah **Norodom Sihamony**, the King of Cambodia and great wishes from people of Cambodia to all of you, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, may I welcome all your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen for coming to the land of Angkor to partici-

pate in this important meeting at the Siem Reap province, the city surrounded by splendid temples with a well crafted architecture and design which is one of the world wonders. During your stay in Siem Reap, I hope that Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen would take this exceptional opportunity to visit recreational areas, in particular the Angkor complex which is a great cultural achievement of human kinds and our famous historical heritage. I also would like to welcome all observers in this meeting and the **ACCORD** meeting here in Siem Reap a few days ago.

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**07 May 2005** (Unofficial Translation of Selected Comments)

## Inaugurating a Buddhist Temple of Kandal's Anlong Romeat

... I wish to express my sincere thanks and joyfulness for returning to share with all of our people here the new achievements in the pagoda of Anlong Romeat in the district of Kandal Stoeung of Kandal province, after my return in March to put into use the Primary School of Prek Kompoeus. May I seek forgiveness from the head monks, cleric committee, Buddhist parishioners and all charitable persons who have pooled their resources in putting together all developments in this pagoda, for the rescheduling of the inauguration of the temple. Because I will have to leave Cambodia tomorrow on trip to Japan. I would thank our people and the general contributors, for which includes the laying down of the cornerstone to today.

Vorn in gathering assistances from various contributors for realizing achievements in the pagoda in the past 26 years. Despite his polio-caused handicap in childhood, the head monk has made true the leadership for development in general for the pagoda. HE Governor Lay Sunpha already reported the background of the pagoda, which came into being 82 years ago. The pagoda has so far been placed under the leadership of five generation of head monks. The new temple that we are putting into use today took only a little more than a year to finish the construction, which is very fast. The  
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build dikes for rice fields, which links one part to this canal that we are building today.

... After my visit to inaugurate the Buddhist temple of Chroy Thmar of Kompong Cham, I came here with HE former Governor of Kompong Cham HE Mr. Chieng Am to visit the irrigation by the group of HE Lim Keanhor in the area around the lake of Krahamkor. I have recommended and ordered a thorough study of the water resource and its irrigation coverage potential to be conducted. Indeed we have more requests from our elderly people here to have more roads renovated, etc.

... I would respond that what we have been doing so far has indeed begun and more needs to be fulfilled. I order that the water resource with so extensive potential of the Krahamkor reservoir should be made use to a full extent and effectively as it covers a huge area from Kompong Cham province to Prey Veng and Svay Rieng provinces, with a start in the district of Oreang Ov of Tropeang Chor and Kanhchreach of Kamchay Mea.

... Our way forwards is to put in more water canals to address our need for water for irrigation. Having said so I would suggest that where there have been water reservoirs, one has to tackle problems in making use of the water potential for irrigation in the area, no matter how far it could be, one kilometer, twenty or even thirty kilometers. We have to do it bit by bit everyday, and not necessarily all at once. As the construction of such facilities is running throughout the country, we have an inadequate number of construction machines to respond to all at the same time, as our budget is limited. As we are building canals, I would respond here to the request for roads that all canals will have the soil from canal holes built as roads.

... Working towards rural areas, three components of action should

be interchangeably applied – 1) irrigation, 2) roads and 3) schools, which are the three priorities. In some places we have in the past provided either with schools or roads, or both, water for irrigation should perhaps be shifted in to the focus, as we could solve only one need at a time.

... This year we have a serious problem of drought though I have notice during my flight here that some rains have come to some parts of our country, but some are still going to miss the early rainy season rice. There have been rains in Battambang, Pursath and some areas, but none has come to Kompong Speu, for which reason the canals “Ta Hor” (or canals built by Mr. Lim Keanhor) about 70 kilometers is left completely dried.

... In Vietnam, there have been some rains in the south but not in the north leaving their hydro-power insufficient of water to turn the turbine. In Thailand they are trying their best to make rain, but drought is still present in many places. Today we organize the traditional ploughing ceremony. I do not know what those oxen would eat and what the prediction will be from the Royal experts. I have not been attending the ceremony since 2000 because I can't imagine that things would turn out the way those oxen behave, if we do not make efforts to resolve them.

... I would in this instance urge our people not to sell all-out land ownership just to exercise political party affiliation rights. I would not be against the practice, but once you sold out all your properties and you could get nothing back, you become deprived farmers, the result of which you blame on the Government to make the country poorer. I think they should not let themselves be cheated anymore. As I understand our people should strengthen solidarity to identify their common problems and seek out means to resolve them, no matter if it was an issue of school, road or water canal. I would not

want to hear, in the coming communal elections in 2007, and the general election in 2008, of people being cheated.

... As a contribution to bring down the agricultural input, I would seek all means to slash the price. I would attract more investors to come to Cambodia to produce fertilizer in the country so that the price would be encouraging for our farmers. I would like to see high yield and output when we have canals for irrigation.

... HE Minister of Agriculture Chan Sarun would soon send here new rice seed so that we could produce from two to four ton of paddy rice per hectare. Once the yield is high our people will have a better living condition. I wish to also have good students when there are schools building everywhere. In our combat against poverty all I am asking for is our people's participation, and it is indeed a pleasure once the poverty chain is broken off.

... *As for those requests I have here, I am offering two school buildings of ten classrooms to the secondary school of Tuol Takey, a school building of five classrooms to its primary school, and a three-room office building plus the latrines, two school buildings of ten classrooms to the Secondary School of Tuol Sophi, one five-classroom for the primary school and a three-room building, together will be 18 rooms in response to demand only ten rooms. I wish to also contribute a sum of five million Riels to the Primary School of Puddhea for the leveling of land in the school yard and school fence, ten million Riels for the finishing of the roof of the Buddhist temple of Tropeang Rokar pagoda, with a six-classroom school building, ten million Riels for the pagoda of Chalk commune to buy roof tiles, and a road of three kilometers to the people of the village of Choeung Ok in the Chalk commune. EndItem. ■*

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assessment on accountability and judgment on advantages or disadvantages. Moreover, conducting an inspection implies that ones contribute to curbing or fighting corruption, a key factor damaging the implementation of the RGC's development policies. Thus, inspection is an important task because any institution or leader shall manage to implement their policies or strategies they had introduced. Then, while implementing those they shall conduct monitoring or inspection to get feedbacks or warning for implementation. Thus, one would say “management requires inspection: no inspection, no management” or, in other word, “leadership requires review: no review, no leadership”.

So far, the Royal Government has introduced many strategies. If there has been no inspection, we cannot know how it is implemented, is there participation and support from the public, and what are the implications? Is the introduced policy relevant, does it need any improvement or not? In this sense, inspection serves as a link between management and public; it implies that “inspection serves as eyes and ears of management and close friend of subordinates”. Indeed, inspection is required by the Royal Government for all institutions for their long term and clear judgment on their performance, and using this as a tool for improvement and corrective measures on a timely and responsive basis.

Within this framework, I would like the conference concentrates on the role of inspection and should well assign, manage and strengthen inspection functions in order to enhance the performance of its unit for the firm progress of the Royal Government. In actual practices, both central and local levels of some institutions presently have not established inspection units, but some lack of staff to fulfill these tasks. The top level only inform the work of the lower level through the reports without acknowledge the different be-

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 between reports and actual works. Moreover, complaints and defamations were never investigated or were incompletely investigated or were completely investigated without reports to the management. There are some works prolonged for months and years. I hope that after this conference, who of you are the heads of institutions, local authorities and heads of units will well acknowledge the important and special features of inspections and work hard to strengthen and expand its activities by assigning competent staff to implement these works well and efficiently.

Aforementioned, inspection is a hard work and requires high skills staff in term of competency, morality, experiences and organization. If the inspectors were incompetent, inexperienced and lack of clear sight knowledge, they would not able to fulfill these works since they cannot identify problems, analyze issues, make conclusion and evaluate those problems explicitly and implicitly. In this regard, the management lost their trust and those who being inspected were discontent. Nevertheless, if inspection staff were incompetent in checking and assessing the problems, it would create distrust and made up documents to conceal the truth. Competency, experiences and knowledge, therefore, are necessary to establish trustworthiness.

Also, characteristics and morality are important since competency inspector without good morality and behavior cannot do a well inspection which is honest and take time. Therefore, the development of inspection team preliminary required competency, experiences, knowledge, morality, good behavior, honest, hard-working, seriousness, struggling and patient. It is true that without hard-working, seriousness, struggling and patient, inspectors cannot attain the assigned works.

At the same time, inspection requires carefully and wisely consideration with clear planning and

programs. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Inspection has to provide guidance to internal inspection and inspection of line ministries, institutions, secretariats, and units under its authority in their expertise, policies, circulations and government's decisions in order to implement them effectively. In this spirit, the management has to clearly determine the most important works, assign staff to do inspection, and make appropriate assessments for the management to make a final decision avoiding blocking the other works which might affect the benefit of the nation and people. Truthfully, the complaint and defamation cases that the Ministry works hard to investigate can assure rights respecting, freedom, democracy and law enforcement. By doing a good inspection, people will put trust and hope. Up to now, some ministries/institutions and units have never cooperated with inspection teams with some excuses and distrust the conclusions and evaluation of the inspectors. In this sense, All the ministries/institution and relevant units have to work cooperatively with inspection teams and provide required documents timely and openly.

The last remark that is also important is leadership is extremely necessary. As mentioned above, **“Leadership is subject to inspection. If no inspection, it is not a leadership”**. Talking about management, we should have planning, implementation, monitoring or constantly inspecting. With inspection, we would know the implementation match to the planning or not. Moreover, with inspection we would know how much we achieved and we found both good and bad experience as well as unexpected factors in order to timely adjust and take measure to implement.

Remarkably, even though inspection teams work to inspect all works and level and is not judge, they help the management to make attain their objectives and in efficient manner. If the management team were unjust and the management lack of consid-

eration, the solution would be inappropriate and lost its influence to other institutions. So, the inspection staff must be just, independence and cautious. We all known, the inspection staff is subjective while they are assigned to work at a specific, people there will connect and lobby them to do in their favor. Therefore, the inspection report contains untruth and unjust and this cases should avoid and carefully control. The most essential to avoid is the different comment of inspection team and its management. We had such case already while inspection staff's recommendations were different to those provided by its management. In short, inspections require participation and support from the leaders of the institutions to have a smooth work. The participation of people should be incorporated as a mechanism to inform the people. Therefore, inspection should employ the staff who are competence, experience, and knowledgeable with participation of the leaders of ministries/institutions and people.

To well precede the conference as planned and scheduled, I would like to ask all member of conference for comments and exchange idea and implement experience. Moreover, I would like to ask all ministries/institutions, provincial/municipal authorities and people cooperate and facilitate the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Inspections in legislations, law dissemination, linkage to morality education, and the links between legislation and execution as stated in sub-decree to establish the Ministry... I would like to ask all institutions, provincial or municipal authorities and people cooperate and facilitate the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Inspections to fulfill its duties effectively. All ministries/institutions have to promote activities of general inspection department and inspection department in order to inform the progress to the leader on the implementation of staff and to take measures to timely fix the problems...■

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 erate more employment for Cambodian youth and workers as well as absorb more national and international investors.

Within the spirit of pridelful achievements that we have work hard together to attain and the optimism for the future of Cambodia, I would like to appeal to managements, civil servants, employees and workers of the port to exert more efforts to express our willingness, capacity and efficiency of our work to national and international communities to transform the port to be the one that really serve international trade.

... I would like to ask for all relevant agencies and units to increase their cooperation and closely coordination in transparent and efficient manner in order to improve the service management system at all levels. Indeed, showing the willingness, capacity, and efficiency in our work is essential to instill more confidence to customers, national and international investors, and donor community on our commitment in building and developing the nation.

... On behalf of Royal Government and Cambodian people, I would not forget to extend my thanks to governments, people and development agencies who constantly support us mentally, materially and in terms of budget for causes of nation unity, rehabilitation, and development of Cambodia economy via rehabilitation and construction of transportation infrastructure that are the key for economic growth and poverty reduction...

I appreciate and encourage the managements, civil servants, employees, and workers of Sihanouk Ville Autonomous Port, local authority, and all relevant institutions who put utmost effort to successfully implement strategic plan that has been adopted by the Royal Government in order to promote trade sector through development of seaport transport and related infrastructure...■

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resource pooled in to realize such achievements has been recorded at US\$ 110,500, which again is a big sum of money. I am very grateful to the honor given to me to lay the main stone to inaugurate the temple.

... I have had many invitations from various pagodas, but I have scheduled to lay the symbolic stone to inaugurate only three pagodas, one in the pagoda in my native village of Stoeung Trang district in Kompong Cham, one in Takeo province and this one of the pagoda of Anlong Romeat. These are the achievements of the Buddhist world but is indeed having direct and tremendous repercussion on the secular world, especially in educating people of the Buddhist ways of resolving one's own problem, judging between wrong and right, pursuing a life of dignity and morality in the society.

... As we have heard from the Governor's report just now that we have 387 pagodas in the province of Kandal in which lived some 6230 Buddhist monks. Take Kandal Stoeung district alone, we have 35 pagodas with a sum of 390 Buddhist monks. This stresses my usual remarks that we have more pagodas than military bases.

... In Kandal Stoeung district, most of the pagodas were damaged by war as the area was the safety belt of Phnom Penh in the war in 1973. The last part of the damage was conducted by the Khmer Rouge's regime. Taking this solemn occasion I wish to express my sincere thanks and appreciations for the work-team led by HE Dul Koeum, HE Ngin Khom, HE Hing Bun Heang and others to provide assistance to the people in the district.

... I wish to recall that HE Dul Koeun had been transferred from Koh Thom to Kandal Stoeung's district to do this job and he is now transferred to the district of Kien Svay, relieving HE Ho Noun and HE Mom Chim Huy to overview positions throughout the province. HE Ngin Khom and Hing Bun

Heang will stay in Kandal Stoeung, HE Suon Sitthi will take over Angsnuol, while HE Em Sam Aan and Lim Kean Hor continue to work in Muk Kampoul and Punnhealeu respectively.

... We have now come to the end of the month of Chetr (the fifth month in the lunar calendar and the dry season of the year) and it recalls us of a song of Mr. Keo Saraat that "the month of Chetr had gone, the month of Pisaak (the six month in the lunar calendar and the start of the rainy season) has come, the Khmer people start working on rainy season rice cultivation." But in reality this year the rainy season has yet to come.

... According to various international weather forecasts Cambodia was to have rain on Friday. But there was none. I wish to make today a sacred day for asking the rain to come. We also have a song that goes "may there be rain the Cambodian farmers need you..." This year drought has become worse as in addition to no rain, the level of underground water has gone deep down unlike every year. In some parts of our country the people could not fetch underground water for consumption anymore as the underground water level receded from fetching. Drought also affects neighboring countries and effort to make rain has brought about only too little rain.

... Take this area last year, we already had water in rice field along the national road 3 from the Canal O Kraing Ambel to the village of Proteah Lang. We organized a boat race in Roleang Ken in the Khmer New Year period in 2004, but we now have no water at all. As of now hundreds of worksites are under operation to provide better irrigation for our people.

... As usual, at the beginning of the new Government's term, there has always been a tough test. Because of those hard tests, I have put out a well-known and

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form that we can provide supports to our partners in the regions and other places in all forms related to sentencing in the cases of drug trafficking and production. Moreover, the mutual-help cooperation within a regional law framework is one of the good steps forward to reveal about the network of transnational organized crimes. They can run, but they have no place to hide from law and effective sentence.

For instance, we have to work together as a regional working group to develop consultation, treatment and drug rehabilitation services by using community as a base and considering illegal drug users as victims rather than criminals who should be imprisonment. A special concern should be concentrated on using "YABA" drug among youth who are the economic resources to build peace and prosperity in the future of our countries.

In this spirit, it is necessary to share our experiences to reduce the demand of illegal drugs particularly amphetamines that provide unhealthy boost of energy among the youth. As an initial point, we are able to set up regional low cost, effective, targeted and estimate-able strategies that are able to provide knowledge and wide prevention, that include halting HIV transmission via sexual intercourse under the

long-lasting recommendation that "no one should be left to die of hunger without the knowledge of the authority." Of course food security does not mean only to cultivate rice. Our people may pursue whatever legal means to acquire money enough to purchase rice for their consumption too. Some countries also have destructive consequences – of different kinds. Some suffered drought, while some suffered earthquakes, or flooding.

... There have been requests from various spheres of opinions that since we do not have rain why

influence of drug and other drug injection. In short, we all have a foundation to set up procedures and various cooperation that is an international treaty for drug control in 1961, 1971 and 1988. Also, I would like to emphasize that Cambodia has ratified the three treaties and amended Law on Drug Control in the way to increase the punishment to the maximum. Recently, we continue to improve our capabilities and to appeal for the international supports to enable Cambodia to be qualified with conditions of those three treaties. We hope that we will obtain full support for human resources development and effectiveness of our capacities building to combat transnational organized crimes, women and children trafficking as well as combating money laundering and terrorism.

The issues that I pointed out today are really important and we are under the serious challenges. I urge you all to double your efforts to build trust in all forms of cooperation to combat the transnational organized crimes and in drug control. Again, I would like to reaffirm the willingness of the Royal Government, which is always a real and effective partner in regional mechanism framework among the signatory countries of MOU in 1993 on the drug control cooperation as well as bi-lateral and multi-lateral cooperation mechanism to fight against our common enemy...■

don't we try and collect water from underground. Taking underground water for drinking and irrigating household gardening needs is alright but overuse of underground water would result in unimaginable consequences and a thorough study has to be conducted in this matter. According to the study done by JICA, in the Angkor Area, only a few ball holes for water from underground could be drilled. Along with this the Ministry of Water Resource is conducting its study as to how much water could be made use from underground and its consequences...■

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research firms that have fulfilled their respective responsibilities to ensure both technical and quality standards for the institution.

I would like to take this opportunity to recall again that because of the vigorous implementation of the “*Triangle Strategy*”, the Royal Government during the previous Second Legislature of the National Assembly has created favorable environment as well as necessary and sufficient conditions both within and outside the country for Cambodia to move forward, with hope and strong confidence, on the path of reforms towards progress. Indeed, the success in implementing the “*Win – Win*” policy make Cambodia to have a tremendous transformation in the world arena from uncertainties due to internal conflicts, prolonged war, instability and backwardness to a country, which respects human rights and dignity, including cooperation and development. We have transparently shown to the international partners that Cambodia certainly has the capacity to equally involve with equal rights in the regional and global affairs. Indeed, all the above factors have created confidence in Cambodia indicated by the increase of investment flows and tourists into Cambodia in the past 10 years. The tourists from Korea have increased yearly and at the present it turns to be number one in Cambodia. Through this we have created many jobs to increase population income in order to contribute to implement the National Strategy aiming at poverty reduction and moving forward to have a notable development of a nation.

In addition, the Royal Government of the Third Legislature of the National Assembly is transforming Cambodia into a country with the rule of law to guarantee people rights and promote sustainable and equitable economic growth in order to practically reduce poverty of the population. We have made tremendous efforts to overcome many challenges to move our country to attain pro-

gress, prosperity and harmony. Without doubt, the Royal Government has a vision and clear strategy to gradually implement its activity programs in all areas and sectors. In fact, we can observe all over the country the physical infrastructure in terms of roads, bridges, schools, hospitals, temples, ports and irrigation systems that are the results attained by the Royal Government during the past 10 years. All these are the important basis for country future development. Moreover, the Royal Government has been actively focusing in developing irrigation system and canals to help the population to overcome their problems in agricultural plantation. Taking this opportunity, I would like to appeal to all levels of authorities, national and international organizations as well as to all donor countries to continue to support Cambodia in order for us to successfully realize the development of economic infrastructures, particularly rehabilitation of irrigation system aiming at agricultural development, which is the key sector where the foundation of Cambodia economy lies, and to attain the aspect of the “*Rectangular Strategy*” of the Royal Government called “*For Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency*”.

If we observe each strategic angle of the Rectangular Strategy, we will clearly see that all of the four sectors in this strategy require human resource with good education and professional and technical training. Within this framework, it is required that the **National Institute of Polytechnic** and all other educational establishments in Cambodia, both public and private, must pay more attention on quality management of their education and training programs, that need to conform with international standards, especially it is important to focus on research and to link theory with practice in order to assure that after their graduation, our students will be qualified to go on with their careers.

Our population is now around 13 millions, in which 6 millions constitute the full labor force. Labor force rate in Cambodia increases by 17.6% annually that is the burden and obligation that cannot be overlooked. We must consider boosting employment rate to proportionately increase along with labor force rate. This will ensure employment for our people. With this tendency, the National Policy on Education, Professional and Technical Training must consider to bring all labor forces after secondary school graduation to seek more professional or all kinds and levels of technical training in order to constitute as the driving force for the development of our nation. This means that a country cannot achieve development goals if it lacks highly qualified human resource.

In this sense, I am strong convinced that the **National Institute of Polytechnic** will be one of the biggest centers that provide practical knowledge in professional and technical skills through the most modern equipments in Cambodia. It will also be the leading and core center in professional and technical training. Indeed, the **Cambodian National Institute of Polytechnic** is not only the symbol of the cooperation between Cambodia and the Republic of Korea, but it is also the symbol of new vision of Cambodian society from now to the future. It means that this important performance reflects human resource development efforts that balance between human resource with theoretical mindset and those with practical professional skills and expertise. It also balances between supply and demand in human resource.

In the view of achieving the above critical tasks, I urge the management of the **Cambodian National Institute of Polytechnic** and all other related ministries/institutions to consider on the following important points:

1. Project implementing unit which is headed by H.E. **Ith**

**Sam Heng**, minister of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation has accomplished their duties. For this reason, on behalf of the Royal Government, I hereby declare the transfer of this institute to be placed under the responsibility of the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training and to be organized as public administrative establishment,

2. The institution responsible for the management of the institute must pay attention on strengthening continuity and developing the institute to be the core in training activities in Cambodia through strategic tasks in managing the institute with the saying **Cambodian National Institute of Polytechnic** for Economic Prosperity, Progress and Change.
3. We need to link professional and technical training to domestic and regional labor market. It is also important to provide training to labor force that go to work in the Republic of Korea as tourist guides, factory employees or in Korean enterprises in Cambodia.
4. This institute must seek revenue sources from technical services provision such as vehicles and machinery repairs, revenue from renting premises for workshop or forum on new technology research for industry application.
5. The Ministry of Economy and Finance is responsible for granting regular budget to the institute in early years of its operations so that it can gradually establish its notoriety before it can resume all the burdens.
6. The Cambodian National Institute of Polytechnic has been constructed in a location, which is greatly favorable for future development. It is because the surrounding areas of the institute are feasible for establish-

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**17 May 2005****Remarks at the Parliamentary Affairs 2005 Stock-taking Meeting**

... I have great pleasure and honor to join you all in the opening of the Stock-taking Conference of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Inspection! This conference is indeed very important with the participation of Your Excellencies Chairmen of the Nine Committees and Secretaries General and Deputies of the National Assembly and Senate, the Leaders of the RGC's Ministries and Institutions, as well as the management and staff of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Inspection. On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia and my own self, may I express my sincere congratulation and profound appreciation to all the participants of the conference, and to the management and staff of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Inspection for your utmost efforts in organizing this conference.

Very shortly, the conference will take stock of the performance in the past and set new directions for our plan 2005, thus all our efforts will contribute to implementing the political platform of the 3<sup>rd</sup> mandate Royal Government of Cambodia who has introduced the Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency in Cambodia. With the implementation of this very important strategy, it is required that all ministries/institutions, local authorities and the civil servants at all levels to participate and support this, with spirit of high responsibility. However, while we are collectively mobilized to implement the strategy, it is also required to have a strict and close monitoring of the process whether it is on the right track? Thus, the RGC, in this sense, established the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Inspection as a government's mechanism to strengthen the people's awareness on laws and regulations, as well as to monitor law enforcement and implementation of the RGC's policy agenda in order to strengthen good governance, adherence to and enforcing laws, thus finally increasing effective-

ness in fighting corruption, eliminating the red-taps and reducing the poverty. As it is the first time for me to participate in the conference of the ministry, I would like to share with the conference my common views on works in relation to parliamentary affairs and inspection as follows:

**I. Parliamentary Affairs**

The parliamentary affairs have greatly and actively contributed to implementing the RGC's political platform, whose responsibility is not limited to the relations and coordination between local authorities and the RGC and between the RGC and the two legislative bodies, but also it involves drafting and facilitation and coordination in drafting laws and regulations ensuring the consistency with the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia and effective use and coverage. More specifically, the RGC has tasked the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Inspection to review and improve the draft anticorruption law in order to incorporate additional legal provisions that the RGC has pledged with donor community, in the last CG meeting, to bring the law up to international standard.

The law dissemination presents an important task of the ministry who acts on behalf of the RGC to bring the laws and regulations to people across the country in order to enhance the respect for and enforcement of laws, thus reducing corruption and violation, enhancing social justice, creating culture of peace and non-violence, and strengthening the rule of laws and democracy.

**II. Inspection**

As I have raised earlier, if we want to get all the activities of ministries and institutions right, it requires close and strict monitoring. The term "inspection" means control, monitoring, survey or study on any activity or its performance in order to make an

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ment of small-medium and even big enterprises. In this sense, I urge the Korean and all other foreign investors to consider settling their enterprises in this area with the watchword **"Enterprise Helps the Institute, the Institute Supports the Enterprise"**.

Before ending, I urge our Korean friends to support the **Cambodian National Institute of Polytechnic** which is the symbol of cooperation between Cambodia and the Republic of Korea to

continually operate and develop professional and technical training to catch up with modern technology development. At the same time, I warmly congratulate the cooperation between the **Cambodian National Institute of Polytechnic and Junju University** of the Republic of Korea. I also support this great cooperation to continue in the future for the good of professional and technical training in Cambodia and for the cause of strengthening economic, social and cultural cooperation between Cambodia and the Republic of Korea. ■

**01 May 2005****Inaugurating and Breaking Ground of New Container Ports**

... I have great honor and pleasure to participate in three joint events: the official opening of the 240m "Container Port", the ground breaking ceremony to start the construction of further 160m "Container Port" and an administrative building "one stop service" using loan from JBIC, and meeting with workers and staff of the Sihanoukville Autonomous Port to commemorate the Labor Day of 1<sup>st</sup> May 2005.

On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia and my own self, I congratulate you all in this commemorative event of the Labor Day here and today which remains of profound importance. This is good opportunity that I am able to meet and talk to all the 1163 staff and workers of the Sihanoukville Port which a model organization for its best performance, and it is a successful public enterprise with high returns paid to the government budget, good management, solidarity, disciplines and orders.

Specifically, when we talk about the importance of physical infrastructure this port is the gateway of our national economy which is strategic and potential in supporting national and international trade activities of Cambodia, promoting national economic growth in the past, now and in the future.

In this sense, on behalf of the RGC and my own self, I congratulate and appreciate the management of the Ministry of Public Work and Transport (MPWT), and especially the Board of Directors, managements and staffs and workers of the Sihanoukville Autonomous Port for their utmost efforts in producing best results every year. Indeed, all these are the contribution to reduce poverty among our population. Moreover, all our staff and workers have received appropriate benefits including the assurance on the working conditions, thus adhering to the practice of taking good care, honoring and dignifying our labor force. This is eventually the aspiration and spirit of May 1<sup>st</sup> Labor Day, and the strong commitment and policy of the Royal Government.

As H.E. Minister of MPWT has reported, this commemoration of Labor Day today follows the completion of the construction of 240m container port with the first installment loan from JBIC, while the second phase started in constructing another 160m container port and an administrative building in order to provide a quick, low cost and quality service to our clients and effectively compete with other international ports in regions and the world.

I am sure your efforts in developing the port and ensuring the effective  
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18 May 2005

**Inaugurating the National Institute of Polytechnics**

Today is a great day where I have a profound honor to participate in the inauguration of *Cambodia National Institute of Polytechnic*.

On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia and myself, may I express my sincere thanks to His Excellency *Lee Han-Gon*, the Ambassador of Republic of Korea to the Kingdom of Cambodia, all Your Excellency Ambassadors and representatives from international organizations for attending this event. I also would like to warmly welcome His Excellency *Park Jong-Keun*, Chairman of the Finance and Economy Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea as well as the members of the delegation representing the Korean counterpart that have actively involved in implementing project to establish this important institute.

I would like to inform Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen that the project to establish *Cambodia National Institute of Polytechnic* is one of the three big loan projects and can be consider as a fruitful outcome from the negotiation between His Excellency *Kim Dae Jung*, former president of the Republic of Korea and myself on behalf of the Royal Government during the official visit to the Republic of Korea in 2001 and another negotiation with His Excellency *Kim Dae Jung* at the ASEAN summit and ASEAN+3 in Brunei in 2001.

It should be also noted that since then the cooperation between the Royal Government of Cambodia and the Republic of Korea have been constantly progressed. At he same time this relationship has lead to many outcomes, one in particular in terms of establishing this *National Institute of Polytechnic*. This is one of the biggest projects in the area of professional training in Cambodia and in neighboring countries aiming at providing and enhancing technical professionalism to the level of the international standard and consis-

tent with the requirement of domestic and international labor market. From the successful development experiences of many countries such as Korea and Japan have clearly shown us that the subjective factor of their rapid progress is the human resource development. However, another important factor that we have observed is the balance between theoretical and technical human capitals and emphasis on balance between supply and demand of human resources. In this context, for Cambodia, the training of human resources, in terms of technical skills, has to be improved and consistent with trainings at the tertiary level. By doing so, we not only can sufficiently ensure human resources to perform technical work, but also we are aiming to generate employment for people, especially the development of SMEs that at the moment absorbing a large amount work forces in Cambodia.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to highly evaluate the active efforts of the implementing unit of this project, where His Excellency *Ith Samheng* as a Chairman, to successfully fulfill their responsibility designated by the Royal Government. I am also extending my appreciation to the Korean and Cambodian architectures and engineers that have included Khmer style in designing and crafting of main buildings which make the institute more beautiful, especially it reveals the culture of Cambodia. At the same time, may I express my positive reception for the good cooperation between all relevant ministries/institutions for their effective contribution to successfully establish this institution, in particular infrastructure project where the Royal Government is a counterpart as we all can see right now. I would like to cordially thank and appreciate the Korean firms and all relevant counterparts, including consulting, construction, material/equipment suppliers and

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tive work and operation using modern technology will definitely transform this port into an international port with high standards among regional and world ports. Thus, it will indeed contribute to enhancing the credibility of Cambodia in the international arena.

The development of this modern port infrastructure has completed when Cambodia succeeded in forming a new RGC and the coronation of His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromoneath **Norodom Sihamoni** as the new King of the Kingdom of Cambodia, with pride, praise and attention from national and international communities who highly appreciate that the Cambodia is indeed politically stable and peaceful.

These prideful results have enhanced the confidence of national and international communities on Cambodia, thus providing ample opportunity to attract foreign investments and tourists to Cambodia. All these are important as they generate employment and increase income for our Cambodian workers, and especially contribute to poverty reduction and increasing welfare of our people.

I would indicate that the development of this port including the human resource, management and working style and the furnishing new machineries will help promote good out-turns that corresponding to the government effort in rehabilitation and development of infrastructure to connect the existing and missing links across the country, especially linking the remote north-eastern region to the southwest-ern region, the seaport here.

This indeed helps accelerate integration of Cambodia into the region and the world, thus fast-tracking the poverty reduction among Cambodian population. All these include the use of private investments, foreign grants and loans to maintain the Na-

tional Road 4, the rehabilitation of National Road 3 from Veal Rinh to Trapaing Rapove that will be completed in June this year. Moreover, the improvement of this road from Trapaing Rapove to Kam-pot, implemented with concessional loan from ROK, has completed 18%, while the improvement of paved road number 48 from Koh Kong linked to NR4 has completed 16% of work.

On behalf of the RGC and my own self, I highly appreciate and fully support all the initiatives in continuing the development of this Sihanoukville Port. This includes the construction of 160 meters additional container-loading pier and 265 meters extra pier which equip with state-of-art **Gantry Cranes**, and an IT-equipped one-stop-service building where is capable to increase efficiency of the work. Those equipments not only facilitate container loading, but also reduce paper works, time and illicit costs.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to extend my thanks to Japanese Government that responsively enacted the 2<sup>nd</sup>-phase of the concessional loan from JBIC for this construction site that we are going to open shortly. Also, I would like to convey my deep gratitude to Japanese government via **JICA** that support a study on Phnom Penh-Sihanouk Ville Corridor Development Project in order to promote and facilitate the development of industrial zone.

Moreover, I highly appreciate the hard works and efforts of CDC, relevance institutions, and local authority for their cooperation to timely implement the development project on the areas of 50 hectares next to the port. The project will provide benefit to Cambodia economy, because it not only expands activities of Sihanouk Ville Port and plays as an attractive place for foreign direct investment, but also facilitate international flow of goods in convenient, timely and efficient manner.

Nevertheless, the project will gen-

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With opening of international borders and development of closer socio-economic relations between nations in different regions of the world, we all have faced with criminals that intent to interfere with our integration and to benefit from the above mentioned policies. What I am describing here is transnational organized crimes that can be compared to an evil, which appears every where and takes advantage on vulnerable ones for its own benefits.

In fact, this evil has many heads but one body. The body is a transnational crime that is well organized. One of its heads is the production and trafficking of illegal drugs. In this rapidly changing world, we are all facing with cheap and dangerous drug production, particularly drug produced from mixing different chemical substances that aiming at boys, girls, our youths as well as laborers. This is a challenging problem of future socio-economic sector for the nations in regions and one of main factors forcing the population into poverty.

Indeed, eradicating drug trafficking and production does not mean that we attained our objectives. As I have been emphasized the transnational organized crimes have many networks able to destroy our social foundations. Another network is related to human trafficking and undermining government system through corruption, which can affect the government administration, threaten the rule of laws as well as rights of people. Those criminals have to launder their money to make it “clean”. The money laundering is our main concern because those “dirty money” are supporting terrorist activities.

In order to eliminate transnational organized crimes or at least to minimize their activities, we have to make efforts to find counter-measures by mobilizing forces to crackdown the transnational crimes. To be successful on this matter, we must have a clear direction and set up different strategies

basing on all of potential factors existed in the country as well as actively providing incentives, financial and human resource support from outside the region to help us.

At the same time, we can honestly question each other whether the Memorandum of Understanding, which was created in the 1990 decade, still has all of the necessary strength to destroy this evil? Whether the Memorandum of Understanding can be a sharp sword to eliminate the network of transnational organized crimes? I think it is time that we have to review this Memorandum of Understanding to include all key matters of transnational organized crimes especially money laundering, human and weapon smuggling as well as corruption and terrorism to be parallel with the relevant regulations of the United Nations and other international organizations. I would like to table this issue for the meeting to consider and review for today and future discussions.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all and to highly appreciate the United Nations Office for Drug and Crimes for its continued efforts in helping the governments in this and other regions. Without this help, it would be difficult for us to prepare an effective preventive measure for every kind of drug control in the region and the world. I would like to appeal to all development partners in the international donor community to support UNODC's works because the aid has been minimal in the past compared to the huge benefit for different governments.

I would like to give you an example about the UNODC in my country. It has provided important aid to develop National Authority for Combating Drugs as well as the national policy program for drug control by spending a minimal but sufficient budget. Therefore, I would like to officially propose to upgrade temporary office of UNODC in Cambodia into a residence office

the same what UNODC has been doing in the neighboring countries in order to continue its important work, which is not only helping to support the 5 Years Drug Control Plan but also to coordinate our activities in combating transnational organized crimes especially corruption, money laundering and terrorism.

On behalf of the Royal Government, I would like to take this opportunity to express my profound thank and appreciation for the support and aid provided to Cambodia from other law enforcement institutions especially Australian Federal Police, Federal Drug Administration of the United States of America, French police, Canadian police and Japanese police etc. All of these cooperation and support are highly valuable and I would like to appeal to my officers to continue the active cooperation with all of international police forces.

To enhance the cooperation and drug control in Cambodia as well as the cooperation with other countries in the region and the world, we are now reviewing the Royal Decree on the establishment of National Authority for Combating Drugs and the sub-decree on the organization and process of the secretariat of the National Authority for Combating Drugs to be as quick as possible before the end of 2005. The amendment is aimed to make this institution to be independent, to have annual budget and comprehensive civil servant framework to enable them to work more efficiently in coordinating and leading the drug control activities in Cambodia.

Moreover, we have submitted to the National Assembly for approval on the United Nations Treaty on Anti Transnational Organized Crimes and its three protocols. We have been cooperating with the international law experts in preparing law on combating corruption in accordance to the international standard. We are pushing for the ratification of the remaining treaties on combat-

ing terrorism with the support from UNODC and other donors such as Australian and British governments. In the past years, we have achieved a lot of works in collecting information on illegal drug usage as well as detaining and seizing drugs in the half of the cities and provinces in Cambodia through the support from UNODC. I understand that such progress has also been made in the countries, that have ratified the Memorandum of Understanding.

Through the analyse and data collection, we, in terms of national, bi-lateral, multi-lateral and regional mechanism, are able to develop low-cost but highly efficient strategies and to specifically prevent the threat from drug trafficking. I hope that donor community will provide necessary resources to enable MOU signatory countries to develop capability on national data collection, which is considered as a prioritized matter.

At the same time, while the data on place, which has heavy drug trafficking, but the government officers are not able to collect enough evidences on the scene or the judicial system and police do not effectively cooperate to enforce the law, the final result will be in question. On the other hand, transnational organized crimes have occurred in many countries, so the question is how the crimes can be jointly combated if there is no cooperation of transnational law enforcement and mutual and effective help in judiciary? Therefore, if a part of the region is equipped with both equipments and techniques to combat illegal drug trafficking, regional and international communities should support the poor countries to assure that those countries will not become the victim of transnational organized crimes. For Cambodia, it is necessary to reform the judicial system as well as to fight against corruption among law enforcement officials, military, police and courts within an immediate framework. We clearly understand that only with such re-

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