



30 April 2016 - Samdech Techo Hun Sen posed for a photo with people while traveling by train to the city of Sihanoukville.

Human Resource Diplomas Presentation

(28 April 2016 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

Correct Policy, Good Management, University Advances

I am so happy to be able to be here once again to hand out diplomas for graduates of vocational courses and other courses of Human Resource University (HRU). I would like to take this opportune moment to give my sincere appreciation to the progress made by HRU, which started as a non-governmental organization. As of present, HRU trained 33,000 students of all levels. This achievement responds well to demand of national development, after the country scored full peace through win-win policy.

I would like to express my sincere thank and appreciation for the efforts contributed by managers, leaders, and professors. Even if there were a correct policy, were there not good management, the university would not advance. Frankly speaking, many universities and/or institutes have either closed down or suspended already. Their main

problem was lack of sound management that leads to a compromise in quality education. With this progress made, I would urge HRU to continue to focus on improving tertiary level quality education under the reform efforts led by the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports.

I would take this opportune moment to express my sincere greeting to graduates, including also Buddhist monks who have made efforts to get themselves a good education. We have achieved for the country today a good bunch of human resource. A moment ago, a former school director at Prek Kampoes texted me that his daughter Sun Dina also graduated and came for diploma too. Well, Prek Kampoes is (not in Kandal province anymore but) a part of Phnom Penh.

... There are blames from some people that local diplomas are of no value. Let me advise those students who study locally and do not have chance to extend their educa-

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National Road 56, Access to Banteay Chhmar

(26 April 2016 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

Achievements on Formerly War-Torn Areas

Today I have a great pleasure to put into official use the 124-Kilometers national road 56 linking Serei Saophoan city of Banteay Meanjei province to the city of Samraong of Uddar Meanjei province, with its access road leading to the temple of Banteay Chhmar. I could recall that on 7 June 2012, I came to the commune of Roluos, Svay Chek district, Banteay Meanjei province, to launch the construction of this road. Today we are here in a different district — Thmar Puok, to celebrate this event.

I thank our compatriots for such a warm welcome. Though I came through here and was not able to pass by on the other places, what is more important for us is to be together in this event to put into official use an historic achievement on the land in a formerly war-torn area, where four Cambodian factions fought. As of the present, we worry no more about war to gain and control land among Cambodians. We are now together to keep our territory. Developing it has replaced our conflict and armed clashes.

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“Sankranta 2016” Opening Ceremony

(14 April 2016 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

Angkor Sankranta by Everyone

Since when we welcomed the Khmer New Year last night at 8pm, it has been 12 hours and 15 minutes already. I hope that Deity Mundiadevi will take good care of us on the land of Kingdom of Cambodia. While welcoming the new deity, we also call on those that keep watch on land, forest, air, water, the temple of Angkor, the throne, etc. to work together with the new deity of this year to take good care of us. I hope the new deity will help bring down temperature of a heat wave that affects not only Cambodia but also other countries in the region for our people to enjoy the festivity.

My wife and I pray all the Royal Government’s best

wishes in the Monkey year, Buddhist year 2560, for HM the King and the Queen Mother, supreme Buddhist patriarchs and monks, and our compatriots as well as our troops stationed for peacekeeping missions under the UN umbrella in Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Republic of Central Africa, Lebanon and Cyprus. I also take this opportune moment to express my sincere thanks to foreign ambassadors and friends for taking their times to join us in the celebration of the Angkor Sankranta this year. It is a moment that

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tion abroad, to translate blames by some politicians to further own efforts. We must prove it is different. Some people, even they had chance to study abroad, are not sure that they really work it. Some learnt only spoken language and were unable to write properly formal letters. It is not true that everyone would graduate from university. It is true too that not everyone makes it in local universities [...]

Condolence to Killed Officer in Drug Raid

Parents would be sympathetic and concerned seeing their children behaving improperly, going for drug is one of them ... I would take this occasion to express my sincere condolence over the death of a military officer who lost his life in a drug raid, which brought about an armed clash. It is a serious matter facing our country and it needs prompt quelling action. It is not a matter for Cambodia alone and Cambodia does not have this ability to produce drug. They come from other countries. I have given this job (of combating drug) to a Deputy Prime Minister. However, a state mechanism alone would not be sufficient. It requires participation of our people, Buddhist monks and every one must deny drug like our slogan "Saying No to Drug."

We have two different aspects here today. We have parents and families that are happy because their children are here to achieve their diplomas. It is a pleasure for the whole family. As for yesterday's drug raid, some parents, unaware of their children's actions, were shocked to see their children's faces on media. It is a suffering for parents. I would urge youngsters not to cause sufferings for your parents if you are not able to assist them in anyway yet. This has called indeed for common actions [...]

Campaign to Save People from Need of Water

... I would take this opportune moment to express my sincere thank and appreciation for national and sub-national institutions, the armed forces, private sector, persons of charity, Cambodian Red Cross as well as political parties, especially the Cambodian People's Party ... who actively participate in delivering water to people who need them, after my order to launch campaign in the whole country. It is true that even before the Prime Minister's order, some actions had been taken in Banteay Meanjei, Kompot and some other provinces to provide people with water for consumption. Once the order came into force, actions have taken effect to cover the whole country. Particularly, the military forces at the provincial level, division and regiment, regular force of military regions, ministry of national defense, have taken active parts to provide water for people in Battambang, Banteay Meanjei and Uddar Meanjei.

**"Artificial Rain,"
"More Wells,"
"Water Gate for Tonle Sap"**

There have been comments on my Facebook and they are good ones. They are food for thought. For instance, some people suggested that we should work on producing artificial rain. I am sure if it is easy, Thailand and Vietnam, better equipped than Cambodia, could have done it already. Thai Prime Minister was concerned and told me about the state of the weather in Thailand since December ... As for us, we just started to feel the effect. Thailand has taken stern measure to even fine people who would dare to take water from reservoirs for rice irrigation. It is because there has no cloud that making artificial rain is impossible.

People also suggested that we dig more water reservoirs and

wells. They say it would be better than handing out water like this. Compared to 1979 or 1980, number of reservoir and well has increased a hundred times. They are investments of state, private and charity. Japan has been the leading country in providing water and digging reservoirs. I posted yesterday my reaction that we need a long-term action and for in an increasing coverage. Why did I say so? Take Svay Rieng province for example. On 26 April, when I went to Banteay Meanjei (to inaugurate the national road 56), 360 wells dried out. As of yesterday, 600 of them did.

... Our concern here is that wells in villages from where people traditionally fetch their water would dry out and how many more will? That is why I said the extension would grow larger. Should there be no rain in between, normally it is not regular or in big amount, we will have to continue to do whatever we could and wait for rainy season to come. We are now building reservoirs and drilling wells wherever possible to drag water. The concern is that the water table of the Mekong and lakes is getting lower [...]

... Some have commented that we should have a water gate for Tonle Sap. Well, I will think about it. In China, they built this lancing dam (to preserve water). When they need water, they let it out. They did three times into the Mekong. I will take this suggestion as an initiative for a study. We will need to look into this issue at a more comprehensive aspect. Some remote areas reported of people's lack of water containers or jars. We would have to buy it for them. I am calling on everyone to take action. I would also urge Buddhist monks to take part. If in any Buddhist pagodas, there are good wells where water could be fetched, Buddhist monks may want to let people have

access to them ... According to weather forecast, some rains would come here and there, but regular ones are not yet expected [...]

Campaign Will Cease Only When People Get Back to Water Self-Sufficiency

Drilling wells could be a good option as lakes and reservoirs dry out. This campaign is not similar to one to help people from flood. While flooding, there will be a point that it no longer goes up and will recede. People can come back to their villages. The area of operation shrinks smaller. As for combating drought, area of operation is getting bigger. We will have to make relentless efforts until rain comes regularly sufficient. Where people are water self-sufficient, we will move our teams to other places that people are not [...]

... This calamity we never encounter. I could not recall from when I was young but starting from 1979, we never have this kind of campaign. We did to provide people with food, to evacuate people to safer ground in times of flooding, to pump water for irrigation purpose, etc. We never bring water for consumption for people. There were some small-scale actions back in 1988, 1989 in one area in Battambang. In 1994, there was another case but it was not that bad that we had to ration water. It has come now. People are in search for sources of water. We need to mobilize common forces and measures to resolve this issue. We will not leave anyone of our people die of thirst.

I am calling on those who are in need of water for consumption to contact with local authority and/or the Cambodian Red Cross in your areas. We have three kinds of water here. Firstly, drinking water produced from a refinery system. Division 70 has various water

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we create an environment of joy and solidarity within our national as well as international framework.

On behalf of the Royal Government, I also express my sincere appreciation for the efforts put in by the Union of Youth Federations of Cambodia, with assistances provided by relevant authorities, the Siem Reap provincial authority also included, especially those youth volunteers, artists, disabled children, to organize this joyfully meaningful event.

We must be clear that Sankranta is by us forever. Sankranta can be organized anywhere, not only in Angkor. I need to stress on participation, without which Sankranta here could not happen.

Where Men, Real and Abstract Cultures Meet

I would make additional remark on what I have said last year about a meeting of abstract and real cultures. I wish to say that this year is a tripartite meeting of human with real and/or abstract cultures. It is a great meeting organized by men bringing in abstract culture to the land of real culture. On this point, we should think of the gratitude that former ancestors, former Kings and Queens, had done to leave us temples, on which we are celebrating today. Were there no such real cultural assets left by our ancestors, we could not have talked about Angkor Sankranta here.

According to the report by governor of Siem Reap, HE Khim Bunsong, as well as Union of the Youth Federations of Cambodia, organizing Angkor Sankranta gives value added to Siem Reap province from the first year of such celebration to this fourth one.

The province has become a target that attracts tourists inside and outside the country. Over the past recent years,

Siem Reap has become one of the most attractive places on earth. I hope that such meeting of men with real and/or abstract cultures, by which some twelve different programs – including Labokkatao fighting art, food and dessert making, altogether will add to the joy.

Organizing Angkor Sankranta every year also serve the topic of March 3 National Culture Day that we give a title “Youth for National Culture.” We have given the role of organizing Angkor Sankranta event to the youth assisted by national and local authorities. However, the idea and organizing skills are all those of our youths. On this remark we should give our youth encouragement so they will be able to keep on going forwards and be the ones to take over in the future.

Five Factors Angkor Sankranta Realizes

We should ask why we could organize this event of Angkor Sankranta every year here. In Phnom Penh or elsewhere, number of people has gone down because they have been leaving for Siem Reap and other tourist destinations. We must find out reason why all this is possible? There are five reasons necessary to be clear about what have happened in the Kingdom of Cambodia:

Firstly, **full peace prevails in the whole Cambodia that allows people to travel everywhere free of fear.** Before 1998, Cambodia was divided with different ruling groups with different armies. People could not travel because they were afraid of mines, UXOs or armed attacks. With win-win policy that I put out and implemented, Cambodia has become a country in full again and people travel wherever they like to without fear.

Peace brought life. Peace brought us no more fear of war. Peace brought us development, better living condition,

and poverty alleviation. Everyone must keep this hard-won peace. We must not forgive anyone, or group of people, to instigate and create division of or turmoil in our nation to avoid thousands or even millions of people killed like in the past between 1970 and 1975, and 1975 through to 1979, and thereafter through to 1998.

We adhere to culture of forgiveness and peace but we do not forgive anyone who attempt to push Cambodia into instability or its bitter past.

I hope that our people will join me to keep peace. I hope our foreign friends, those who are here present and those who are not will understand the need that Cambodia has to keep for peace and stability. At the end of the day, it is the Cambodian people, who will suffer these harsh conditions. I hope our foreign friends reserve their understanding for measures taken by the Royal Government to prevent any possible unrest in the Cambodian society.

Secondly, **aside from peace, we have now better infrastructure.** The way people travel these days is different. In the former time, traveling from Phnom Penh to Siem Reap, for those with limited resource, would have to take a boat trip. Traveling on land was very difficult if not impossible. They had to travel around the Tonle Sap Lake to Battambang and to Serei Saophoan to come to Siem Reap. Now we have road infrastructures that connect every destination in the whole country. Peace and stability provided us chance to develop connectivity internally and with neighboring countries [...]

Thirdly, **people can travel to farer destinations to be with relatives or visit tourist sites because they have better means of transports.** With peace, people have chance for personal and family develop-

ment. In 1979, they hardly have even bicycle to ride. Now, people have their means of transports, which clearly indicates increase of their income. They may not be brand new but good enough to bring their families where they need to be.

I noticed that on the road some people have even brought their own beds to settle under trees. It is not that they do not have money to hire a room but it could be that there are not more rooms available. It is a kind of nomad traveling.

Fourthly, **people have saving incomes to cover their holiday trips.** From this place, I am still appealing to taxi and bus service providers not to jack up the price on our people’s need to travel. I am taking it as my duty to appeal those operators not to overcharge for their services on people who travel to and from the holiday event.

Fifthly, **there has well organization by youth and relevant institutions.** No event would go smoothly without organization. It was important to mobilize human resource, especially this year there has been increasing number of youth in preparing and organizing the Angkor Sankranta event.

... Heat has been unprecedented not only in Cambodia but also in many countries around. This year temperature is roughly two degrees higher. I hope it will not stop our people from enjoying the festivities.

Last night Deputy Prime Minister HE Tia Banh sent me a Video clip of a joke about “physicians on duty during the Khmer New Year had a hard time dealing with heels problem from dancing” ...

It was a joke. However, it clearly indicates that our country is in this state. What has brought it? It was not hostility, provocation or war, but from solidarity and unity [...]

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treatment systems that could produce drinking water. Secondly, we also have drinking water provided by the drinking water company. They are good for drinking. We also have the third kind that we provide for people to use in bathing. If they were to drink them, people must boil it well. I am saying this because some people could drink it without boiling when they are too thirsty [...]

I am so proud and reckon with the quick reactions of the armed forces, national and sub-national officials, people, the Cambodian Red Cross, youth of the Cambodian Red Cross, scout, youth of the Cambodian People's Party. Provincial authority happens to be the ones with the best knowledge of what is going on in their territory. They should know where drought affects and water assistance should go from where to where. We took measures even after the celebration of Phjum Ben days last year. I instructed the Ministry of Economy and Finance and the Ministry of Water Resource and Meteorology to finance and take action in pumping water from closest possible water sources into reservoirs. It did help us with water to get by through to April for consumption and irrigation. They all dried up now.

RGC, People to Take Care of Forest

... In these past few days, there have been works between the Ministry of Environment and local NGO partners on issue how to protect forest. I would have a little attention here that people should not take political advantage from drought in Cambodia. It is not a matter of Cambodia combating it alone. It is an issue of the whole region.

In India, there had been lethal cases already. They also took water distribution measure like what we did. As for forest, I

just signed a sub-decree to transfer management ... between the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and the Ministry of Environment on economic land concession and protected land, which formerly issued by either of them. The Ministry of Environment will return lands provided for investment to companies to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries. The Ministry of Agriculture will then return protected forests under its supervision to the Ministry of Environment. While conducting a study and find out there is forest to be placed under protection, it would go automatically into the supervision and management of the Ministry of Environment. The Ministry has also worked with the European Community, America, and people who love forests/trees. We have placed over one million hectares of our forest such as Prey Lang, Kravanh, etc. under protection [...]

Now that we have similar objective – the Royal Government and people, to protect our forest, I would urge that we work together. I told Minister Say Sam Al to accept those people and approve that they are the ones to help with the forest protection.

Let us invite people to do whatever necessary, giving them Buddhist robes marking as untouchable for instance, to protect them. The Royal Government will take stern action to punish those who commit forest crimes and people could act as justice police and/or provide relevant information to thwart forest crimes actions [...]

Beware of Heat Wave

... I am placing an appeal to our people that the heat wave this year is unprecedentedly extreme. Temperature has reached 40 degree, or 41 or 42 degree Celsius in Cambodia. In India, it has soared to 45

Rui Fang Cambodia Sugar Inaugurated

(19 April 2016 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

“Heels Squeezing” Dancing Style – A Creation by Cambodian Children

... Our people, especially younger ones, though there was such an unmerciful heat that affects Cambodia and other countries in the region, had had a good time during the Khmer New Year festivities. I hope that a majority would have learnt this year the so-called “heels squeezing” dancing style. I may elaborate on why I am talking about this dancing method. It is a dancing style developed by Cambodian younger generation. It has created a new style of dancing art for our people. It is not a copy from any other styles ...

Sugarcane for Agro-Industry and Trade

I am so happy in coming here today after we celebrated the end of old year and start of Khmer New Year to put into official operation this big sugar factory invested by Rui Feng International from China. On the surface, we only see that this is something to do with industry. However, deeper as it goes, this development indicates progress in agroindustry

and trade. The factory – where we celebrate this inauguration, will be an important market for our people to sell their sugarcanes to process into sugar. That our farmers can sell off their sugarcanes they grow creates a trend of commerce. I am so happy that we are making progress from one year to another after we started rebuilding the country with bare hands.

Weather Condition – Harsh

... I would suggest to our people not to leave soon. We have here the music band and they can get us to dance squeezing our heels together. I have had my body in pain because of three days dancing in Siem Reap. Yesterday, about fifteen minutes before I received the US Ambassador, Minister of Water Resources and Meteorology Lim Kean Hor sent me a letter warning me not to fly from Phnom Penh to Preah Vihear. I wrote back to him that I had no choice. Later that night, (General) Hing Bun Heang texted me that wind had brought sheds fallen down. Six police staff and two military police personnel sent injured

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degree causing some deaths. While climate change is a matter of the whole world, drought is a regional issue. It is a hot topic discussed in the United Nations and during my visit to France, President Francoise Hollande insisted that HM the King participate in the Climate Change forum. Scientists are busy indentifying crops species that would resist the heat. As the heat wave has gradually grown to be extreme, I urge our people to beware of fire – at homes or forest, while it is the time people in rural areas are looking for animals or bees. Leaving fire carelessly could catch the forest a fire [...]

... Once again, I thank everyone for their efforts and appeal to expand our campaign to save people in this difficult stage. I hope that political parties who have shown their strength to compete for votes to reveal to our people their actions to serve them.

The Cambodian People's Party has already taken swift measures since before the order comes into force. It has now come to a time when we need to combine force and measure with the leadership of the Prime Minister, using both state and charitable funds, and the armed forces and the Royal Government ...

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Win-win Policy Ends Killing among Cambodians

With the implementation of peace policy, win-win policy, we had ended unfavorable condition of killing each other among us Cambodians, left from conflicts of former generations. Succeeding win-win policy has allowed us to build infrastructural connectivity. It was very difficult, if not impossible, to travel between Serei Saophoan city of Banteay Meanjei and Samraong city of Uddar Meanjei. Formerly, people from the two cities would have to travel to one another via the national road 6 in Siem Reap province. With this connectivity, people no longer have to travel back there but straightly from either city. Soon, people will also travel on National Road 58 which is an inner road line running along between Serei Saophoan city and Samraong city too. We will have another road that is going straight from Poi Pet along the border to O Smach on a spread of 174 Kilometers. Having said that Banteay Meanjei is to benefit with Uddar Meanjei, Battambang and Pailin infrastructural connectivity and other infrastructures.

It is within the win-win policy framework implementation that we have been able to transform formerly battlefields into areas of development and markets, perhaps one of the grandiose policies that I set out as Prime Minister and one of the forefront leaders of the Cambodian People's Party. We have done already the stage of transforming former battlefields into development zones and we are making further efforts to transform border areas between Cambodia and neighboring countries into a borderline of peace, friendship, cooperation and development. Sounds of guns fighting faded out inside the country and with neighboring coun-

tries. We resolved differences by peaceful means [...]

Counterpart Fund to Access Foreign Loans

As far as roads issue concerned, Senior Minister Sun Chanthol already reported to you thanking former minister Tram Iv Toek of Public Works and Transports for the job he had done. In the recent Cabinet reshuffle, HE Sun Chanthol has had to come from Trade to Public Works and Transports, while HE Tram Iv Toek has had to go to Posts and Telecommunication. It was a normal process (of changes) to maintain sustainable development. Well, no matter who is to take whatever job, we followed the law and structure of the organization and functioning of each institution.

I am grateful to the Republic of Korea as well as the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for providing financing a total sum of USD 49 million for the construction of this road, in which USD 12 million comes from ADB, USD 29 million comes from Republic of Korea and USD 7 million is the counterpart fund from the Royal Government. For every project, should there be no counterpart funding, we would not be able to access loan or credit from our development partners. It is in this fact that I always advise the Minister of Economy and Finance as well as relevant institutions to always get counterpart fund ready from 10% to 20%, to 30% for any given project. These counterpart funds are for resolving impacts incurred from administering the projects, such as removing mines or UXOs within the project areas.

Roles of Peace, Those Who Sought for and Keep Peace

... We do not want to see war again. Should we continue to fight, would we have this chance to build the road? A bridge or road built would not

stand destructive explosions. With the win-win policy and peace in place, we are able to ascertain development, and our partners – Republic of Korea and ADB, could participate in making this road possible. The national road 68 from Poi Pet to O Smach is being financed by the Republic of China. In all, I would continue to remind you that peace has an irreplaceable value, without which, one could talk nothing about development.

It is important that people will have to look at roles of political parties, who would destroy and who would be able to keep peace. That would be more important. In the Middle East region, why fighting is still going on in Syria, Iraq, Yemen, etc. Was it because of the political leadership there or foreign interference of some sorts? How many people had died there? Many have fled to Europe, who in the beginning opened their doors for them. Now they closed it. Where would those people go? It is in this lesson that people must see first the role of peace because without it, there would not be democracy. Should war flares, people would go speechless.

Some people talked nicely about democracy, human rights, etc. but they never care to give a thought about right to life, to peace, and to be free from fear of war. You may take the two Koreas – north and south as example. The Koreans in the north test fired missiles and the Koreans in the South got themselves in vigilant position always. Ten of thousands of Cambodians working there also worry. It is even more important to see the role of peace, of those who sought for and kept peace. Without these roles, lethal dangers caused by war would be factual. It is in this statement that the Royal Government takes necessary measures to keep peace. I even said at whatever price to pay, we must

keep peace. We will allow no one person or group to destroy peace [...]

Four Priorities for Development

The Royal Government must take absolute measures to keep peace. I would say this event gathers some ten thousand people ... In older days, when fighting was around, we dare not have a meeting this size. I once came up here with Ke Kim Yan and conducted a meeting in Serei Saophoan and we did it in a theatre hall. In all, new situation has brought us to a new task to keep peace and we must have development that will base on four priorities – water (irrigation), roads, electricity and human resource. We now set human resource as our first priority. As you can see that with coordinated efforts, the Royal Government led by the Cambodian People's Party inaugurates a road with secondary schools in adjacent. This clearly shows that we are working on two of the four priorities – human resource – primary, junior and senior secondary schools of Thmar Puok, and infrastructure – roads building [...]

Connectivity Facilitates Trades

... Well, aside from this road, we also have another national road 58. It is not a road built for border war purpose. Our main objective is to facilitate trade for locals but also connectivity with people of the Kingdom of Thailand. We have fulfilled two tasks at the same time – to establish connectivity inside, and extend connectivity to neighboring countries. We have numerous connections with Thailand along the border in Koh Kong, Pailin, Kamrieng, Phnom Proek, Mealai, Poi Pet, Boeng Trakuon, O Smach, Sra Em, An Seh, etc. They all are for trade flow facilitations. Between Cambodia and Thai-

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land, we have a trade volume of USD 4,300 million, in which USD 500 million is the volume Cambodia exported to Thailand, and over USD 3,000 million is the volume Thailand did.

Architect of Cambodia-Republic of Korea Relations

We must make effort to ascertain more connectivity. Here I mean not only roads connections but also electricity, etc. In this part of the country, we bought electricity from Thailand. We need to work out its connectivity too. Connectivity with neighboring countries here means that we aim to facilitate a peaceful and better living condition of people on both sides ... We need more funds to do that. It is worth reminding that we achieved the national road 56 thanks to our cooperation with the Republic of Korea in the reign of HE Lee Myung-bak, the national road 3 of HE Roh Moo-hyun, and the national road 21, I celebrated the launch of construction the other day, of HE Park Geun-hye.

I am the architect of diplomatic relation between Cambodia and the Republic of Korea. I should remember them all. First, I visited South Korea in the reign of President HE Kim Young-sam, when I first conducted the negotiation. Then we worked with President HE Kim Dae-jung, who released Cambodia some credits. Republic of Korea's assistance has grown stage after stage. I told leaders of other countries that Cambodia now is in its phase of flying up, should there be disruption of energy, speed would fluctuate or the plane would even fall out. Cambodia needs more funds for its infrastructural development, because without it, development would be impossible [...]

Campaign to Provide People with Water for Consumption

... In the latest development, Deputy Prime Minister General HE Ke Kim Yan and Lok Chumteav, have led a campaign in Banteay Meanjei to provide people in need of water for consumption. In the Cabinet meeting and soon after that, I instructed the Ministry of Economy and Finance to delegate budget to the National Committee for Disaster Management to help provide water for consumption to people in the province of Banteay Meanjei. We are working now to bring water down from the water reservoir of Komping Puoy in Battambang, in seven stages, according to the report of HE Suon Bovor, Governor of Banteay Meanjei, to get to the river of Mongkul Borei.

... I would take this moment to put out a national campaign to provide our people with water for consumption. Though I do not seek approval of the National Assembly and HM the King to place the country in emergency, I still consider this situation a disaster of the year. Cambodia is not suffering this ill fate alone. It is a common fate for all. We were lucky that we made a decision for people not to cultivate dry season rice and conserve water. I thank relevant institutions and authorities for taking concrete actions on this matter. The level of water in the river Mekong is too low. We could not even celebrate the water festival's boat race.

China released water from its Lancang dam three times already into the Mekong to lift up the level of water in Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam. In Vietnam, they said that it is unprecedented in a period of 100 years that seawater surged through the Mekong up to 100 Kilometers. Should the water level of river Mekong continue to drop, seawater could travel all the way upwards. As water in the river dropped low, the water table eroded causing some ball

holes to dry out too [...]

... I issued an order to the whole country to mobilize efforts to resolve need of water for consumption for the people. I have made clear that people must be safe in this water shortage episode. The National Committee for Disaster Management alone would not be able to take up the task. We need to mobilize total forces, measures and means to help resolve this natural misfortune ... HE Ke Kim Yan and Lok Chumteav have kindly arranged for me to symbolically hand out water ration to our people ... the campaign led by HE Ke Kim Yan and Lok Chumteav could be a model experiment in mobilizing helps to get water to people [...]

Calling Off Meetings in Phnom Penh, Drilling More Wells

... I suggest that ministries call off their meetings that would require the attention of governors. I already discussed this issue with Samdech Sar Kheng ... We call off meetings in Phnom Penh to resolve our people's demand for water first. What I wish to know more and in a timely manner at this is about how do you do with water delivery to those who need it. Governors may need to inform me about rain, where and how much ... In small scale disaster, the Ministry of Economy and Finance would delegate fund to the National Committee for Disaster Management to work it out with provincial governors, who are representing national committee at provincial level. As for this new scale of disaster, it is time that we need to mobilize armed forces to help people find water [...]

... I am suggesting that wherever drilling ball holes would bring up water, we do. No matter on whose land they may be. At this incidental stage, everyone must have access to the well, which at a later stage will

belong to owners of the land themselves. We must call for machines to drill ball holes. HE Ke Kim Yan may lead the meeting to figure out where and how many wells the working team should drill. You may find financial source to cover the cost that the Royal Government will repay later [...]

... I am calling on drinking water companies to provide our people with their products at this time. We have Vital, Oral water companies and I would urge them to do so themselves. They could bring their water to people in villages and communes. They do not have to go through authorities. It is time we must help each other. People who do not have drinking water may share their resources in cash or transport means to pay for and deliver water to those who need the most. I am also calling on Cambodian Red Cross to change its directive to respond to the need. We are stranding a forceful action by state, private and Cambodian Red Cross as first rain may come in June [...]

... I am appealing to the working teams of the Cambodian People's Party to shelve other tasks for a while and concentrate on going to local level actions to help people deal with lack of water. The Cambodian People's Party – with its mechanism at villages, communes and districts – should make use of their human and financial resources. I also had a brief exchange with Samdech Say Chhum, President of the Senate and Vice President of the Cambodian People's Party to issue urgent instruction as I am launching this campaign here.

With those of the state, Cambodian Red Cross, and private sector, the Party's mechanism should carry out this work so that our people will have access to water for consumption – drinking and bathing ... ■

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and three are now in the hospital at Siem Reap. Some suggested that I take a flight to Siem Reap and from Siem Reap travel by car to Preah Vihear. I then said why not coming on land from Phnom Penh. Well, finally we have decided to come with a big helicopter.

A Factory Produces Sugar, Electricity, Alcohol and Organic Fertilizer

We did whatever we could not to cancel this event because it is a big investment compared to other factories inaugurated so far. Furthermore, the factory complex is able to yield many forms of productions – sugar, for the start, using some 360 million USD, with increasing production in the second and third phase. By the time sugar production gets to half a million tons, waste of sugarcanes from sugar production would be used for generating some 39 megawatt electricity. That would ensure local availability of electricity, which in the future will also help with the iron ore factory here.

I am calling for a restudy by the Ministry of Mines and Energy on this point if it is necessary to keep option of purchasing electricity from Laos. Should it be necessary, how much would we do then (while we already have 39 megawatt here)? Aside from factory need, some 20 megawatt of electricity will supply to the province. Aside from sugar and electricity, the factory will also produce alcohol for local need and for export. We will have organic fertilizer which is important for replanting sugarcanes and/or use in other crops by our farmers.

Company and People in Harmony

The investment in this sugar factory is a major encouragement and resolving job needs among our people. I wish to

reiterate what I always said before about harmonization of relation between investment project and people in the area. Some have done a great job and some did not. Take for instance this sugar factory, first of all our people will benefit clearly from infrastructure developed by the company. People use roads built by the company in their development project of factory and sugarcane fields. People do not have to pay for using those infrastructures. The company will invest in building irrigation, by which people in neighboring area can also use it. People also will benefit from electricity in the region. The project also includes building of hospitals and schools, which will not stand for only workers' benefit but for the people as a whole. People will benefit from infrastructure developed as part of the project of investment [...]

Accommodation and Decent Salary Attract Workers

The project also shows its importance that while creating jobs, people in this area and from other provinces could also come for them. As of this moment, the project requires some 7,000 workers and in its full capacity stage, they would double this figure. This would surely help address issue of people migrating for jobs, sometimes illegally, to Thailand. I am encouraging Rui Feng International to get their accommodation ready as part of their strategy to attract more workers. The job market is so competitive now. I always advise companies – big or small, in agriculture, those in Ratanakiri, Monduliri, Stoeng Treng, Preah Vihear, and some provinces to get ready on labor cost is one, but also on facilities provided for them while working for companies. They should build good accommodation and pay them decently to encourage their productivity. Should they be sick or unhealthy, factory output will be

affected [...]

Jobs Integration

What is even more important is job integration. It is a big issue. The company would not have to search to expand land (for growing sugarcanes) ... What is job integration? It is when your factory will become a market for people's produce of sugarcanes. A majority of Cambodian farmers are growing rice, which gives them very little return. The factory should make effort to strand alliance with farmers for them to grow sugarcanes on their own plots of land and purchase them from the farmers. Rui Feng may want to provide people with seed and will collect from them when it is time. I would encourage this not only in this factory but also in others because this will guarantee that people will retain their lands. The company may also provide them with capital, if you can, for them to be able to grow and supply sugarcanes to your factory. I am sure growing sugarcanes in Preah Vihear will expand further, even to Uddar Meanjei province. We have allowed five companies to invest in sugar production and we have the capacity to produce 1.8 million tons of sugar per annum in the near future. At this stage, we have just reached a scale of 440,000 tons.

More China's Markets for Cambodia Requested

I would request to China through HE Ambassador here to open bigger market for Cambodia. I already brought it to the attention of HE Xi Jinping and HE Li Keqiang already and I will continue to do so for China to open bigger market for Cambodian rice, cassava, corn, and sugar. China, with so many population, would be our good market.

However, we may know that China, despite its big popula-

tion, it has so much rice in stock. China, still, helps import some 100,000 tons of rice from Cambodia. It was its understanding for Cambodia. With 12% of land in the world, China feeds about 20% of the world population. With its favor and understanding, China has provided early harvest benefits for Cambodia and countries as most favored nations in the frameworks of ASEAN, GMS and Lancang-Mekong on 98% of their products [...]

Investment for Trust on CPP-Led Royal Government

I would take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for Rui Feng for choosing Cambodia for its major investment, which will see 360 million USD in its initial stage in its 1 billion USD investment package. This clearly indicates that the company has confidence in the Royal Government led by the Cambodian People's Party and the good relations between Cambodia and China, with many generations of whose leaders I had worked to bring Chinese investors into the Kingdom of Cambodia. As we have seen here, the project purchased some 1000 John Deere tractors, a product from the US Company. The US should see that it is also in their interest (that China invests in Cambodia) in selling their products to Chinese companies investing in Cambodia.

Economic Embargo Would Be a Suicide

... The world is interdependent. Let us not talk about embargo. Economic embargo would sometimes be a suicidal policy. For instance, I would not mention name, a foreign minister from a country in Europe said to me that his country lost two billion US dollars soon after the economic embargo placed on Russia. He said his country would not

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Inaugurating New Office Buildings of Phnom Penh

(5 April 2016 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

I am so happy today to join with all of you to put into official use the new office building of the Phnom Penh Municipality. We had actually planned to inaugurate the buildings on April 4, but we had to move it to one day later owing to the National Assembly's decision to meet on April 4 ... Well, the new office building here correspond to the progress made so far in Phnom Penh.

Ministers Must Act According to Defined Duty

Not only the Phnom Penh Municipality, many other ministries have also wither built a new office building or rebuilt them. Every province also has their new buildings. I am calling on every institution and sub-national administration to implement strictly works defined by law and norms. As for ministry, there is sub-decree on organization and functioning of their institutions. Some people said change or does not change is not important because finally power concentrates in one person. They meant "in me." I could say to everyone that I never interfere work of any one minister at all. All I am asking for is for s/he act according to defined duty. You may ask any minister if I ever interfere in their duty. It was them on the contrary who violated my rights. Why do I say so?

According to law, political position from undersecretary position up is the Prime Minister's monopole right (to assign someone to). However, some ministers did propose appointments of so and so. I approved and signed their proposals because I reckon that they are the ones who know people from department heads, general directors, etc. [...] It was because of so many problems difficult to tackle that I have had to reshuffle the Cabinet. In

two and a half years, some works had been done. We still have another two and half year to carry out substantial changes in works remained to be done.

Building, Not Repairing

... Well, reshuffle does not affect the Phnom Penh Municipality. However, there are a number of issues to tackle in Phnom Penh ... I have one issue that I need to bring up here. I have a doubt why the Phnom Penh Municipality's Public Works seems to be good at building roads and not repairing them ... Sometimes I had to call up Phnom Penh Mayor why at this or that place, the roads left unrepaired.

(You) only think of building flyover and underpass and fail to think about roads on land. I am urging Mayor of Phnom Penh to remedy this. In addition to that, I urge you to listen to what people had to say. They wrote in my Facebook "*Samdech, why in one place, there has been so repetitive works done. They dug up for drainage, and a few months later dig again for cable, and again for ... Why there has not been a master plan or proper study before work is carried out?*" They asked the right questions. I thank them for making this problem heard.

Service to Resolve People's Need

... We have the presence of local officials here today. People complain about public service. Once again, I am calling on relevant officials to make effort to resolve people's need. In some cases, one or two incompetent and disrepute staff could also dishonor the rest thousands. According to our record, some of the disrepute were members of other political parties and they carried out dishonored actions to discredit us. Public service does not

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know what to do because small counties in Europe does not have freedom. I said then they are worse than ASEAN, in which, big or small, poor or rich, we speak out. Farmers in his country used to sell produces to Russia. When the embargo went into effect, Russia ignored their products. They could not sell. They lost two billion USD. It is the boomerang effect of embargo policy. They should stop playing it.

Conserving Forest, Water Reservoir and Planting More Trees

From a bird eyes' view, I see conserved forests. I also see the reservoir. Please make the

belong to any political parties but some have used their people within the public administration to discredit it. I suggest that good officials will make civil arrest of the disrepute to prove our cleanliness.

Services to serve people's need include birth certificate, marriage certificate, etc ... As for ownership transference, which requires approval from sellers, in many cases there have been changes of hands many times, it was impossible to find the original owner ... That is why we have worked out a solution to accept actual holding. The Ministry of Economy and Finance, and the Ministry of Interior decided to cancel stamping tax too ... I hope our people understand about these efforts of the state [...]

People benefit a lot from peace made and infrastructure provided by the state. Poverty has gone down from 100% in 1979. People enjoy the benefit of leadership of the Royal Government led by Hun Sen. However, they may not be happy with those junior officials who did not perform good job. Some had even us for their wrongdoings.

reservoir deeper because water will be important for trees. As for trees remained in the farms, I would urge the company to grow more [...] The company contributes to building a Primary School of Chheb, a Primary School of Sa Ang, a Secondary School of Tbeng Meanjei ... These are what people will benefit from integration and harmonization between investment and people living around. I would be grateful if Rui Feng could do more in the fields of education and health. People with good education and health would help Rui Feng's production line. I am sure you will do more in health and education in the province of Preah Vihear ...

Let us face the truth and resolve the problem together [...]

Ok to Public Bus Service, No to Express Road to PPIA

... We must continue to promote public bus service to reduce traffic jam and offer a cheaper means for students, elderly and disable people. We will put into operation more lines of bus services. I also declare today to people living along the rail from Phnom Penh to Phnom Penh International Airport that I do not approve highway express there ...

We also do not have rail operation to Kilometer 6 anymore. We may build on the rail segment a new big road to relieve traffic into Phnom Penh. It is a nine kilometers long road and once it is built, the road would be able to reduce heavy traffic from the northern part of the city to Phnom Penh at Wat Phnom and the Royal Palace, but through Boeng Kak.

Though I have come here to talk about something at sub-national level, Phnom Penh, on the other hand, is the heart of all national institutions ...