



Samdech Techo Hun Sen is welcome by Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc while conducting official visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

## “Green Cities, Beautiful Beaches, Blue Sea” Festival

(24 December 2016 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

### A Sea Festival Celebrated by Representatives of Nearly Three Billion Population

Today, my wife and I are happy to be able to join with all of you in the celebration of the fifth sea festival theming “green cities, beautiful beaches, and blue sea.” On behalf of the Royal Government and my own behalf, I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the efforts made by concerned authorities, the governing councils of Preah Sihanoukville, as well as those of the Ministry of Tourism, and inter-ministerial commissions, in organization of this event. I am extending my sincere appreciation to every stakeholders, the private sectors also included, in making donation and participating in the festival in the past five years.

It is a pleasure indeed that we are celebrating this fifth year anniversary of the sea festival, which I had delegated Deputy Prime Minister Sok An and Lok Chumteav to represent me four times already. Today, not only the people of Cambo-

dia that are present here. We also have participations from many foreign countries. Taking them altogether, we have a ceremony that represents a population of nearly 3 billion altogether – take for instance the People’s Republic of China – 1.4 billion; India, about 1.3 billion; Indonesia, about over 200 million; Vietnam, over 100 million, Thailand, about 70 million, and Cambodia, about 15 million [...]

### Visiting Six Schools; Keep Beaches Clean and Beautiful

As HE Yun Min, governor of Sihanouk province reported, I had taken my time here to see teachers and students in six different schools, and provided an additional roughly 400 new classrooms. I am so confident that for everything that we have been doing together will definitely contribute to the overall progress of our nation. Taking this very opportune moment, I wish to express once again my appreciation to HE Thong Khon, Minister of tourism, HE Yun Min and

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## New Office Buildings for Posts/Telecommunication

(15 December 2016 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

I am so happy to be with all of you to put into official use the office buildings of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications. I would like to take this opportune moment to correct what Minister Tram Iv Toek had just mentioned about number of my visits to this place. He said I first came here in 2000 and again today. According to my memory, I first came to put into official use the Intersputnik satellite in 1980s when HE Tia Banh was the Minister. I came back to see the satellite again when it needed a screw or something. I have been here at least four times.

### From Commissions to Ministries

I am so happy that at the initiative of former Minister Prak Sokhonn, who now has become Minister of Foreign Affairs, the office building of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunication is here. In fact, the Posts and Telecommunication, was not apart of the People’s Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea, which came into being on 8 January 1979 after the country’s liberation from the genocide. In those days, all institutions were under the management of what we called the Ministry

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## Minebea (Cambodia) Fifth Year Operation

(08 December 2016 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

It is a great pleasure today that I have joined with all of you, Buddhist monks, people, excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, to celebrate the fifth years’ anniversary of the Minebea (Cambodia) Co. Ltd. operation in Cambodia along with various other new achievements set out by the company. I am so proud of and pleased with the speech delivered by Yoshihisa Kainuma, General Director of Minebea illustrating the various stages of the company development. I also thank the Japanese Ambassador HE Hidehisa Horinouchi for delivering a speech in Khmer and then in English, without having to speak through translator. I really admire his special ability.

### Minebea (Cambodia) – from 23 to Over 200 Millions USD Project

I also wish to say a few words about the advancement of the company. Please allow me to go back a little bit. HE Kainuma just mentioned in his speech about the process of developing the company and reminded my speech that this factory is like a child that I helped with the delivering. We must therefore work together to provide the child with good care. The child has now grown from a 23 million to over 200 million USD project. It is a remarkable progress. Nevertheless, I have the need to say something to illustrate the state of being realistic of the Royal Government of Cambodia. In

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other ministers – environment and related institutions, for keeping our beaches clean and beautiful as a member of the club [...]

What are the various issues that I wish to speak of today [...] the rising stars of the Southwestern part of the country. We are here to celebrate the festival under the theme of “green cities, beautiful beaches, and blue sea.” It is so fortunate for me to be able to join with all of you and to wear such blue shirt that my wife had selected for me [...] Now let me talk about the various tasks that we need to do in order to keep Cambodian beaches safe and beautiful.

### Keeping Peace

I should send out messages from here for our people. They may be of concern to a number of countries too. Some may not want to hear them. First of all, I wish to say that in order for us to have chance to organize festivities like this, in Sihanoukville or in other provinces with beaches or other events in the whole country, the first task that we have to do is to keep peace. The country must not fall back in war. Cambodia suffered its ill fate when it was under development initiated and led by Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk. The Sihanoukville city had made remarkable progress when the country had for the first time its blue seaport and railway link between Phnom Penh and Sihanoukville. The coup unfortunately brought down Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk and led the whole country into war.

It was all because they detested Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk and his Royal Government. They decided to bring him down. Through the coup, Cambodia lost its opportunity, resources, freedom, and rights. Finally, Cambodia fell into a devastated war caused by the US imperialist aggres-

sion and later the Pol Pot's genocide. We must see that, Pol Pot was not coming to power by itself. If the US did not bring Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk down, it was certain that war would not have happened in Cambodia, whereas Pol Pot would not be so fortunate to come to power later. I do not know for causing such tragedy for the Cambodian people and for other countries in the region, Vietnam and Laos in the so-called Vietnam War, should the US receive a Noble Peace Prize or a trial at the International Court.

### Donald Trump's Administration Should Cancel Cambodia's Debts

I hope that the new US administration under Donald Trump will consider cancelling all Cambodia's debts incurred from the Marshal Lon Nol's time. We have had difficulties in making the Cambodian people understand those debts that (previous leaders) used in purchasing bombs and weapons that killed (their own) people. I hope that the new US administration will consider thoroughly the devastation former administrations caused to Cambodia. We have mines and UXOs all over the country. How can they do to assist us? The very least they could is to cancel all the debts incurred by the regime of Lon Nol or we should call it bad debts. Well, cancel it or not will be up to the American people and leaders think about it.

I just wish that the people of Cambodia who lost their children or those who were born under the regime of Pol Pot would not forget about the 18-March-1970 coup. I hope the US Embassy in Phnom Penh will think about this issue thoroughly [...] I wish to clarify that should there be no coup supported by the US and its aggression, there would not be the regime of Pol Pot. I just hope the US Ambassador and

embassy officials would not make comments that are misleading our intention to be friend of the United States of America. We just wanted the US to understand the issue and think about what to do to amend it to Cambodia.

### The Middle East Colour Revolution Brings about Tragedy and Insecurity

Peace bears a significant meaning for us to maintain. At this moment, we are celebrating this event with joy on a beach in one of our provinces that are bordering on the sea and formerly saturated with blood and tear. At this very same time, people in Middle Eastern countries like Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Egypt, and Libya (in Africa) are suffering killings ... In the past, while detesting Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, they removed him from power. In the Middle East, while disliking Saddam Hussein, they accused him of possessing weapon of mass destruction. They sent in troops to overthrow him. After killing Saddam, what have those people achieved? People received nothing but deaths. Until this hour, Mosul is still under ISIS. Should those who lead colour revolution or chieftain of military aggression and their supporters receive Noble Peace Prize or condemnation? [...] Terror has now invaded to countries in Europe. In last July or August, in France, there was a case of truck driving into flock of people. Last week, in Germany, the same thing happened. While using bombs for terror is one major concern, we now have to be worried of attack by trucks.

What happened to civil rights in Europe? They declared state of emergency and exercised curfew. These limit civil rights. Refugees who seek refuge in European nations have now questioned themselves should they or should they not go there, or whether hosting countries would or

would not receive them? [...] That is what they have to pay for their leadership or support of the colour revolutions. I do not wish to urge them to take up responsibility but as a leader that spent three fourth of his life for the country's peace just wish to remind them with a message that no matter what happened in our country, we have respected people's civil rights. I also hope that since they have so many problems to address themselves, they should not go out advice others.

### Changes Should Not Bring Cambodia Back to War

My language is a bit difficult to accept by some. However, this language stems from loving peace. I think that my words will carry message for peace and justice loving people, who detest aggression, overthrowing by force or colour revolution. Where are they now? Why they do not step out and hail deaths of people in the Middle East or in Europe? Why do they keep their mouth shut? In Cambodia, we have recorded some people's voice that praised colour revolutions in the Middle East and Ukraine. This is the first point of my message and I apologize for using this forum to send this message across. Please join together to keep peace and refrain from allowing our country to fall back into war. Any changes to happen should not bring Cambodia back to war. (It would be a) grave insult to people's lives. If for detesting Hun Sen or the Hun Sen Royal Government and the Cambodian People's Party they hate resort to cause stability for the country, it is a bad thing and a tragedy that deserves no forgiveness.

### Building Infrastructural Connectivity to Beach and Within Beach Areas

Secondly, to retain status of rising stars in South Western part of the country, tasks to do is to build infrastructural con-

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of Economy and Livelihood. When we liberated the country, at the initial operation of country's management, we came to understanding that there were needs for more professional institutions. We then created various commissions that had become later various ministries concerned.

The commission on agriculture, then led by HE Noe Samom, had become the Ministry of Agriculture. The commission on commerce, then led by HE Taing Sarim, had become the Ministry of Commerce. The commission on industry, then led by HE Meas Samnang, had become the Ministry of Industry. The commission on Transports and Communication, led by HE Khun Chhi, had become the Ministry itself. Later, there were more commissions like those involving with social affairs and veteran affairs [...]

### Telecommunications in Its Initial Stage and Present Development

It was until the fifth legislative term Royal Government, HE Prak Sokhonn became Minister of Posts and Telecommunication. As we need HE Prak Sokhonn for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, we have moved HE Tram Iv Toek to take his place [...] I am conveying my sincere thanks and appreciation to the efforts made by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications to go through the most difficult time of the country. I could recall that we then had only two-digit telephone and for use only by some leaders. It was hard to get a connection on the line. We also had to go through a call centre to get a connection to those phones in provinces. It all depends on the person who was in charge of transferring connecting calls.

We had to go through so many difficulties to get Intersputnik satellite in place and we had to go to the world

through the former Soviet Union. We use intersputnik connection to France and to outside world. We have made so much effort to get to the present development of Posts and Telecommunications. I wish to talk more about telecommunications that Minister HE Tram Iv Toek had brought up. You may look at the figure of SIM cards in use there are 19 million of it. The number is even higher than our population.

### Cambodia – No Dumping Ground of Outdated Technology

I am so proud of my policy and my statement that Cambodia is no dumping ground of outdated technology of any sorts. I said it in 1980s when the former Eastern European countries were wishing to sell us old technologies when they were going for newer ones. Take for instance, the direct broadcast van of National TV we had to make a hole for air-conditioner. It was cheap but soon we could not even find its spare parts. I then made a statement that Cambodia was no dumping ground of anyone's outdated technology. Even when Oknha Kit Meng signed an agreement in Paris to bring in Alcatel from France, I still suggested that Cambodia is in need of latest technology.

### Cambodia Should Have a Satellite of Its Own

... No matter how much progress we have made, we still depend on numerous infrastructures around us. However, I hope that with the soon coming fibre optic cable undersea, we will make another big step ahead. More so, I am suggesting for a thought on flying a Cambodian own satellite. I would say Oknha Kit Meng should find a partner with whom they can bring up a satellite for local demand of our country. I think it will be profitable. Many TV stations that were using other coun-

try's satellite are swapping to using ours. There will be more demands in the future. In fact, I thought about having satellite for the country since 1990s. However, we had so many steps to go through. There is now a growing demand for high-speed internet access [...]

### Information Technology Awareness

I have put out a policy that anyone appointed to a post must be aware of information technology. Everyone needs to learn it and/or to know how to use it. It helps shorten works from days to just minutes or seconds. To have access to a report in a province, we no long wait for the report to travel from there to Phnom Penh to learn what is inside. We could receive it through mails carried by Line, Whatsapp, Viber, Telegram, etc. It is true we cannot make decision on these paradigms but we could get the content of the report through them. It also comes handy with pictures [...]

In these recent years, I have had this habit of working with my face down and another with my face up. On daytime, I am going through papers and giving my instruction in written form on papers. I have had to sit with my face looking down. At night, I write stuff in note of my smart phones before sending to intended person/s. I also had drafted my working day with it. It saves me a lot of time. In former days, I had to write it on paper and bring it to someone to type it. Now I did it myself. Technology is advanced and people need to know how to use it. That is why I have made awareness of information technology criteria. However, I believe in our people, especially our youth, who have gained knowledge of information technology and use it effectively [...]

### E-People

... What we need to do now is to increase capacity of infor-

mation technology in Cambodia through all means. We have used terms e-government, e-commerce, etc. What I think we need the most now is e-people. To acquire that and to use it effectively and efficiently we need a fast-speed internet. We will soon have undersea optical fiber cable connected (19 December) linking Malaysia, Thailand and Cambodia. Please speed it up. In fact, it has been my experience that in some countries, I could not get even an SMS sent. In our country, wireless mobile telecommunications technology 4G has been a great help.

### Asked Pacquiao Two Things

I think it is about this much I should talk. Yesterday I spent a whole day in hosting President of the Philippines. The meeting was fruitful. It was good there was also a presence of the great boxer. In our official talk, I said to Pacquiao in the presence of President of the Philippines that I extended invitation to him to come to Cambodia on two things – firstly, making appeal to people regarding drug when we are launching our anti-drug campaign, and secondly, regarding traffic safety. In older day, we have used Hollywood actor Jackie Chan for traffic safety ads. I have kept in mind to say to Pacquiao about my thought and many other people's thoughts that he is the number one and not the number two in world boxing [...]

It is a controversial issue and many are still not satisfied (with the arbitration decision), the Americans themselves too. Well, that said, I do not have any discontent with Floyd Mayweather. He would not know. It was up to the arbitrators [...] Along with the inauguration of the office buildings of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunication please allow me to wish you all the four Buddhist blessings for the coming 2017 year ... ■

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fact, this child was about to abort since when it was in the womb.

Mr. Kainuma and HE Sok Chenda, and also then Japanese Ambassador Massafumi Koruki, may have remembered a major concern when there was a fierce competition to the determined investment of Minebea (Cambodia). The argument then was that Minebea is too small and there was an attempt to replace it with a bigger one. I then had to meet with the other company. What I wanted to bring up here is a story that is relating to lives of our workers whose works and more than 100 USD/month income go to their families [...]

### **Two Points for Investors' Confidence**

The point here was that Mr. Kainuma and his colleagues came to see me about this concern. I told him that for Cambodia, big or small fish is not the key. What is more important for us is which fish is coming first. We will catch them because our pot is empty. This has been Hun Sen's methodology to catch whatever fish came first, small or big. Secondly, I have made my point that should the Royal Government does not implement a contract made with Minebea (Cambodia), other companies also would suffer the same fate. This happened since 1995. Hun Sen adheres to a realistic policy. This is not only for the same of political matter. It is a question of trust. The project was about to abort.

After a thorough meeting, HE Keat Chhon (then Deputy Prime Minister) sought my approval on Minebea (Cambodia) project. Then there came another proposal to shelve Minebea proposal and wait for a bigger company. It was not a proposal from Cambodian but from foreign side. I do not have to reveal it. However, I have adhered to my

two key principles – whoever comes first, we will consider it and we must create confidence for investors. If one company could violate or sideline Minebea (Cambodia), that company may suffer similar ill fate one day like Minebea (Cambodia).

As you can see now that was how we started this company where you are now enjoying your works. With the support and cooperation provided by the Royal Government, the company has been able to stand here five years now. The child I helped deliver is healthy and increasing its capital from 23 million USD to over 200 million USD. Why has it achieved this status? It is because of confidence they placed in political stability and national development on one side and determinations rendered by the Royal Government for the company to develop as is reported by Mr. Kainuma.

### **Cambodia Hold No Discrimination over Foreign Investments**

In this week, I have come to PPSEZ twice. On 6 December, I came for the inauguration of the expansion of the US Company Coca Cola, and today, I came for the Minebea (Cambodia) Company of Japan. The good point here is that these companies are not obliged for shares from local stakeholders. While visiting Tokyo, the Cambodian delegation and I had a chance to have dinner hosted by Mr. Kainuma and his wife. We discussed things relating to their works and operation. I learnt from them what have been their difficulties and facilities working in Cambodia. We have covered various issues, taking for instance, provision of electricity for the factory.

I am indeed happy to have heard a paragraph of Mr. Kainuma's speech "the products that you are making here will be Cambodia's exports and

you have your shares in developing the country." Mr. Kainuma continued – "I think your working condition improves year after years. You all are able to send money to parents, families, for mending homes, and various other things." I am sure they are not only repairing their homes. With the income they made here they would be able to build new homes in the countryside. I am so grateful that Minebea (Cambodia) has invited their families to come and see how their children work and live.

### **First Pay All Due Debts, Borrow New Ones Possible**

Some people said Japanese, the US or French companies would come and invest in Cambodia only when they came to power. Some had come to me to try to cheat me that if s/he was made President of the National Bank, then Japan would allow lending to Cambodia. I know Japan well. The reason why Japan did not lend us is we have not yet paid old due debts. In principle, Japan would allow new borrowings only when old debts are paid. We have debts to Japan from 1960s and 1970s and the Royal Government has had to do so many things to repay them. However, Japan has a good way to remedying that. In order to pay back Japanese debts, Japan sends Cambodia some goods to sell in Cambodia. Money they made repays Japanese debts but Japan did not even get it back. They use it to assist Cambodia.

When we repaid Japanese debts, Japan offer us loans. Hun Sen never cheats anyone but he would not allow himself to be cheated either. You may see the French company that is investing in the Phnom Penh International Airports not far from here, the US Company here too, and various others. As you can now understand, it was not a question so and so in power to

make those countries invest in Cambodia. The key point is whether the country is stable and giving all investors favorable conditions or not [...]

### **Working Hard and Well, Better Pay**

This is our new policy on Cambodia industrial development for 2015-2025. We will work hard to promote it. I hope that you will work hard and well for the sake of the company's benefit because in return you will also get better pay. Please do not forget to send some to your parents. I asked around and many said they have been able to send some homes. Parents said they received between a hundred and 200 USD per month from their children. As you can see, what you are actually doing and achieving is not about the many thousands of you here but your parents, families and community. Being a part of family, children have obligations to help parents. Parents also have their shares of educating children who are residing in Phnom Penh to avoid drugs and improper actions.

### **No One Bribes Hun Sen for Investment**

People may ask around the French, the US or the Japanese here about corruption. You may ask Mr. Kainuma how much he bribed me to have a factory here. The other day we have the Coca-Cola Company here too, how much bribe did they pay to expand their factory? How much bribe the French company pay for their investments? Words have it that Cambodia is bad but Mr. Kainuma is coming still. We now have come to the fifth year operation and I am asking you to make your operation for a hundred years. Well I would have died already then [...] I hope that concerned institutions are working together, especially HE Sok Chenda, to oversee the smooth operation of the PPSEZ. I have entrusted many

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tasks with HE Sok Chenda to ensure good working process here and I do not wish to see any company to come in and leave us. I wanted all of them to increase their capital investments and expand to create more works and productions for exports to the world.

**Direct Flight from Japan and Three Years Visa**

It is now easier to travel between Cambodia and Japan. Direct flight between Phnom Penh International Airport and Japanese's Narita Airport offers chance for Japanese investors and tourists. Days ago, we have provided three-year valid visa for Korean and Chinese. We must do the same for Japanese. If we already did to a certain extent in the past for them, let us offer the same now. This should facilitate relations further ... I will go to Japan too. People may want to know why. I will go to have my artificial eye made. You know that one of my eyes is artificial and made in Japan. I lost it in the war. Japan made very good ones. Some people teased me that I have a good vision because I am wearing Japanese eye. Well, whatever they say.

The other day I did not mention about this while I was with the handicapped. Some called me the blind. Many leaders are blind. Former Majesty of Thailand had one-eyesight only. Hun Sen lost one eye for the sake of nation and people and it is not a condition for one not to be Prime Minister. Former President of Indonesia, Abdurrahman Wahid, also had failing eyesight [...]

**Connection between Industry and Agriculture**

Today we have presence of families of our workers who have come a long way here. I send my greeting to you and those living in your communities. It is now time for our people to harvest and people resid-

ing along the rivers would be busy growing their crops. People in Cambodia are working in both agriculture and industry. They are strongly related. Our people have one foot standing in agriculture and another in industry. While children are working in factories, their parents and families are working in farms. This year, animals did only 8% of cultivation. Children working in factories sent money homes with which either they purchased pulled tractors or hired ones.

I remember that during the 2008 economic downturn and financial crisis, many factories had closed down. HE Keat Chhon worked hard to create a special fund for vocational training. However, thanks to the fact that our workers were not completely depending on industry, they could go back and worked with their parents in agriculture. It did help us resolve problem to a certain extent. I just mentioned about the fact that we must work together to maintain factories and enterprises in our country, not only in this place but also throughout the country. Once the factories close down, workers are the first to suffer.

Please do not allow yourselves pulled by this or that groups as some would cause problem until factories have had to move out of the country. Finally, workers would miss their regular income between 150 USD and 200 or 300 USD. They would have to go back and work in the field. Factories and workers are of inseparable relation. They are like in a family. They complement one another. With factories, without workers, nothing could have happened, and vice versa. As leader of the Royal Government, I will work hard to attract more investments while preserving existing ones so that they will make more profits and some of them will come back to you working for them. Take for instance, our

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service too. I was talking about color revolution. Who initiated it? Would anyone praise color revolution anymore? Would any supporter of color revolution come out and praise how color revolution in the Middle East kill people each day? They went silent ... I wish that HE Ambassador note it clearly words of analysts and human rights representatives to the press that suppressing protests in the US was right and not a violation of human rights. I accept that and I do not expect a double standard interpretation. This has clarified that what the Royal Government of Cambodia did in the past was not wrong for the sake of keeping order of a country [...]

**Donald Trump's Victory Would Ease World Tension**

... Finally, I said that Donald Trump would win. And he did. If you would want to learn from me the key points that bring me to the evaluation that Trump would win, I would tell you someday. What were my reasons why Donald Trump would win the elections 99%? In Phnom Penh, people bet one against ten that Hillary Clinton would win and Donald Trump would lose. Those who bet Hillary's victory lost severely. I did not go into bet with anyone.

I was giving my lecture to over 2,000 national police forces and Fresh News who was there sent out news that Hun Sen wished Donald Trump win the election. I was drawing an analysis on a multipolar world issue. My argument for Donald Trump's would-be victory was that fact that the world situation has grown tense. The US-Russia relation was a mess especially the missile shield issue along the border with Russia, and Russia's threat to reciprocate. It is a severe issue for the world and for Europe itself. The world is interdependent. Well, that said, I should just go

on. On 8 November 2016, I had a courtesy call of the German Ambassador and in the afternoon a British councilor. They both refuted my arguments and denied Trump's ability to win.

A day later, the vote counting indicated that Donald Trump was in the lead. What I wanted to bring up here is that when I predicted Trump to be the winner, there were people who insulted Donald Trump to be dictator. They said animals of same feather would stay in same nest. They said Donald Trump would be a dictator because of his money and Hun Sen would be because of weapons and money. A diplomacy professor of Cambodian nationality in the US said should Donald Trump win the elections; it would be the rise of the illiterates. He brought into comparison persons like Trumps, Putin, Mugabe, etc. That Trump wins the elections and is going to be the President, whom they claimed to be illiterate I think the US Ambassador Heidt should have something to think of.

Two persons talked to the Cambodia Daily. Since they wanted too much to hit Hun Sen's head, unfortunately they had Trump's. I may remind you that I did not say anything to criticize Hillary Clinton and offer support to one versus the other. My analysis has been that (Trump's election) would ease world tension. I am not a professor of diplomacy but I worked in diplomacy for nearly 38 years starting since 2 December (1978). At the foundation of the National United Front for Salvation of Kampuchea I was head of the Cambodian youth in charge of mass affairs. I certainly have reasons to affirm that Donald Trump had a good chance of winning. Secondly, if he wins, the world tension will ease. It is my right to think and say.

**Why Are We American**

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nectivity to the beach and within the beach areas. In the past, because the Royal Government's budget was limited, we offered on concession the national road 4 for the private company to help build and maintain, through which our people paid for travelling in it. However, in the past one year, the Royal Government has brought it back and placed it under its management. People residing along the national road 4 as well as in the whole country paid no more when travelling in the road. People may save money that they previously paid for using the road for other purposes.

We also made efforts to rebuild the national road 3 and connect Phnom Penh through to Kompot and Kep and to the national road 4, and on to the province of Koh Kong. We also did our best to rehabilitate railway from Phnom Penh to Sihanoukville. I travelled by train once and on 30 December I will accompany our revered HM the King and Samdech Me, the Queen Mother, who will travel by train to welcome the year 2017 in the province of Sihanoukville. It is an honour once again for the people in Sihanoukville to welcome the royal trip [...] we are expanding capacity of the Kong Keng Airport too. This morning I briefly met with the French VINCI company who will open more construction [...] In the time to come, we will have a bigger airport and more flights will be connected to this part of the country. (Tourists) may not only stay in the province of Preah Sihanouk. They may also travel to Kep or Kompot, to visit the Bokor resort or even to Koh Kong [...]

### **Keeping Lasting Beach, Sand, Forest, Mangrove and Isles**

Thirdly, we must keep lasting beach, sand, forest, mangrove, and isles. We also need to

develop more resorts. If we want our beaches to become and continue to be beautiful, we must make efforts to protect them and retain status of the most beautiful beaches member, where our forest and mangrove forest are not subjects of destruction. I could be the one who travelled most to foreign territory [...] the beach in my memory that I could compare to the O Choeteul beach of Cambodia is perhaps the one I discovered in Serra Leone, Africa [...]

### **Keep Environment Clean – Water, Air and Nature**

Fourthly, we must take measures to protect environment – water, air and nature. Hard and liquid wastes must not go directly into sea. We should not permit construction of industry that is detrimental to environment and/or beaches preserved for tourism. I welcome the development of water treatment system that clean liquid wastes before they reach to sea. State and private sector must work together to protect our beaches. We must not allow polluted air in the beach areas.

I also wish to keep a message for the forthcoming generation that they should not allow foreigners to use our isles for dumping their wastes. I have encountered such attempts three times already [...] by late 1997, a multi-national investment delegation came to see me in Takhmao. They brought me an investment proposal to produce electricity by the latest technology from burning wastes brought from other countries. I gave them a question why do they have to find place to ship wastes from thousands of Kilometres away to burn in Cambodia. I told if their technology is the best and latest, they should keep them in their countries.

If we accept their assistance and investment proposal, we would become their wastes dumping sites. Whoever will take over from Hun Sen

should be most careful on this point. They should not be easily flattered and should refrain from allowing anyone of our isles in sea or land to become dumping sites for wastes in other countries that they could find a place to deal with them anymore. We have more wastes ourselves too and we are figuring out how to burn them to generate electricity. However, no wastes allowed from outside for electricity generation purpose in Cambodia ... Anyone who wishes to take power from Hun Sen, should think carefully of his/her hope. They should not be so rude to threaten with suppression, while they do not even have power yet [...]

### **Keeping Beaches and Isles Safe for Tourism**

Fifthly, it may be the last but not least, we must keep security and safety of beaches and isles for tourism. Combating against theft is one thing but taking precaution and rescued measures in blue water areas is another important matter. Please follow weather forecasts of the Meteorology Department. When ships should or should not leave ports and precautionary measures taken for both local and foreign guests. We must avoid incidents in the beach areas. There must not be gangster activities, drug trafficking included, in the beaches. Let us fight drug for safety of our people and tourists.

... I appeal to all four provinces along the sea to find a place where people who could not afford hotels or guesthouse can stay ... Sihanoukville, Koh Kong, Kep and Kompot, with ability to host so many people for events, could prepare a place where there are latrines, running water and electricity for visitors. They may be able to look after themselves [...] we could also use junior or senior colleges and/or primary school buildings as shelters for them in case of rain. They could be safety places [...]

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### **Than They Are?**

I am telling you a thing about my grandchild. It seems kids in the International School of Phnom Penh also hate Trump. People may resort to reading the Cambodia Daily or the Khmer Newspaper may want to reprint the translation of that article that carries words of two persons. They later terrified you people about Donald Trump's protectionism. I am telling you the US will not take Coca-Cola out ... Let us not be more American than they are or Trump or Hillary that they are. I would not buy it that the protectionism policy would bring interest to America. I may give you an example. To reduce investment to foreign markets means the US is losing ground. Some people brought that matter with me. They strongly believe the US will reduce investment to foreign markets and move them all in. I argue that it would be a big loss for them.

Firstly, outside markets are in need of investment. No matter where the investment come from, they would accept it. Without the US, those markets would work with some others. Take for instance car production. If the Americans do not like to drive the US made, what benefit would the US investor continue to produce it. They would have to import Japanese or German cars or allow Japanese or German factories to produce cars in the US. The best they would do is to increase tax in places of items where before they granted favors. However, increasing tax would bring impacts on the American people [...]

Do not feel terrified, Donald Trump is a businessman. He has vast knowledge of economy. He would not use protectionism to kill the US economy. Should he close the door and allow no capital to go out,

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## Expanded Plant for Cambodia Beverage Company

(05 December 2016 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

I am so happy today to be able to fulfil my promise that I made to the Cambodia Beverage Company (Coca-Cola Cambodia) at a meeting of the ASEAN-US Business Council to come and inaugurate the new plant here [...]

### Four Good Things of Cambodia Beverage Company (Coca-Cola Cambodia)

With regard to Cambodia Beverage Company (Coca-Cola Cambodia), as Mr. Irial Finan already brought up, I should speak of four points of encouragement and appreciation for the Cambodia Beverage Company (Coca-Cola Cambodia), whose investment in Cambodia has started from small to bigger project. Formerly we had company 7UP, which has now become one of the plants of Coca-Cola at Khan Russei Keo. The remarkable thing is, according to the report, that 99.7% of its employees are Cambodian. It is a strong encouragement to our efforts for use and training of local human resource. I am calling on efforts to do more of this. I am glad you have already done it. I am so proud of my people for having such chance for works in this production line with modern technology.

Secondly, the Cambodia Beverage Company (Coca-Cola Cambodia) has involved itself in social affairs ranging from traffic safety to human resource training, by means of providing scholarships. Thirdly, you have made Cambodia proud with your invention to label Coca Cola can with Cambodian letters. Let me say one thing here. When the US Secretary of State John Kerry was on a visit in Cambodia, I showed him a can of Coca Cola with label written on it in Khmer. Knowing that I am a Facebook user, John Kerry encouraged me to bring it on to Facebook. It is a lift of

Cambodian image indeed.

Perhaps I should remind that factories in Cambodia these days are not producing only to serve 15 million local Cambodian people's demand but 600 million ASEAN people. Because of some coordination, some countries may have to purchase it from Cambodia for their markets. Some countries may already have Coca-Cola production lines. However, Coca-Cola from Cambodia can still flow freely to other markets where it is in demand. Fourthly, the company initiated reasonable price lodgments for workers. This is one very good point that we are facing and making effort to resolve.

### Lodgment Owners Should Not Jack Up Rent

I would like to take this opportune moment to appeal, for the sake of our workers here, as well as in the whole country, or mainly in Phnom Penh, Kandal and Kompong Speu, to owners of lodgments on rent issue. We have achieved through negotiation on minimum salary of 153 USD for workers in garments, apparels and shoes production lines, starting from January next year. It is our remark that every time the minimum salary of workers increases, lodgment owners also do with regard to their rents. I am calling on local authority to work it out with the owners not to jack up their rents. If they really have to, they should do a reasonably tiny portion.

The Royal Government has made every effort to resolve their difficulties with regard to costs of electricity and running water so they would benefit from 610 Riel/KWH for use of 50 KWH of electricity and below, and a reasonable price for water as well. I am asking HE Cham Prasadh, Minister of Industry and Handicraft, to

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other countries with economic potential would fill in the empty space. The Americans would not be able to consume everything it produced [...]

### RGC Does Not Increase Tax, Collect All Taxes

Cambodia would not take unwise measures. To respond to the need of Cambodian people, Cambodia would not need to increase consumption tax. Once the consumption tax imposes, the price will also go up. The Royal Government under Hun Sen will not impose higher tax but collect all taxes available. We must collect all the taxes that we missed. With taxation, we will be able to increase state investment and salary. Workers, the government officials, the armed forces are waiting for salary increase at the end of the year. Civil servants and armed forces would wait for the second increase in April ...

### Should Welcome Trump's Position for Countries to Pay for US Protections

That the US would go which way is up to them but accord-

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efforts to decrease electricity price would be a part of profit for factories/enterprises. They should use it partly for increase of salary.

### Hun Sen Bows to No Pressure

I would not speak any more as I have spoken much already. Yesterday I sat and worked on many things. We have sent a message out that Cambodians know how to resolve their differences. Let no one talk about putting pressure.

As I had told HE Ambassador the other day that in matter of hours, there would be good news. This has been a message to everyone that Cambodia knows how to resolve its problem and please do not come around and talk about applying pressure here and

ing to my analysis, people should not be afraid of Donald Trump's position and should welcome him when he said that any countries wanted the US soldiers should pay for protections. This means, if you do not have money, there would be no more US troops. This is a benefit for the American people. Firstly, they do not pay tax that the administration would use it to defend another country, and secondly, there is no need to send their children to a foreign soil [...]

### Educate Youth to Become Good Citizens

We must educate our youth to study, to practice sports, to have good moral and virtue, not to scold and insult each other or resort to violence, not to go to drugs. That is what I want. (Believe me) they will not recruit bad people to work in their factories. If you work hard and they make profits, they will certainly do good thing in return. For instance this factory offers one free meal ... I hope concerned ministry work hard together to create favorable conditions for the country's industry ...

there. It is useless. My attitude is different from others. If you put me under pressure, I would just be ignoring it. When everyone is calm and cool, things go smoothly in just a few hours [...]

Now let us not talk about pressure anymore, Let us talk about making efforts altogether to build and develop our country. We have suffered so much already and it has been too much for our people to bear the suffering. Together, we must keep peace because without peace we cannot have development.

Let us not bring about conflict and create problem. We must instead work to attract foreign investments, provide investors with every facility they may need, and build both soft and hard infrastructures ...

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oversee the issue, and because the Ministry is supervising the water-supply headquarters as well. The Ministry of Energy and Mines together with the Electricity Company of Cambodia must keep on with this work of wiring electricity to workers' lodgments. Our workers should benefit from access to base price electricity and water supply.

Local authority with lodgments rented to workers must work with lodgments owners together with concerned ministries. There needs to be a discussion among them to ensure that workers will actually benefit from salary increase resulted from tripartite Royal Government-employers-trade unions negotiations. It has been a standing issue that this effort may face with the fact that lodgments owners would also increase their rents altogether. January (2017) will be in matter of days. I am calling on behalf of the Royal Government on owners of lodgments to spare understandings about this plea while we are increasing salary for our workers.

It is a good model that the Cambodia Beverage Company (Coca-Cola Cambodia) built lodgments and rented them out to workers at a lower price. This is one good and applicable example. I hope that those who work here will continue to have favorable treatment from factory owners and managers. The US considers itself as father of democracy and mother of human rights. It would be speechless if this US brand factory would in any case put pressure on workers. I am not mocking at anyone. I am just reminding.

### **Industrial Development Policy**

I wish to say a few things about our industrial development policy. We worked so hard to develop an industry

starting from one using intensive number of workers to respond to demand for jobs among our young people. Many factories came to Cambodia and we have been able to note increase of exports in volume from tens of millions to billions US dollars. How much did we reach now? Yes, 5 billion USD. To develop a country, we cannot rest only on agriculture like what Pol Pot did to the country – where there is rice there is everything. We need instead to do everything – agriculture, industry, which we alternate with choices. In the initial stage, our labor-intensive industry, service one included, absorbed some 600,000 workers. As of now, total number of workers working in every production lines everywhere have reached almost a million.

In terms of connectivity, this industrial zone has brought benefits to lodgments owners, food sellers, etc. However, we have the need to drive for higher technology industry that is using higher technology and world class like the Minebea Cambodia Ltd. That I will come for their operation expansion on December 8. What they have produced here is for worldwide demand. They make motor, a kind that is tiny and used in smartphones, radio, cameras and even for medical check-up equipment for internal organs, such as stomach.

In the Industrial zone of Koh Kong province, there is this factory produces what I call a nerve system of a car and they use it everywhere. The wiring produced in Koh Kong responds to demand also for car production in the US. To be able to do all this we must train our human resource. Attaining high quality human resource will enable us to respond to higher skill labor markets. This would also attract more investments and companies as well. Along with this, we also need to build infrastructures necessary for

transportation – ports, airports and electricity, etc. It is a good thing that the factory here has installed and accumulated solar energy of its own.

It is a reminder to Lok Chumteav Lim Chhiev Huor. I have noticed while driving here that compared to my previous visits, the road has deteriorated. Whose responsibility is it? HE Sok Chenda, Secretary General of the Special Economic Zone should oversee this. When the road is in bad condition, who will be responsible? Was it still SEZ owner's responsibility? If it is, fixing it is required. I am just reminding that to attract investment in SEZ, we must have a good infrastructure [...]

### **Workers and Business Owners Complement Each Other**

I hope that workers and factory managers, either US citizen or other nationalities, and sub-level managers to every sections will see that they complement each other. It is important. If the factory owners care well for their workers' health and living condition, it is true that workers will work more effectively and efficiently. It is a complementary approach. While workers are working hard to churn out profits, factories owners will certainly increase salary for workers. You complement each other. Please do not think of demonstration as means to resolve problem. Such measures would often lead to fire on factories. Once that happened, who would bear the brunt first? Deputy President of Coca-Cola would go back to his country but our workers here are losing jobs and incomes. You may register and apply for jobs elsewhere but, note my words, if the new factories know that so and so were the ones that creates problems, they would not offer any jobs. In Cambodia, this may not be as serious as if it were in the US or elsewhere.

That said, I did not mean to shut workers up from non-violent and rational protest. I support workers' rights to demand thing in a rational and non-violent way.

### **Do Not Be Terrified by Donald Trump's Protectionist Policy**

I have one thing to appeal to workers in not only this US brand Coca Cola factory but every American one, please do not be terrified by instigation of some people that the coming President Donald Trump of the US would implement policy of protectionism leading to reducing its investment to foreign countries. Having come to this, I have one thing to talk about. I may ask something from HE William A. Heidt (the US Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia), if you do not mind. It was about something that happened in the US and in Cambodia. In Cambodia, after the elections, there were always demonstrations. This time it happened also in the US and in many states [...]

The other day, Phnom Penh Post drew a comparison between what happened in the US demonstration and in Cambodia. One supposed to be in demonstration in the US, they run a photo of a woman in black eyeglasses walking elegantly, while there had been reports in every media openly about suppression by police on protestors, thousands of whom arrested. I am asking you for some proofs ... to see if you would reveal the truth. Not yet elected, President-elect Donald Trump said that the media was biased. If some of the US media was biased, how could anyone expect it different for the US media in Cambodia?

The other day I bought an issue up in Siem Reap and I hope you understand it because you know Khmer and there is always a translation

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