



26 June 2018—Samdech Techo Hun Sen is blessed by Samdech the Buddhist Supreme Patriarch Tep Vong

Chaom Chao Over & Underpasses

(29 June 2018 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

The Sixth Overpasses Put into Use

I am so glad today to join with all of you to launch the groundbreaking ceremony to build overpasses and underpasses at the Chaom Chao roundabout, which is the sixth ones built and out into use in Phnom Penh. It is the fifth one built by private company of Cambodian overseas. Phnom Penh was called the ghost city in time of war and especially after the regime of genocide. In nearly forty years we have turned the city into one of development – both in sizes and in depth [...]

Three Congestions in Phnom Penh

As is raised by HE Khuong Sreng, Mayor of Phnom Penh, and I also have said it on various occasions that there are three congestions in this capital. Firstly, we have traffic congestions. It is true. On my way here I have noticed that if the police do not block side streets and there were no police car to lead the way, I would not have arrived here in time. Secondly, we have congestions of drainage system. In a few days now we have had so much rain making parts of the city flooded [...]

and thirdly, congestion of wastes [...] frankly speaking, from 1979, when I entered Phnom Penh, through to 1980s, I never thought we would need overpasses like in other countries [...] as there were no traffics and not much activities and means of transportations [...] Phnom Penh was a quiet city.

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Preah Indra Samakithor Buddhist Achievements

(26 June 2018 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

Carrying Out Event before Campaign Is Due

[...] (Along with the fact that I prefer to carry out Buddhist event on waxing moon than waning one) we cannot prolong this event because the country will reach its general elections campaign on 7 July 2018. I will not be able to take part in event in which I would have to hand out gifts to Buddhist monks and senior citizens, or to provide resources to realize achievements. It will be in an elections campaign that the National Elections Committee prohibits

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Meetings Workers in June 2018

(June 2018 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

Meeting Workers at Choeng Prey, Kompong Cham, 06 June 2018

No Meetings with Workers during Elections Campaigns

I will travel throughout the country to meet workers/employees, where there are fac-

tories and workers/employees. In the means time, there are a few more meetings left before the elections take place. I wish to affirm that in the course of electoral campaigns, I will not have meetings with workers. We will cancel it for a while because every time I am going to this kind of meeting I will hand out something, big or small, especially to those pregnant women. In the electoral campaigns period, giving out stuff like that is not allowed and punishable by law [...]

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Sihanoukville Multipurpose Terminal Inaugurated

(25 June 2018 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

Deep-Sea Port to Dock 50,000 DWT Freighters, Work for 60,000 DWT

Today we are here for our nation to welcome a new achievement coming into existence with the financial assistance of Japan, together with the Royal Government's counterpart fund [...] you may note that our port facility was able to serve docking freighters of 10-thousand DWT (deadweight tonnage) loading capacity. With this achievement, the Sihanoukville Multipurpose Terminal (SMT) can now accommodate the 50-thousand DWT freighters. We will continue to deepen waterway to 14.5 meters for SMT to accommodate the 60-thousand DWT cargo ships. We already signed an agreement with Japan on 7 August 2017 [...] it is going to cost some 230 million USD [...]

Cambodia's Import and Exports Grown Bigger

Cambodia's SMT is no longer a place where we only receive goods provided as assistance from other countries or export only a small amount of goods from our country like in past.

Widening NR 6 from Thnol Kaeng to Angkromng

(11 June 2018 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

About 300 Km of Roads Inaugurated Last Year and This Year

I have a great pleasure to be able to put into official use a segment of about 250 Km, to round it up, of national road 6 between Thnol Kaeng of Kompong Cham and Angkromng of Siem Reap. I must apologize the fact that we have to reschedule the inauguration from June last year to this year. Secondly, I also came late by half an hour but there was a big rain back in Phnom Penh and the helicopter was unable to take off [...] Let me take this opportune moment to express my sincere thanks of behalf of the people of Cambodia

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Buddhist Prophecies: Homes with No One to Live In, Streets with No One to Walk In

Even in home of Prime Minister, there was no running water of any kind. In my case, we did not have water not only in 1979 or 1980, but until 1992. We use truck to pump water and load it from the Mekong. It was a difficult situation. This has reminded us of the time when Pol Pot sent city dwellers out to the countryside. It was an incident that corresponded to Buddhist prophecies that go “where there are homes but there are no one to live in, and there are streets but no ones to walk in.” It did take place in Cambodia. In older days, my grandparents and parents always brought those prophecies up among us and for logical reason, I always refused and denied them [...] we have no way of knowing that such thing could be true [...]

CPP Saved 5 Million Lives, Foster Population Increase to 16 Million

Through joint efforts, we have made it happened. Everyone can see that the Cambodian People’s Party is the one to revive the nation. It not only saved lives of roughly 5 million people remaining from Pol Pot’s massacre in 1979, it also foster population growth to some 16 million in 2018. Grandma Chin Ran, 79, has made it here today. My son and bodyguards told me about her and her family of 40 people in all who voted for the Cambodian People’s Party [...] we have one more election on 29 July, and I hope you are in good health and vote again with your families. You should be here with us till 2023 and we will go on till 2028 [...] it is a good thing that she made known to her children bitter past of our country [...]

From Water, Electricity, Means Shortages to Roads, Drainage, Wastes Congestions

I am so grateful to our people to have shared hardships from when we liberated the country

and prevented return of the regime of Pol Pot’s genocide, as well as sought for peace, especially our final efforts to implement win-win policy to bring about national reconciliation and national unity for the first time in the last hundreds years of Cambodian history. Phnom Penh is no longer a ghost and/or sleeping town. As a city in development, we have encountered new challenges. In 1980s, we came across issues in its own term. There were difficulties and favourable conditions of its own. We had shortages of running water, electricity, and means of transportations in those days [...] as of now, new challenges arise congestions of traffics, drainages, and wastes. You may ask a question here as to why? [...]

National Roads 3 and 4 to Widen to 24 Meters in Width

... Should we not build overpasses and underpasses here in Chaom Chao, we would not foresee how we could be solving this traffic congestion issue. Take for instance the national road 3 which intersect this roundabout, we also have to widen it to four lanes – two lanes to and two lanes from [...] With credit from Korea, we once widen it to ten meters width. Even with this size, we now have to increase the width to 24 meters width [...] we will do the same for the national road 4 to anticipate traffics and transportation of all kinds to and out of the roundabout of Chaom Chao area. Today is Friday, congestions starts from this evening at Chaom Chao because after works, people will leave Phnom Penh through here to Kompong Som and Kompot, the cities along the sea, for their weekends [...]

A Sky Train Discussed with Japan, A Third Phnom Penh Belt-Road Signed with China

We will need to build not only this overpasses and underpasses at Chaom Chao but more in other locations [...] in my visit to Japan, I discussed with Japanese Prime Minister about a possibility to build a line of sky train from Phnom Penh to the International Airport of Phnom

Penh. We have been working on building the second belt road around Phnom Penh city and in the near future we will sign an agreement with the People’s Republic of China to build a third belt road [...] more studies are being made and on 7 July, starting of the electoral campaign period – eight days away, I will announce new policies of more interests to our people. Some of the projects are undergoing and some have already completed their studies [...]

Narrowing/Deepening Canals, Offering Ownerships/ Titles to Residences along Canals

... In addition to this, for people who reside along the sewage canals, the Phnom Penh authority has been doing everything they can to now make their settlement legal. We will narrow down the width but deepen the depth of canals, for instance the Stoeng Meanjei canal area. They should not have concerns any more. The Royal Government already gave permissions to the Phnom Penh Municipality to act on this matter of sizing down width and deepen depth of the canals, and to offer legal recognition and ownerships to your residences [...] they should not say that Hun Sen is doing this to draw votes. Those settlers may choose to vote for whoever they wanted to. They just have something to themselves to think about, who would build concrete and deepened canals to transform areas where they live [...] it is a win-win situation. We cannot move these people out as it would create other issues too [...]

Concrete Water Canals for Irrigation After 2023

I have an ambitious plan as far as canals are concerned. I wish to decrease the width of waterways that are not necessary to regain land for cultivation. I means those canals that are not used for transportation. For some canals we cannot do so because they are not only for irrigation but also for transportation. You may want to look at it again. This issue was brought up in 1985 in one of the congress of the Cambodian Peo-

ple’s Party. We talked about building canals that cater to irrigation and transportation [...] we will build concrete ones to provide water for irrigation [...] perhaps that will happen after 2030. That is my vision and I just wish to share it with new younger generation leaders [...] we will have concrete canals built a bit higher so water pumped into them can just empty itself into rice fields [...]

Regular Multi-Party Elections

We are conducting regular multiparty elections. This time around we will have twenty of them. I hope that they will be free, fair and just elections. I am calling on our authorities – national and sub-national to create and offer favourable conditions for political parties to carry out their activities. We still have acts of some dissolved parties to destroy the elections, but I am sure they will fail because the Cambodian people will exercise their rights to vote, not only for the Cambodian people, but for parties they supported. Every party has their own supporters [...] the only way to guarantee peace and development is to vote for the Cambodian People’s Party [...] whose candidacy for the post of Prime Minister is me, Hun Sen. I will continue with this endeavour to 2023, and also to 2028, or at least, as I said, ten more years. I am still fit and strong [...]/.■

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capacity as President of the Cambodian People’s Party, I also ask voters to choose my party. I do not force them. They may choose whatever party they like. However, they should be clear that peace and development prevail only with continued leadership of the Cambodian People’s Party [...]/.■

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that in this elections too they will continue to vote for peace and development. Voting for the Cambodian People’s Party, people will be able to keep peace and ensure development [...] they will not live in concern and fear of war [...]/.■

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After the elections, I will continue to go around to meet workers. So far I have met not even 600,000 of our workers – registered and non-registered, that I have to see. It is my determination. I will take it seriously to observe progress in industry and handicraft, in line with our industrial development plan for 2015-25, to identify challenges, and to seek for solution [...] for instance, electric prices, we are conducting active study on it. It is a major issue that we are working to find a solution in the time to come. I will come out and announce our exact position to ensure electricity and its prices responsive to our people's demands, but also conducive to development of our industry. Lowering price of electricity to a certain level in industry would contribute to increasing salary of workers/employees [...]

War Easy To Make, Hard To End

Seeking peace for the country is not an easy job. War, when it is created by a small group of people, will indeed be difficult to stop. To end a war, to liberate the country, and to save the country from the regime of Pol Pot's genocide, there needs to be sacrifices, life included. Were there no peace, there would not be factories in this area. You young people would have to answer to military conscription, which every country in the world would oblige their people to take. However, at present, you people of the younger generation are lucky. You are free from military conscription and you have time to study. Our workers, female workers/employees included, are benefiting from jobs you are doing. There are now millions of registered and non-registered workers benefiting from increasing higher incomes [...]

Voting CPP to Keep Peace, Development, Jobs, Incomes

Where there is no peace there will be no development. There will be only destructions. You may ask your grandparents and/or parents, if they are still alive, about how each family went

through in times of war and the regime of Pol Pot's genocide. Each and every family could have someone die of war. I hope that you will continue this journey with me to keep peace and development. As I said earlier, it is you who will decide. Whether I can and cannot go on doing this jobs for you and for the country will be up to you. Our country is one of democracy, liberal pluralism, and one that conducts general elections regularly. The best way to keep peace and development, to ensure jobs and incomes, is to vote for the Cambodian People's Party so that I will become Prime Minister and make sure these will really happen [...]

41st Anniversary of Struggle Movement to Overthrow Pol Pot's Genocide

Over the past nearly 40 years, you could have seen it with your own eyes. If we backtrack to the day that I decided to trade my life to liberate the country, we will reach the 41st anniversary of the day when I led the struggle movement to overthrow the Pol Pot's genocidal regime. I made this journey with your grandparents and parents to bring about what has happened to you today – to have jobs, to earn incomes, and even to carry out agricultural activities. This year, only at early June, from a bird's eyes view, there are water everywhere in rice fields. Cultivation season (of rice) has come early since rain has continued to fall since after the Khmer New Year [...]

Workers' Incomes Complement Families' Agricultural Activities

... Those of you who worked in factories in this area have a better chance to be close to your houses and families. Most of you have had chances to go to sleep at homes and be with your families. Some may also help with other housing keepings and stuff. Your incomes would go one part to helping your parents to use agricultural machines in their cultivations. As of now, only 10% of land preparation is done by animals. In the rainy season, some 98% of

land preparation are carried out by machines, only 2% by animals. How could that have happened? One major part of it was because of your incomes and you contributes it to your parents' pursuits in agricultural activities [...]

HM the King Calls Upon His Subjects to Go to Vote

The general elections is drawing near. Yesterday our revered HM the King issued a message to call upon his subjects to go to vote. All 20 political parties calls on their supporters to go to vote. I am waiting to see the strategy of "winning only by staying home" [...] they mean to call on people not to go to vote [...] that they are against the Royal Government of Hun Sen is one thing. That they are opposing to other political parties [...] is one thing. We will see if they are to go against the message of HM the King. If they do, it will be a lèse-majesté. More importantly, if they will do that, it is certain that one day they would not hesitate to take down the Constitutional monarchy, or the throne. Our people may have to think about this [...]

We shall keep our eyes on this. If they go against HM the King, what in the world would they not dare to do? They dare to take down the throne. We must set our eyes on this and remember that if victory go to them, war creation will be a reality. Now, a threat of war has gone far away because the warmongers are now behind bars for the courts to ensure justice [...] we need not only peace but development, process of democracy, and liberal pluralism, which we will carry out on coming 29 July 2018 [...] in my capacity as Prime Minister, I am calling on our people to exercise their rights in the coming elections. In my capacity as President of the Cambodian People's Party, I am calling on the CPP members to go to vote. All nineteen other political parties also appeal to people to go to vote. HM the King stays above every political parties and is affiliated to none of them [...].*

Meeting Workers at Daunkeo, Takeo Province, 20 June 2018

Takeo Has More Potentials

I have a great pleasure to note that this policy of localizing schools to provincial students and factories closer to people for jobs and incomes has made good progress. I hope that Takeo will receive more investments after we finished improving the national roads 2 and 22. By then, transportation into/out of Takao, and from Takeo to international border crossing for export [...] we will also resolve issues relating to price of electricity which will attract further investments to Takeo. My advice for investors is that Takeo has got untapped potentials, one of which is land availability for them to build factories. Land is still available along the national roads 2, 22, and the national 3 that is partly running through Takeo. In addition to this, Takeo also has the benefit of infrastructures and connectivity – roads, electricity, and especially labor [...]

The 41st Anniversary to Trading Life for National Liberation

Today is the 41st anniversary of the day that I traded my life for national liberation. Thinking of that sad experience and life, I could hardly hold back my tear. In this instance that I have said that youth of later generation is luckier than those in mine. I started my struggle life from 18 to 25 years old under others' command. I implemented their orders. Starting from 10 June 1977, I determined to listen to no one but to master my own life. My life has in fact been attached to lives and revivals of the Cambodian people, who were in danger. I had at one point made a difficult decision [...] should I make a wrong decision, Cambodian politics could have gone in an unknowingly different direction [...] with about 2,000 soldiers under my command, I could have ordered armed rebellion on the Khmer Rouge and occupy Mehmot, Tromoung, Snuol, a

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part of Punnhea Krek, and Tam Bae districts [...]

Leaving Country and Family to Join Resistance

However, my calculation was no longer than one week, the rebellion would be crushed in blood by the Khmer Rouge's army of 18 divisions. The remaining choice was to evade death of soldiers and people. I decided to leave the country in tears and sufferings, while people were suffering and my wife was in her five-month pregnancy. That was hardship that youth of my generation, including your grandparents and parents, had had to go through [...] as I decided to leave the country and people to organize resistance, I had difficulty to finish a letter that I wrote to my wife. I did not know where I was and could be, and what could have happened [...] I told my wife I had to go far and away that even I myself did not know where it could be [...] meeting again would be indefinite [...]

With People's Support, I Did It

Today, 41 years ago, I started managing my life and that of the country. I did it successfully thanks to our people's supports and those assistances provided by Vietnam. I built up an army taking parts in liberating Takeo, Kompot, Kompong Som, etc. Initially, it was to cause trouble to the Khmer Rouge force in the southwestern part of the country to prevent them from mobilizing forces to the eastern part of the country. Later, my army had pushed through and captured Takeo [...] thinking about all this, yesterday, on my way home from the Council of Ministers, I tried to put together a lyric for a song "Trading Life," and tears came into my eyes. I could not finish it. (It is because I cannot hold back my tears and emotions that) no one has seen anything written about what happened on 20 June.

20th Anniversary of Ending War

Today too, Samdech Tia Banh,

Minister of National Defense, is in a ceremony to commemorate the march for national liberation, which I am sure national TV will broadcast some documentaries relating to it [...] things have now changed. We were not the ones to hatch wars. However, the youth of my generation, when I was 25 years old, continued to extinguish the wars flame, to work on national reconciliation and to reunite the country, for the first time in its history through win-win policy. This year is the 20th anniversary of the day that we ended war and divisions, and set up Cambodia as one-rule state.

People Make Decisions in 39 Days

Whether we would be able to keep these advantages or not will depend on you. You will make decision whether you wish to continue to keep what you have in hands – jobs and incomes. It will be an important decision to make on 29 July 2018, which is 39 days away. To secure jobs and income, first of all we must keep peace. Should we fail to do so, the country went into turmoil, enterprises/factories left the country, and we would lose jobs and incomes. It is therefore important to make good decisions to guarantee peace for development, jobs and incomes for you [...] the Cambodian People's Party has had its slot position 20, last one in the ballots [...] it is a good number because there are in all 20 political parties to contest, and it falls in the 20th anniversary of the day that I embarked on struggle movement to liberate our people from the genocide [...]

Making Cambodia a Fully Democratic Country

It is not time to launch an electoral campaign but every political parties have started already, only they have not got TV's channel to broadcast activities [...] I am taking this opportune moment to appeal to authorities in local and district levels to provide and ensure favorable conditions for political parties to perform their actions, for instance to meet with their mem-

bers/supporters. We must ensure that every parties can do what they needed to do to contest [...] we must make efforts to do this job well.

We should not think only of way to win but be conscious that as a ruling party, we must look into one common goal – to launch an elections that is free, fair, and just, and acceptable to all. We must provide whatever is necessary for parties, not only the defined 21 days of campaign, but from now, as to where parties' candidates and leaders may wish to go and organize meetings with members/supporters. If they wish to do it in public places, they may ask for permissions and concerned authorities must respond to their requests.

We must make this country a fully democratic one and one that reflects our people's will. It is true that there have been efforts to destroy the elections. There has been calls for people to exercise no voting rights. Those calls may not be fruitful. People will exercise their rights [...] a political party had died. No one would embrace a corpse. Even in real life, about 70% of men, and 50% of women, would remarry after death of spouse [...] in Cambodia there are more than 30 political parties and 20 of them contest in the coming elections [...].*

Meeting Workers in Kompong Chhnang, Day 1, 27 June 2018

Trilateral Efforts for Development

I am so grateful to your welcoming and friendliness. I am taking this opportune moment to express my sincere thanks to owners of factories for their permissions for workers/employees to gather and meet me. They also have offered workers/employees to have an evening off today with pay. This has indicated solidarity between factories owners and workers, and the Royal Government, which are three interconnected relations – Royal Government, private sector, and workers – for development of the country.

Win-win Strategy Ended War and Succeeded in Two Strategies

That we are meeting in Kompong Chhnang today, not in Phnom Penh, is quite a statement about Cambodia's progress. Have there been any factories in Kompong Chhnang and jobs for workers? This has clearly indicated that I have succeeded in transforming battlefields into marketplaces and development areas. Everywhere in Cambodia in the past was at war and there was even genocide. When I succeeded in making peace, ending war through the win-win policy, I put out two major strategies – transforming battlefields into marketplaces and development areas; and transforming borders into ones of peace, cooperation, and development [...]

About 10% of Land Still Off-Limit for Mines

I have succeeded in realizing development inside the country. We have about 10% of our land that are not yet receiving development projects. You may ask why? It is because we are not sure yet if they are cleared of mines and UXOs. It is essential for us to be sure that our people would not step on mines in their search for land for cultivations. We keep those land off limit provisionally and will return them to our people for agricultural activities and/or other purposes when we finish clearing mines and UXOs [...]

Three-days Break for Workers to Go to Vote

The Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training has issued a notification that you are allowed to have a three-day break on 28, 29, and 30 July to go to vote. I have already negotiated this with the garment association. It is your holiday on 29 July – a Sunday. You can make it up on Monday ... after going to cast your votes [...]

Service Sector Includes Rooms Renting and Food Selling for Workers

You may know by now that in any country there will have to

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such handouts [...] after the elections, we also will come to start of rainy season, when Buddhist monks need a temple to carry out religious activities [...] though in such a hurry, we still have some projects to complete. We will continue with it. We will get them done phase by phase. However, today, we have the Buddhist temple ready for monks to practice religious ceremony and to be ready for Katina next year [...]

Harmonization of Religions

As we have here today presences of both fraternities of Buddhism in Cambodia – the Maha Nikaya and Dhammayuttika Nikaya – in my capacity as Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, I am calling on all to seek to guarantee religious harmony. Religious harmonization must be a principle in every religions, not just Buddhism, to avoid religious conflict in the Kingdom of Cambodia. Though Maha Nikaya may have more followers, sizes and number of monks should not be obstacle to religious practice or national development. They both are fraternities in Buddhism [...]

Constitution Defines Two Principal Fraternities of Theravada Buddhism

For instance, today, we have the presences of the two Samdech supreme patriarchs. I wish to enlighten this matter to avoid misunderstanding from those who follow the Maha Nikaya Theravada Buddhism on why the Prime Minister spends so much money as contribution for the showering ceremony for Samdech Supreme Patriarch Buor Kri, etc. Please look what we have written in the Constitution. There is a sentence concerning the throne council, a body which has the power to choose HM the King, in which the two fraternities of Theravada Buddhism are members, in addition to President and the two Vice Presidents of the Senate, President and the two Vice Presidents of the National Assembly, and Prime Minister [...] I think I have made it clear for our people who follow Ma-

ha Nikaya Theravada Buddhism and I am seeking no division among both [...]

A Buddhist Pagoda that Serves Secular World

I have much appreciation to see that this Buddhist pagoda has been serving interest of secular world [...] while they have no place for monks to stay, they have made it available for students. I have also noticed with heartfelt appreciation that teachers carrying out their duties here had been once paid by the Buddhist monks and they were not listed in the state payroll [...] I then had instructed to enlist the 33 teachers to relieve them from our Buddhist monks' financial burden. I have high evaluation for their sacrifices. As every part of the pagoda's buildings were ragtag, they have made rather good classrooms for students. This Buddhist pagoda has been serving interest of secular world more in term of providing human resource training opportunity for poor student [...] I have just instructed the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports to enroll 27 more of their teachers [...] so they can continue to teach and the Buddhist monks here will not have to take care of financial matter [...]

Voting Cambodian People's Party to Keep Peace and Continue Development

Running eyes on the scouts here, it reminds me of scouts in Sihanoukville, where they clap their two hands thrice. It should be a remarkable clapping method. There are five fingers on one hand. One clap of two hands, there are ten fingers together. When we do two claps, there will be twenty fingers in them. (Twenty) is the slot position of the Cambodian People's Party in the ballots [...] I hope that members of the Cambodian People's Party will learn to clap their hands twice to symbolize number 20 [...]

People in Angsnuol district – those of you in Samraong, in Lomhach, etc. have always voted in high rate for the Cambodian People's Party. I hope

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together with me [...] I am taking this moment to express my sincere thanks for grandpas, grandmas, grandaunts/uncles, for their journey together with me in the last forty years. Without your supports, I could not have scored such victory and achievements to liberate the country from genocide, from war, and to make peace and to realize a complete national reunification [...]

Making a Step-by-step Journey

You may ask yourselves and compare what did you have and do in 1979, and the same question now? You are the live witnesses. You may not be happy with this or that and/or satisfy your needs, but what have you got now compared to 1979? [...] you are able to go to practice whatever religious faiths you may, for instance Buddhism. Teachers can now do their admirable work of teaching, take for instance in Kompong Thom, we have now 188 kindergartens, 470 primary schools, 67 junior secondary schools, and 24 senior secondary schools [...] we have to make our journey step by step. We cannot make a swift pace for lack of financial resource. Some have talked of following countries with hundreds of years of development [...]

CPP – Not Empty Promises, Real Peace and Development

... The country is in peace now. Please join together to keep peace and to guarantee continued development. Please do not let our country to fall into war like in 1970s [...] were there no war in 1970s, there would not be genocide in 1975 through to 1979. It could have been peace for the country should they leave Samdech Preah Karuna Samdech Preah Sihanouk Preah Borom Ratanak Kaod lead the country. To assure peace and development, our people, especially eligible youth, could make a wise decision. It was to keep peace and development or not? If you choose to keep existing peace and development, you just vote for the Cambodian

People's Party which will be in position slot 20 on ballot. It will not be an empty promise. That people are currently living under the roof of peace and gradual development is not a lie ... it is a reality [...]

CPP Wins, People Truly Win

I have responsibilities before millions of people. Should there be a mistake in making decision, people would have faced with disasters. That would not be simple. I hope that those of you who have supported the Cambodian People's Party will continue to do so. Voting for peace, for keeping development, one may vote for the Cambodian People's Party, in slot 20 (on ballot papers) ... it is a fact that CPP wins means people themselves win. People win because our people keep peace and prevent heinous war from coming back by hands of whoever or whatever groups they may be. People win because they build their own lives under no one's order or command as in the time of war, genocide, and division [...]

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in making jobs and income available to you because they supported the Cambodian People's Party [...] it is then up to the people to make decisions [...]

A Retirement with Tea and Chess Board

As for me, wealth is not an issue [...] but I sense that loneliness will come to me again when I am growing older. It is naturally true that my children and grandchildren will have a lot to do and think about their lives and families. It is in this thought that I came to a feeling that we both – my wife and I are going to share this loneliness. Even if some of our grandchildren are spending times with us, they also have their lives to think about ... What can aging people think of doing when the time comes? Since we are no longer able to do heavy sports, for me, perhaps I could think of tea with palm sugar, and chessboard to accompany and entertain the last part of life [...]

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We have expanded both import and export sizes. Our transport costs have been considered one of the most expensive in the region [...] heavy DWT freighters would only dock in Vietnam, Singapore, etc. Smaller DWT freighters would have to come in and load goods from our ports and discharge on to heavy DWT freighters. That meant they had to load and discharge, and discharge and reload. As of now, the 50,000 DWT ships can come and dock in SMT. We no longer have to do all that anymore [...]

Deep-water ports Serve 70% of Goods Delivery

We have increased water depth from 13.5 meters to 14.5 meters to serve passage and docking of heavy DWT freighters [...] though it is now the sixth phase of development, I think we still have to come up with a plan ready to respond to demands for off-shore transportation [...] we will continue to conduct studies, especially with JICA, to expand phase after phase capability to increase transportation through our deep-water ports, which serve delivery up to 70% of import/export goods [...]

Seeking Every Means to Prevent Privatization of SMT

I should say something here to highlight role of Japan regarding the developments of SMT, and to prevent it from being sold out after they did so to our airport. Back then, there were many companies seeking for opportune moment to invest in the development of the Sihanoukville Seaport. I did everything I could to prevent privatization of our only seaport in the understanding that should it be privatized, Japan would not have given us loans to develop it. I had to come here very often and keep my eyes on it. One man may have one thought. However, I am sure that our dock workers and staff know how much I have done for keeping this seaport to stay what it is. It is in this meaning that I have made it my journey-day here to meet you, or sent my representative, on 1st of

The 1970's Coup Brought about Illegal Government to Borrow US Money

(Talking about foreign assistance) there is one thing I should mention to you [...] (a former Cambodian regime purchased weapons and) bombs to drop on our people, and they now demand that we must repay them. We are still negotiating. They keep adding up interest. We have to accept inheritance of state debt. We asked to divert the debt into development assistance. They made their point it was difficult for them to explain to the congress. I could not hold it back. I said it was me who had the difficulty to explain it to the National Assembly. The present King of Cambodia is the son of the former King that they brought down in a coup [...] it was because of the coup that there was an illegal government who borrow money from (the United States of) America, frankly speaking. I brought that up with (the former President) Obama, and he said it was difficult to explain it to the US congress [...] after all, the money borrowed from the US was for what purpose? [...] to (the US President) Donald Trump whom I met in the ASEAN-US Summit I said "it was like hammering me and asked me to pay for the hammer's cost."

SMT Re-developed With 381 Million USD

Until 1998, Cambodia had fully repaid (its debts to) Japan. It was then that Japan declared allowing Cambodia to borrow new debt. It was the former Ambassador Saito who laid his signature in 1999. The money we borrow from Japan was used in development of this seaport [...] that was how we benefit from Japan a credit of low interest rate. We are using now a 40-year loan of low interest rate at 0.01% with a 10 years of grace period. We must pay them back to Japan after 40 years [...] for this SMT development project, we have used roughly 381 million USD of Japanese loan to expand and strengthen its capability. We are happy to make it known to eve-

ryone that cargo ships of 20,000 to 50,000 DWT loading capacity no longer have to wait in Singapore, in Vietnam, in Thailand, or in Malaysia to reload the goods (from Cambodia's seaport that could not accommodate them).

Serving Oil Exploration and Exploitation

We also can use ports to deliver services to oil exploration. Previously, in our exploration quest, we have to ship in supplies from Thailand to exploring sites in our sea. As of this time, we can cater to those needs ourselves. We hope to proceed to oil exploration in our sea with less dependency on other countries' ports [...] that are some issues relating to redevelopment of our seaport at Sihanoukville. More goods are coming in and going out of the country and we have to make efforts to expand it stage after stages [...] I thank JICA for their professional expertise and studies for the development of SMT. SMT has now come into stock market and JICA also bought some shares too. It will become a major capital for our deep-water port [...]

Pressed by Major Financial Institutions to Sell Out Customs

Running my eyes and seeing customs officers sitting over there, one story came into my mind and I think I should bring it up as an advice for people as far as making political decision is concerned [...] a number of major financial institutions had in the past pressured me to sell out (privatize) customs, well I may bluntly put it. They should be ashamed of themselves for their mistakes. I did not follow them. Howe many country in this world would have sold out their customs? [...] they brought it to the Cabinet meeting a document regarding privatization of customs. They came up with this idea of half-private and half-state formula [...] they have foreign companies ready for it. I made my point that customs is absolutely a sovereign service. I would not let any privatization happens [...] there were two foreign experts writing and leaving us

letters stating whatever happened should not be them to blame because they also were paid to do the job. We have kept the letters till today [...]

Saving to Gradually Pay Debt

For whatever we borrow and owe, we must pay back in principle and interest. We need to save money we make from SMT services to gradually address the duty of paying back. We can borrow more but we also need to repay. This should help us keep debt under control. We also borrow only to cater for demand of development. Take for instance SEA Games, I have asked concerned parties for Cambodian to postpone its turn of organizing it. Even Laos had hosted it already. Cambodia does not go for it yet. If we spend 100 or 200 million USD of our limited resources for SEA Games, with what money do we use to develop our seaport? Japan would let Cambodia borrow money to develop the seaport. They would not allow us to access loan for organizing SEA Games [...] Japan would look into projects that interacting with economic progresses. Without a higher capacity seaport, how could we cater to demand of our growing import-export? [...]

Peace and Development Pre- vail with Continued CPP's Leadership

We are now in a state of development. We need to guarantee peace and development. You may know already that the best way to do it is to vote for the Cambodian People's Party, whose slot position on a ballot is number 20. The man who is speaking in front of you is the one who has actualized such guarantees. It is not something unseen. There will be 20 political parties contesting in the forthcoming 29-July-2018 general elections. I am sure our people will go to vote for whatever party they may like or trust. However, I continue to appeal that should you want to vote for the Cambodian People's Party. No one would ask voters to vote for other parties [...] in my

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dia through HE Xiong Bo, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, to the government and people of China for their supports to the progress and development of Cambodian economy, in which more necessary infrastructure will be coming along.

Going back to its background, I discussed and reached an agreement on the renovation this road with the Chinese leaders when I attended the 8th China-ASEAN Expo in Nanning, Guangxi province in 2011. We launched the construction in 2013 [...] as is mentioned by HE Ambassador, last year we also put into official use the national road 6A segment between Phnom Penh and Thnol Kaeng. Today we finished the part between Thnol Kaeng through to Siem Reap [...] altogether, last and this year, we have inaugurated roughly 300 Km of road.

National Road 6, 62, 9 Serve Socio-economic Development, Reduce Poverty

China has been doing a great thing by connecting Cambodia internally. Not far from here, there is this national road 62 connecting national road 6 to Preah Vihear province, and run through many districts. There is also another road that links up with Siem Reap on the way via Koh Ker. There is also another road that links up national road 62 to national road 9 to Stuoeng Treng province, from where people can go to Kratie, Ratanakiri, Mondulakiri, etc. [...] these serve the country efforts to put in place connectivity for the benefit of developing its socio-economic development, and reducing poverty. This is all thank to our friend China for its assistance to Cambodia's infrastructural development [...] for our people who are in their older ages, 50, 60 or 70, could have remembered how bad it was the road connections between Kompong Thom and Siem Reap in the time that our country went through war and destruction [...]

Between Kompong Thom/Storg and Siem Reap/Chi Krenge Was Never Safe

In the district of Storg, there were hot battles throughout and was not a safe place at all. It was since when HE Nguon Nhel was governor [...] because my wife had to be in Vientiane (in 1989) and I had to take care of my children. In this situation, when situation in Kompong Thom was of concern, I had to come and bring along with me my children to review and evaluate the (Khmer Rouge's) threat to Kompong Thom [...] People could remember that the section between Storg district of Kompong Thom and Chi Krenge of Siem Reap, traveling was always in danger. The (Khmer Rouge) guerilla frequently attacked in this area and there was a time that we lost the district of Storg [...]

Ending War by Win-Win Policy, Transforming Battlefields into Markets/Development

There was a time that I traveled from Stoeung Treng through national road 9, the Cambodian-Chinese Friendship Bridge, and via the districts of Rovieng of Preah Vihear province through to Baray district to have lunch in a hotel in Kompong Thom [...] I instructed construction in all 123 classrooms on nine buildings [...] Cambodia has put behind the war by proudly implementing a win-win policy and is transforming the country from battlefields into markets and development areas [...]

Two Roads to Ask for Help from People's Republic of China

While talking about thanking our China friend for their help in constructing about three thousands Kilometers of road – some are still under construction, and various bridges over the rivers, I wish to remind our people about two other roads that I used to mention and nurture intention to have them built. One of them would be running from Kompong Thom through to Kratie, where we are going to build a bridge. That road would link Kompong Thom and Kratie together by over 100 Km distance [...] another road that I also men-

tioned already in the past is the one that will run between Kompong Chhnang and Kompong Thom's Kompong Thmor [...]

Taking into Considerations Impacts on Daily Life and Aquatic Flora and Fauna

However, for the second road, I am inviting you all to think about it together with me. The construction feasibility study has already completed and it would cost a little over 100 million USD. However, we have unbeknown impacts to carefully think about. Should there be any problems, people depending their lives on water of Tonle Sap Lake and River would be unhappy. For example, we build a bridge at every five Kilometers, people who use open waterway throughout the lake would be unhappy because they would have to seek for space under a bridge which would be five Kilometers a part to pass from one side to the other [...]

We also have to think about impacts of aquatic flora and fauna as the road and bridge would have changed water current and upset them. We must ensure that there will be a reliably good solution to these problems before administering the construction of the second road and bridge [...] there could be a good model for such road and bridge in China – the bridge that connects mainland's Shenzhen and Hong Kong island [...] if we can do it that way, we would be able to avert those impacts and people's unhappiness [...] well, that would be my advice should we wish to pursue with this vision of road between Kompong Chhnang and Kompong Thom [...]

Connecting Koh Kong to Pursat's Thmor Da and Battambang's Samlot

Well, I wish to inform HE Ambassador that we are going to place one more road project as a candidacy for immediate consideration and support either this or next year. It is the road project to connect the province of Koh Kong to Thmor Da (of Pursat) and Samlot (of Battambang) at the Cambodian-Thai

border. China has helped us built roads nearly around the country and we still have this chunk to link them all up. The road will be less than 200 Kilometers and cost about 200 million USD. They were former battlefields but now we have roads running in and through Pailin, Malai, Samlot, etc. However, we still need asphalted road between Pursat's Thmor Da and Battambang's Samlot, and between Thmor Da and Koh Kong [...]

China's Economic Growth for China and Other Countries in the World

I always say that China's economic growth is not only for China's progress alone but China has contributed to helping many countries in the world. Thanks to this "one belt one road" initiative of President Xi Jinping, credits given out by China in implementing projects relating to "one belt one road" is getting bigger. Cambodia is also benefiting from such initiative, and is proud to be a founding member of the Asian Infrastructural Investment Bank (AIIB) [...] though we are not yet making use of credits from it. We have so far used only financial assistance from the People's Republic of China [...]

Thanks for Sharing Journey Together

Taking this opportune moment, I thank out people for putting up with impacts (of building this roads), and accepted payments as compensation for making way for the construction. It was true that out of over four thousands families, there were some 42 families to whom the Royal Government had had to exercise expropriation law for the sake of public interest [...] I seek your understanding that implementing the expropriation law caused dissatisfaction among some of you. However, that the road is now in place, our people could reap its benefit – those who live along side and those who pass by [...] I hope that you will continue to make this journey

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be employers and workers. Cambodia is not yet an industrialized nation. In some (industrialized) countries, there are not many farmers. They have more workers. We must make further efforts altogether to our country developed in agriculture, industry, and services. Talking about services, it may include also those of you who provide housing for rent, sell food, etc. for workers/employees [...]

War Makes Create Refugees

We must make more efforts to defend our country and to keep peace and political stability for the sake of guaranteeing development. You may look at some countries for what have happened when they are at wars. In days now, there have been this incident of separation between children and parents at the US-Mexican border areas [...] though this matter takes place in the US, it has impacts on others relating to issue of refugees. You may remember that in time of war, our people had become displaced people inside our own country. Some of us later took refuge to other countries. Our people fled to Vietnam, to Thailand, and to Laos ... (because of war and) especially of the Pol Pot's regime of genocide [...]

Parties Provoke Hun Sen for Own Publicity

[...] (Parties have gone around, whispered or talked to people) but they are all promises that have yet to come true. The truth has been ones that the man on this podium is talking about [...] the Cambodian People's Party, who has majority and led the National Assembly, the Senate, and the Royal Government, has continued to extend my candidacy for the Prime Minister's post [...] let me send a message to those who wish to provoke Hun Sen to elevate ones' positions to seek other means. I have given out some tips to some people. As of this moment on, I will give no more. Some parties have resorted to attacking me, the Cambodian People's Party, to provoke my reactions. With that they wish to have publicity. It is hopeless be-

cause [...]

All CPP Needs to Do Is Defending Its Policies

Let me instruct leaders of the Cambodian People's Party to trade no words with anyone parties at all. We are the ruling party and it is clearly their works to criticize our policies. We do not have to fight back. All we need to do is to defend our policies. Take for example, policies in industry, building factories in Kompong Chhnang is right or wrong? Localizing factories to provinces is right or wrong? Building roads and bridges, hospitals, pagodas, schools, is right or wrong? We sorted out with neighboring countries on border issues and plant border poles is right or wrong? We make peace and evade war is right or wrong? [...]

Free for Policies Competitions, But No Insulting Please

They may debate about our policies. We are open for competition. What parties should try to avoid is to do things that is beyond concern of Hun Sen or the Cambodian People's Party, but of the National Elections Committee (NEC). NEC may decide what to do for improper actions ... they may give a fine. NEC had once fined our candidates in Kompot province. We also have been given some ten million Riel of fine from a party that insulted us "thieves stealing from the nation." They may debate policies and we do not prohibit them from talking about it. We are open. I have issued policies to transform battlefields into market places and development areas, even to have factories in Kompong Chhnang, was it right or wrong? We now have electricity network running through and across Kompong Chhnang to Pursat, to Batambang, to the border with Thailand, and back to Siem Reap, was it right or wrong? We are working on bringing down prices of electricity in a near future [...]

With Problem People Ask for Me, Now Am Asking Them for Votes

Samdech Chaova Vang Kong

Sam Ol is the member of the National Assembly of the Cambodian People's Party in this constituency. Please vote for him. You vote for the Cambodian People's Party, you will vote for him, for me to continue working as your Prime Minister. I place my hope in you. I will continue for another ten years and it will be up to you to tick on your ballots [...] every time people have problems, they hold up photos of me and my wife, no matter where, under sun or rain. Now I am asking you back for votes. You asked schools, roads, etc. from me. I am asking for votes from you [...]/i

Meeting Workers in Kompong Chhnang, Day 2, 28 June 2018

Khla Krohoeum Area in Kompong Chhnang – A Visit from 32 Years Ago

Anyone of you comes from Khla Krohoeum? I toured that area in 1986. It was 32 years ago. I traveled by a small speed boat. It was in the flood time. Our troops then stationed in a highland of Khla Krohoeum. We traveled to Peam Chhkaok and Prey Kri. It was at night when we arrived. The Khmer Rouge soldiers ambushed us [...] we do not have this situation anymore. We have made peace everywhere in our country – land or water [...]

Policy to Localize Factories to Provinces Is Successful

Today we meet here again in Samaki Meanjei – we have same speaker but different listeners. I will talk some of the same issues that I talked about yesterday. I also have something new to share with you too [...] I just need to make this point that our policy to localize factories to provinces to be closer to our labor force has been a success [...] for instance, we have so many factories built and operated in Kompong Chhnang making apparels, brewing beer, milling rice, etc. We are looking for more investment relating to agriculture to earn value added and to provide more jobs to our people [...]

Keeping Existing (Factories/

Jobs), Creating New Ones

As far as factories in Kompong Chhnang is concerned, it is certain that this is not where it ends. Yesterday I met with workers/employees from 5 factories, and today from 14 factories [...] Kompong Chhnang still has potential to attract more investments not only in garments/apparels [...] it is in this understanding that we are making efforts to keep existing factories/jobs and create new ones. We try to ensure factories will stay in our country and attract more from abroad and even local ones to create more jobs for our people. You may have jobs now but your brother and/or sisters, relatives, have not got jobs yet. We must work together to make this happen [...]

Peace and Political Stability Create Long-term Confidence among Investors

How do we go about making a policy and implementing it to make sure they will stay with us? The question is why did they not invest in countries where they may have chance to pay less for labor? Why do they choose to invest in our country where they have to confront with high labor cost, high price of electricity, and even no better infrastructures than those in other countries? We can give an answer to this question – it is because Cambodia has got peace and political stability, which create for investors a long-term confidence in their businesses [...]

You May Want to Make Sensible Judgments/Decisions

Parties will try to convince you to vote for them. However, you have to think about it thoroughly. Your salary may be is not up to what you want or need but you are far better off than when your grandparents/parents restarted their lives after the Khmer Rouge regime ... You may want to make clear and good judgments on this. It is the Cambodian People's Party who have brought peace to the country and our grandparents/parents have been helping to make that happened. They also have a role

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