



29 July 2018 — Samdech Techo Hun Sen and Samdech Kittipritbanchith cast ballots at a polling station at Takhmao city, Kandal province.

## Kicking Off Elections Campaign

(07 July 2018 — whole text and translation from source)

*My utmost respect to all Venerable Monks;*

*Dear beloved compatriots, members of the CPP and youth activists!*

Today, it is an auspicious day to kick off the general election campaign to select our representatives for the 6th legislature across the country, which marks an important historical and political moment for Cambodian people! This landmark event is being held along with the commemoration of the 67th anniversary of the founding of the **Cambodian People's Party (CPP)** which is being energetically celebrated by all CPP members, our youths and people. Our CPP party has great history, as being founded by the people's patriotic movement to fight for the national independence against French colonization, and has bravely persevered and lived through the most difficult and chaotic periods in the modern history of Cambodia. On behalf of the Central Committee of CPP and my behalf, I would like to extend our deepest gratitude to all our compatriots everywhere who always give us justice, who have firm belief in us and provide strong

support to the leadership of CPP. It is indeed all these great aspirations, determination and deeds that have become the source of enormous power for the party to succeed in fulfilling its obligations to serve our nation and people over the past 39 years.

On this great occasion, we all wish to convey our deepest respect and gratitude to **Preah Korona Preah Bat Samdech**

(Continued on page 2)

## Preah Vihear World Heritage Anniversary

(15 July 2018 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

### A Memory of What We Went Through Ten Years Ago

How are you? Will you take French (football team) or Croatian? Though we do not have the presence of the French Ambassador here, I wish to deliver the people and Government of France a chance to lift up the World Cup 2018, after they once did in 1998. I hope that French will win this final match [...] Excellency, Ladies, national and international guests, dear compatriots, we are meeting here today to launch the commemoration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary addition of the

## People Have Chosen Democracy ...

(29 July 2018 — Facebook Samdech Hun Sen, Unofficial Translation)

I thank you - **brothers and sisters, nephews and nieces, compatriots - for going to vote today overwhelmingly. You have chosen democracy** and used your rights as stipulated in the Constitution, the top law of Cambodia.

According to report of the National Elections Committee, as of 15:00 hours today, the closing time of voting stations and counting is underway, there had been about 6,744,893 voters or over 80.49% participated.

I thank our people and nieces/nephews for taking parts in exercising your rights to choose people's deputies and to tick in the ballots choosing whichever parties you like.

I am asking you all to follow the results on Cambodian national radio and television. 🇀

## Sihanoukville Multipurpose Terminal

(27 July 2018 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

### Welcome the Centrist Democrats, ICAPP

Today, after 21 days of campaigning, is the final day of elections campaigns. I am pleased to warmly welcome presence of members of the Cambodian People's Party of Phnom Penh and hundreds of thousands others in the whole Kingdom of Cambodia, who

may be watching and listening to this live broadcast. Taking this opportune moment, please allow me to welcome HE Andres Pastrana, former President of Columbia, and chairman of the Centrist Democrats International, HE *Jose (Claveria) de Venecia*, former Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Philippines, and member of ICAPP (International Conference of Asian Political Parties), and other leaders, including also former Vice President of Iran.

### A Solidarity in the Whole Cambodia

I wish to take this opportune moment, on behalf of the Permanent Committee of the Cambodian People's Party, to express our sincere thanks to members of the Cambodian People's Party in the whole country for the last 21-day campaigns carried out in a responsible manner and as a party with

(Continued on page 6)

### In This Issue

- Kicking Off Campaigns
- People Choose Democracy
- Preah Vihear Heritage

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 1)

**Preah Baromneath Norodom Sihamoni, the King of Cambodia and Samdech Preah Mohaksatrei Norodom Moniveth Sihanouk, Preah Voreakreach Meada Cheat Khmer of Freedom, Dignity and Happiness**, for their reign in providing a “blessing shade” to Khmer nation; and we all would also like to respectfully wish **His Majesty King of Cambodia and Samdach Preah Voreakreach Meada Cheat Khmer**, good health, great wisdom, and longevity to continue to navigate Cambodia toward long-lasting progress, prosperity and happiness.

Also in this occasion, we all wish to commemorate, with our utmost respect and gratitude, the bravest sacrifices of those military men and women, and the Khmer patriots of all generations who fought and sacrificed their lives for national independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, peace, freedom, democracy and progress of our beloved motherland.

For the past 39 years, Cambodia had traveled a long journey that is filled with successes and pride, with ownership of her destiny by prevailing over all kinds of obstacles and all sort of hardships. In this long journey, under all circumstances and situations, CPP has been the only political force that has stayed and shared the ups and down with the people, and has done everything for the interest of the people. Major historical achievements that CPP has made for the nation have been engraved on the hearts and minds of our people; and no one can manipulate or deny this reality. The CPP had spearheaded the overthrow of the genocidal regime to save the nation, with a historical victory on January 7, 1979, that resurrected the country and gave the people back their rights, freedom, democracy, dignity and honor that had been lost completely during the cruel regime. The CPP had protected the people, prevented the comeback of the genocidal regime and accomplished many historical achievements in the rehabilitation and development

of the economy and society starting from year-zero with steady progresses reaching the current development stage in all sector as we witness today. The CPP had brought about full peace and achieved national unity for Cambodian people by implementing “**Win-Win Policy**” in the late 1998, which completely put an end to the almost 30-year chronic civil war in Cambodia. At the same time, CPP had made Cambodia gained greater reputation and prestige in the international arena, and transformed Cambodia into a fully independent and sovereign state, which is actively contributing, on an equal footing and right, to the international affairs under the global and regional frameworks.

In the 5th Legislature of the National Assembly, the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) under the leadership of CPP, which have been given the mandate as a ruling party through a free, fair and just national election that took place in July 2013, with me serving as the Prime Minister, has led the country to overcome many dangerous situations and succeeded in implementing its political agenda, despite the attempts by a number of ill-intended groups inside and outside the country to create all kinds of difficulty to hamper our journey in building, protecting and developing the nation. The Color Revolution Movement led by the former opposition party and string-pulled by foreigners with the attempt to overthrow the legitimate government born out of the national election, has been timely prevented by the implementation of stringent legal measures. On this basis, the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) led by CPP has saved the country from falling into another destruction once again, and has safeguarded peace, stability, security as well as public order for the nation, which are the pre-requisite and indispensable conditions for the socio-economic development and peaceful living of our people. National defense has been further enhanced to ensure the

safeguarding of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cambodia. The multi-party liberal democratic system and freedom of the people are legally protected and further enhanced, which have contributed to political stability and national development. In-depth and comprehensive state reforms have increasingly become more efficient and fruitful, as evidenced by the enhancement of good governance in public institutions, the improvement in the efficiency and quality of public services at all levels for the people and the strengthening of social justice and equity.

With respect to socio-economic development over the last five years, Cambodian economy has achieved an annual growth of around 7% as projected, while ensuring overall macroeconomic stability, particularly stable exchange rate and low-inflation level. The sustained high economic growth with equity, inclusiveness and resiliency has been achieved on the basis of rapid growth in industrial sector particularly manufacturing and construction, as well as in agriculture and service sectors including tourism, real estate and all types of telecommunication and transport services. The size of investment, both public and private, has increased significantly; balance of payment has further improved; while public finance position has been increasingly sound and more sustainable. This was due to the good outcomes of budget revenue mobilization with its outturns doubled during the last 5 years; the increased efficiency in national budget expenditure both in terms of allocative efficiency which focuses more on priority sectors such as education and health and operational efficiency which ensures the “**value for money**”; and the prudent management of public debt that ensured sustainability and low-risk appetite comparing to countries in the region and across the world. The GDP per capital has increased from US\$ 1,402 in 2013 to US\$ 1,435 in 2017, and it is expected to reach US\$ 1,560 in 2018.

Similarly, Cambodia’s economic structure has gradually transformed from being an agriculture-based to industry and service-based economy. Poverty rate had dropped from 53.5% in 2004 to 13.5% in 2014, and continued dropping in the last three years.

The high growth and sound macroeconomic stability with strong economic resiliency as aforementioned have enabled our people from all walks of life across the country to have better opportunities to find jobs and increase their incomes. Civil servants and armed forces also get higher and higher income from year-to-year through the implementation of the RGC’s policies since the beginning of the 5th Legislature of the National Assembly, which has aimed to increase their monthly salary to more than 1 million Riels by 2018 and to increase the pension for the retirees (in 2018, the lowest is 480,000 Riels) as well as to increase other benefit schemes. Likewise, tens of thousands of workers, who are currently working in the private sector, have also had better opportunity to increase their incomes, as the RGC have formulated a minimum-wage policy to increase the monthly wage of workers in the garment and footwear industry every year; and it has reached US \$170 in 2018 excluding other benefits and allowances from the implementation of the social protection policy of the RGC such as the healthcare schemes covered by the employers and the maternity leave allowances provided by the RGC such as 400,000 Riels for a new-born child etc. The income of the farmers, vendors and other laborers have also increased. In particular, our farmers have been given greater priority by the RGC, through the huge investment in rural economy infrastructure, promotion of agricultural productivity, as well as, timely government’s interventions when prices of agricultural commodities (particularly rice) declining in the international markets. On top of these, the RGC has laid

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

out a number of policy measures aiming to address the hardships, concerns and aspirations of the people—the elimination of fees for a number of essential public services; tariff reduction in electricity and water utilities; the removal of the estimated tax regime; the increase in the level of the minimum threshold for taxable salary/wage; the exemption of transportation tax on motorcycles and tricycles with the power below 150 CC; the exemption of stamp tax on property ownership transfer among close relatives; the removal of fees and other charges for small vendors selling wares in makeshift stores; allowing small business owners with stalls, booths, stores and other selling plots to have the ownership title and right to transfer; the elimination of tax on slaughter house and the removal of the monopoly ownership in the slaughter house business; and the improvement and coverage of social protection and social security for all civil servants and the vulnerable groups etc.—which have been providing benefits to the general public, particularly those with low-income including civil servants, armed forces, teachers, doctors, workers, as well as, small vendors. In addition, the RGC has substantially increased the expenditure on improving the quality and widening coverage of the public services, both through the current budget and capital expenditure, to make the public service delivery better and closer to the people.

All these great accomplishments are indeed a strong testimony to the fact that, under the leadership of CPP, Cambodia has been moving forward in the right direction and has further expanded the enabling-environment for our people to continue achieving greater success in building and safeguarding the country. This also vividly reflects the participation of Cambodian people from all walks of life, all ethnic groups and religions, civil servants, armed forces, and other progressive groups in forming in-

terwoven unity for the interest of our nation, as well as reflects the sincere support of our neighbouring and friendly countries and international community for the just cause of Cambodia.

In general, the history of CPP's political activities, from its founding day until now, presents the history of a courageous, determined and unwavering leadership who adhered to a political and policy path with clear and realistic objectives, and long term and comprehensive vision to uphold the following four essential causes:

**First** –safeguarding Cambodia's independence, sovereignty and full territorial integrity as well as the prestige of the nation in the international arena;

**Second** – struggling/fighting to liberate the people from the cruelty of Pol Pot's genocidal regime and preventing the return of the killings, tragedies, destructions and sufferings that can come back to torture Cambodian people once again;

**Third** – struggling/striking to undergo through all hardships with all kinds of sacrifices to bring about peace, stability and full national reconciliation for the nation and people under One Constitution, One King and One Government in one Kingdom of Cambodia without any disunity and territorial separation into different self-governing regions; and

**Fourth** – rehabilitating and developing the country as well as enhancing the living standards of the people towards prosperity through a step-by-step building of Cambodia's society with peace, stability and social order; firmly adhering to the principles of democracy, rules of law as well as respect for human rights and dignity; promoting sustainable, inclusive and equitable development, achieving interwoven social fabrics, having people with high education, sophisticated culture, decent livings in harmony both in the society and in the family.

For this noble cause, CPP had led the country through many difficult and challenging peri-

ods, and had made Cambodia proudly gain a new image. Looking back at just the last two decades, we all could not forget that Cambodia was a war-torn and conflict stricken poor country that accepted the deployment of the UN's Blue Berets for peacekeeping operations. Now Cambodia is a country dispatching forces to join the UN's peacekeeping missions in some hot spot countries of the world. Cambodia, previously well known as a killing field, an insecure region and dangerous mine fields, is now transformed into an **"island of peace"** and a popular tourist destination in Southeast Asia that welcomes millions of tourists annually. Cambodia, previously well known for using armed forces in power struggle and changing of government, is now a country that firmly respects the principles of multiparty democracy by regularly holding free and fair elections to allow people to choose the country's leadership; a state governed by rule-of-law that firmly adheres to legal principles; and a sovereign state with full territorial integrity and deep respect for human rights and dignity. Cambodia, not long ago politically isolated and placed under economic embargos, is now actively integrating itself into the regional and global architecture, and playing a dynamic role in all regional and global affairs on equal footing and with equal rights as other nations. Cambodia, previously perceived as economically-underdeveloped and mired in high rate of poverty and food insecurity, is now a food-exporting country and one of the Olympians of Growth for sustaining high economic growth; and a country that has achieved significant poverty reduction as well as making good progress to improve social indicators, and recently has successfully graduated from a low-income becoming a lower-middle income status.

All these achievements to-date have been hard-earned with human flesh and blood or putting lives at risks as capital, and the priceless great sacrifices made by party leaders, military

men and women, members of the CPP, and millions of our compatriots. Therefore, we all must be determined to preserving all these great achievements to last forever at all costs by not allowing any circle/group to once again destroy them. We must jointly safeguard peace, stability and public order, as well as must be committed to further developing our nation toward achieving our vision of becoming an upper middle-income country by 2030 and a high income country by 2050, becoming an advanced and civilized country in the region with harmonious and loving society without wars, genocides, and internal conflict like before.

In this regard, the upcoming election of the people representatives for the 6th Legislature, on July 29, 2018, is truly a historic political event, which is of utmost importance for the nation. The political decision of our people in this election to choose which party to lead the country will determine the destiny of our nation and theirs as well. A right decision will bring about growth, prosperity and happiness for the nation. On the contrary, a wrong decision would push the country backward; and our people would once again face with destruction, disaster and tragedy that we had suffered terribly in the recent past. Hence, I believe that the Cambodian people who themselves witnessed the resurrection, progress and resiliency of our nation with peace, stability and development under the leadership of CPP, will have good judgment to choose political party and political figure to continue leading the country for the 6th Legislature through the upcoming election on July 29.

The CPP has announced and requested our compatriots for the support on **"Political Agenda for Building and Defending the Nation for 2018-2023"**, which serves as a compass in setting directions for the party in continuing to serve its nation and people for the next 5 years. This political agenda has set major strategic directions as

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)  
follows:

1. Respect and defend the Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia, protect the Monarchy and all the national achievements to last forever, promote the multi-party liberal democracy and respect for human rights.
2. Protect the independence, sovereignty, and full territorial integrity and peace of the country without allowing anyone to violate and destroy them; and categorically oppose foreign interference in Cambodia's internal affairs.
3. Develop the Kingdom of Cambodia into a strong and advanced state based on the rules of law; ensure the law enforcement with equality for all citizens; each citizen has full rights and responsibilities to actively take part in building and defending the country.
4. Continue socio-economic development toward achieving a more prosperous country status with more resilient economic foundation in order to ensure that people have decent livelihoods and are living with dignity and free from poverty, illiteracy, diseases, exploitation, and violence in all forms.
5. Strengthen and enhance friendship and good cooperation between the Kingdom of Cambodia and all countries as well as with international organizations to promote the development of the country, expand the engagement of Cambodia for the cause of peace, security, stability and prosperity in the region and the world.

As the Prime Minister Candidate from CPP for this upcoming 6th Legislature, I solemnly make my promise and commitment to our compatriots that, if CPP continues winning in the upcoming election of Members of the National Assembly on July 29, 2018 and leading the RGC for the 6th Legislature, I will be fully determined to lead the Executive Institution of the Nation to ensure successful implementation of the political agenda and major strategic goals of CPP highlighted early,

in particular with focus on the following key policy priorities and practical measures:

1. Strengthen the unified solidarity of the nation under the roof of Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia without any discrimination on race, colour, sex, language, belief, religion, political ideology, national origin, social status, resources, or other circumstances in order to defend the country, safeguard all the national achievements and continue to advance the socio-economic development.
2. Continue strengthening and expanding the multi-party liberal democracy to be firmly taken root from national level down to sub-national level; protect and promote freedom of the people, and enhance the respect of law and social justice.
3. Develop the economy to achieve sustainable and inclusive growth of around 7% per year, distribute equitably the fruits of growth; continue reducing the poverty rate of more than 1% per year.
4. Do not impose tax on agricultural land for subsistence-farming; help farmers with production expansion and find markets for their agriculture products at reasonable prices; and landless people will receive land for housing and farming through social land concession programs.
5. Increase wage of workers/employees annually plus provision of additional benefits/allowances, enhance their livelihoods, improve their working conditions and protect their careers. *In this context, the RGC of the 6th Legislature of the National Assembly, led by the Cambodian People's Party with me as the Prime Minister, will further improve the payment of wage for workers by having their wage paid once every two-week as other developed countries in the region from 2019 onwards, in order to ensure that workers receive their wage, which continue increasing at reasonable rate, and to receive their incomes regularly and timely in order to fulfil their*

*needs and their daily livelihoods.*

6. Increase the salary of the civil servants and armed forces annually and increase the pensions for the retirees and veterans to improve their livelihoods. *Similar to workers in the private sector, in the 6th Legislature of the National Assembly, the RGC led by CPP with me as the Prime Minister will have the monthly salary of civil servants and armed-forces as well as pension of the retirees and veterans, paid via banks once every two-week. This is another important step in the RGC's Salary System Reform in order to ensure that all civil servants and armed forces fully, regularly and transparently receive their salary and pension, which will continue to further increase. This policy will be implemented first for civil servants as well as retirees and veterans starting in 2019. Besides that, for armed forces, we will carry out a study and then implement the policy, as armed forces are stationed in remote areas with limited access to banks.*
7. Vendors operating at markets, which are owned by the state, can transfer their title, usage and possession to their descendants and others without any term limit.
8. All youths are provided with full opportunity to education, jobs, and allowed to engage in decision-making at national and sub-national levels. Every district has high school, every commune has junior high schools and every village has primary schools. Cambodian people are provided with better healthcare services at health centres and public hospitals. Poor people and those who are unable to pay will receive free check-up and treatment services at health centres and public hospitals.
9. Promote the development of irrigation systems and clean water, as well as to increase water supply capacity in all areas. Expand the electricity supply from national networks to all villages by 2020 and continue reducing electricity tariffs.

Continue to promote the development of telecommunication and transport infrastructure networks with quality and sustainability, and expand connectivity of roads from urban areas to villages, further develop rural roads by turning dirt-roads to asphalt/concrete roads. Expand micro finance services, especially those providing loan services in rural areas to people with low-income and small enterprises with reasonably low interest rates. On this point, I would like make a number of concrete promises to our compatriots nationwide, the RGC led by CPP with me as the prime minister, will prepare and implement programs for the reduction of electricity tariffs for all users nationwide for 2019 and 2020 with the following targets:

**[ Table, please go to page 5 ]**

*In order to implement the electricity tariff reduction program above, the RGC will lose tax revenue about 40\$ million a year. And I hope this practical measure would not only further promote the well-beings of our people from all walks of life, also further enhance Cambodia's competitiveness in attracting investment and increase economic activities in Cambodia, which will significantly contribute to high economic growth with sustainability, employment creation, and income expansion for the people, especially for the youths. I believe that our fellow Cambodians truly understand the importance of this and wish to receive the benefits of electricity tariff reduction program, and will provide support to CPP to lead the Royal Government with me as Prime Minister in the 6<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the National Assembly through each vote of yours for CPP in the national election held in 29<sup>th</sup> July 2018.*

10. Develop and strengthen social protection system with efficiency and sustainability which will protect all people from risks, without leaving anyone outside the social protection system. *In the social protection system, as the candidate for the Prime Minister of CPP for the*

(Continued on page 5)

Targets of Electricity Tariff Reduction <sup>1</sup>	Tariff Rate 2018	Tariff Rate 2019	Tariff Rate 2020
1. Big customers who purchase from Substation Purchase at high voltage Purchase at medium voltage from Substation in Phnom Penh Purchase at medium voltage from Substation in Provinces	0.124\$/Kwh(503R) 0.1475\$/Kwh(589R) 0.126\$/kwh(511R)	0.1170\$/kwh(474R) 0.1350\$/kwh(547R) 0.1220\$/kwh(495R)	0.1170\$/kwh (474R) 0.1330\$/kwh(539R) 0.1220\$/kwh(495R)
2. Industrial customers purchasing from sub transmission line and medium voltage line of distribution licensee	in P.P. 0.165\$/Kwh (676R) in P.R. 0.164/Kwh(672R)	0.1470\$/kwh(596R)	0.1460\$/kwh(592R)
3. Commercial and administration customers who purchase from sub-transmission line and medium voltage line of distribution licensee	in P.P. 0.1650\$/kwh (676R) in P.R. 0.1640\$/kwh (672R)	0.1590\$/kwh(645R)	0.1580\$/kwh(640R)
4. Consumers connected as residents: Residents consume between 1 to 10 kwh/month Residents consume between 11 to 50 kwh/month Residents consume between 51 to 200 kwh/month Residents consume above 200 kwh/month	-P.P. 610R, Province 480R/kwh -Nationwide 610R/kwh -P.P. 720R, Province 770R/kwh -P.P. 750R, Province 770R/kwh	380R/kwh 480R/kwh 610R/kwh 740R/kwh	380R/kwh 480R/kwh 610R/kwh 740R/kwh
5. Buying for pumping water in agriculture from 9 PM to 7 AM	480R/kwh	480R/kwh	480R/kwh
6. Schools, Hospitals and Health Centres	770R/kwh	610R/kwh	610R/kwh

PP= Phnom Penh, kwh= kilowatt hour, Tariff in brackets are in Khmer Riels and calculated with the exchange rate of 4100 Riels/ 1\$.

(Continued from page 4)

6<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the National Assembly, I would like to reaffirm our compatriots that if winning the National Election on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2018, the RGC led by CPP with me as the Prime Minister, will unwaveringly continue promoting the implementation of “National Social Protection Policy Framework 2016-2025”, especially implementing a number of priority programs as follows:

**First.** Starting from mid-2019, implementing the Allowance Program for Pregnant Women and Children under 2 Years-Old in poor households in which the allowances will be divided into 3 phases:

**Phase 1:** providing allowances four times with 40,000 Riels each time while being pregnant and getting health check-up at public health centres. **Phase 2:** providing allowance of 200,000 Riels while delivering at public health centres. **Phase 3:** providing allowance ten times with 40,000 Riels each time when the mother of the new born takes her children to receive vaccination or other services until the age of 2 years-old.

**Second.** In 2019, starting the implementation of Work Injury Insurance Program for civil servants.

**Third.** In 2019, starting the implementation of Pension Scheme for workers and employees in the private sector.

11. Provide public services to

people at all levels with quality, transparency, efficiency and convenience; provide good and sustained safety/security for Commune/Sangkat.

The political agenda of CPP is formulated starting from the noble wills and aspirations of our people, and based on practical circumstances. The party has real competency and ability to make it successful. Cambodia's countless major achievements especially over the past 2 decades provide undeniable and proven testimony of the competency of CPP in leading the defence, building and development of our nation. As the candidate for the Prime Minister of CPP for the upcoming 6<sup>th</sup> Legislature, I have already formulated the socio-economic policy agenda for the Royal Government, which is the “**Rectangular Strategy Phase IV**” serving as a tool in guiding the successful implementation of “**Political Agenda**” of CPP along with the practical priority measures as mentioned above.

Before ending, I would like to take this opportunity to reaffirm the unwavering position of CPP in taking part in the election of the Members of the National Assembly for the 6<sup>th</sup> Legislature, which is based on the principles of multiparty liberal democracy by adhering to the law, regulation, procedure, and code of conducts of the election. I also would like to take this opportunity to appeal to all the working groups of the Central

Committee, the party committees at all levels, candidates, officials and members of CPP to vigorously and actively take part in this election campaign in order to show the strong bonds of our party solidarity and internal unity by adhering to the dignity and morality of party members.

Moreover, I hope that all the parties, that are taking part in the national election, as well as those organizations such as civil society, national and international election observers including other circles who participate in monitoring this election either during the campaign period, the voting day, or the counting and post-election period, would strictly adhere to the laws, regulations and procedure of the election in order to ensure good political environment, making the election proceed successfully with free, fair and just outcomes that we all can accept.

29<sup>th</sup> July 2018 is the National Election Day! I would like to appeal to our Cambodian fellows as well as the members of CPP to exercise your rights to take part in this election with high responsibility **by going to vote, and vote for CPP** which has Angel's flower blessing dance emblem and is listed number 20<sup>th</sup> on the ballot sheet.

On behalf of CPP, I would like to solemnly reiterate my promise that, upon winning the election by CPP, the CPP will continue by all means with its full

competency to ensure and sustain peace, stability, security and development by attaching high priority to governance reform aimed to enhancing public institutions and building clean public administration, investing in human capital, creating favourable environment for business and investment, as well as strengthening ownership and partnership in the development with all stakeholders, especially strengthening Cambodia's competency for regional and global integration. All these are important and necessary ingredients for every Cambodian to pursue a better life with ever improving living standards while enjoying the harmony of Cambodia's society which respects human dignity, democracy, freedom and justice.

- *Voting for CPP means voting for national independence, sovereignty, full territorial integrity and renounced Cambodia in the international stage!*

- *Voting for CPP means voting for security, peace, stability and development!*

- *Voting for CPP means voting for the continued improvement and enhancement of people's livelihoods!*

- *Victory for CPP means victory for the people!*

Finally, I would like to wish all fellow Cambodians as well as the members of CPP, especially our youths, the success in all your endeavours and the four gems of Buddha's blessings .।.☸

(Continued from page 1)

maturity. I sincerely thank over five million members of the Cambodian People's Party for their active participations in the campaign and supports of my candidacy as Prime Minister for the term to come. This has clearly showed a firm solidarity not only in the Permanent Committee and/or the Central Committee of the Party, but a solidarity pooled together in the whole country to unanimously support my candidacy for the post of Prime Minister for the term to come.

### **To Lead the Country to No Failure, to No Bloodshed**

Let me declare with assurance to members of the Party that I will not lead the party to failure and I will not lead the Royal Government and country to bloodshed as (some leaders) did in the past. Members of the Cambodian People's Party must be aware of our efforts to stand up from four or five people to hundreds, to thousands, and now to millions becoming the only force to resolve and care for our country's destiny through its nearly forty years in power, and over forty years of our resistance. The party has grown big along with other people's movements and I thank members of the Cambodian People's Party everywhere and every generation for joining with me and other leaders of the Cambodian People's Party to walk the country through to this stage. I am dedicated before our compatriots, especially members of the Cambodian People's Party, to do no wrong politically and/or morally to fail and/or disappoint our supporters.

### **Thank and Appreciations to 19 Political Parties in the Campaign Trails**

I wish to take this opportune moment, on behalf of the ruling party and as Prime Minister of the Royal Government, to offer my sincere appreciations to political parties and their supporters for taking campaigns to everywhere in the country that clearly indicate our commitment to supporting democracy. Our party has also been cam-

paing for supports but as a ruling party and incumbent Prime Minister, we have followed closely ups and downs, and related works, concerning the elections. As you can see, besides the Cambodian People's Party, we have had 19 other parties in the campaign trails, and we all will abide by the laws, procedures, and orders of the Cambodian National Elections to end the campaigns today [...]

### **No Violence and/or Terrorist Attacks, Rescuing People from Flood**

Every party, big or small, have all been in full actions. Freedom to perform their actions have been guaranteed everywhere and there were no death and/or major conflict involved. We knew that Pakistan had just has their elections done in violence and terrorist attacks. In Cambodia, there have not been political violence and/or act of terror that threaten people's life. Allow me to take this moment to express my sincere thanks and appreciations for the provincial, district, communal authorities, and armed forces for protecting our people in the time of elections campaigns but also for rescuing them from rainwater and seasonal river flooding. They have evacuated people to safety and no one has died of the calamity and without our care and concern. In Stoeung Treng, while a dam broke loose in Laos, our authority and armed forces help people move to higher ground in the district of Siem Pang.

### **Moving Voting Stations to Higher Ground**

I have inquired if we could or could not proceed to voting in those areas affected by flood. Concerned provincial governors communicated with the provincial elections committee and they are ready to move the voting stations to higher ground so that people relocated provisionally from their homes for flood would be able to vote. I am so happy and proud to see members of the Cambodian People's Party at every level – city, provincial, armed forces, etc., taking responsible actions to re-

solve challenging issues of flooding [...]

### **Peace Brings Development, Development to Keep Peace**

I have made a statement on the elections campaign opening day already concerning the political platform of the Cambodian People's Party to seek our people's support and adoption. I have no need to reiterate every lines of it. What I wish to affirm here today is that the Cambodian People's Party gives a high priority to peace and development, a knot of two strings together. We must have peace to work on development, and we must ensure development to keep peace. This is the prioritized policy of the Cambodian People's Party – before, now and in the future. Peace is for all and all for peace.

### **Trading Life for Peace**

For peace, the Cambodian People's Party made crucial efforts in various stages to trade lives for liberation of the country from the regime of genocide. On this point, we can see every evolutionary steps taken by the Cambodian People's Party. We have traded our lives to bring back peace that went missing from this country since 18 March 1970, the day when a coup supported by foreign countries overthrew Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk and created war in the whole country.

### **End/Prevent Return of Genocide, Negotiate Peace, Implement Win-Win Policy**

Members of the Cambodian People's Party have united and stood up to liberate the country from the regime of genocide. That was a milestone foundation of our revival – a basic human rights, the right to life in dignity. We have continued to prevent possible return of the regime of genocide. We conducted negotiations to reach the Paris Peace Settlement to the Cambodian problem. We made efforts to implement win-win policy to bring about peace and territorial unification for the first time in our latest hundreds years of history.

### **We May Pay Certain Prices to Prevent War from Recurring**

Lastly, we have taken effective legal measures to eliminate national traitors who have attempted to overthrow the legal Royal Government and to bring the country again to war. We are determined to safeguarding peace, no matter what price we may have to. We must keep people's lives. We condemned those who carry out actions detrimental to national security. Should we not take them out by legal means, Cambodia might have been in a certain kind of war. Many people in Phnom Penh have now come to terms about differences they are seeing between this elections and the ones held previously. This time around, in the time of elections campaign, estate prices continue to go up, while in previous elections, because of sense of insecurity, people were obviously concerned. We have evaded those political conflicts and taken stern measures of peace, independence, and sovereignty. We are ready to pay certain prices but we will not allow war to recur and destroy people's lives [...]

### **Economic Growth of 7.7% in Two Consecutive Decades**

Not only members of the Cambodian People's Party, but also those who support other political parties have all known about transformations in their living conditions taking into consideration from the time when the Cambodian People's Party took power from 7 January 1979. We put out and implemented with successes already in the last two consecutive decades to achieve economic growth of 7.7% per annum, and in the time of economic downturn and financial crisis, our economy kept its growth at 7% per annum. Poverty rate has gone down at roughly 1% per annum. Though we have not yet conducted a new census, according to our estimation, Cambodia's poverty rate stays somewhere at around 9%.

### **Go to Higher Income in 2030**

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

### – We Khmers Can Do It

This has been how the Cambodian People's Party stay close to its socio-economic policy and it has been a formulation in which I, as Prime Minister, have overseen for the last more than 33 years. I am so proud for the supports delivered by the Cambodian People's Party to improve lives of the Cambodian People to transform our country from poor to lower-middle income and we will keep going to achieve or goal of being a higher middle income country by 2030. I believe – we Khmer can do it [...]

### Priority Continues on Four Areas

To chive the above mentioned goal, we will continue to focus priority on four areas – *firstly, investing in human resource* [...] I will continue to provide financial allocation for education and health to make sure that Cambodian people and children are well educated for the country's needs; *secondly, building basic and necessary infrastructures* – land, rail, water, and air [...]; *thirdly, providing water for consumption and also for irrigation* [...]; and *fourthly, resolving issues concerning electricity* to ensure progress in agriculture, industry, and service sector [...]

In addition to these, we also continue policy to impose no tax on agricultural land and also to assist farmers with their needs for irrigation, markets and others [...] we will continue to increase salary for civil servants, armed forces, and workers in private sectors, together with our measures from 2019 on to pay not on a monthly but every two weeks basis. Some in private sectors have already conducted this measure. I am calling on state and private institutions to be prepared to start paying salary in every two weeks from January 2019 [...]

### Six Recommendations for Compatriots, CPP Members

Before moving on to the Botum Buddhist pagoda, please allow

me to remind our compatriots and CPP members on the following: *firstly, respect strictly law, order, and procedure of the elections until they are finally over* [...] I am calling on our compatriots to end campaign before 10pm tonight [...]; *secondly, please do not take or sell alcohol on 28 and 29 July* [...] we must make efforts to prevent violence [...] and I hope there would be less number of traffic accidents too [...]; *thirdly, CPP members to verify and make sure they have what identification papers they need to go to vote on 29 July* [...]; *fourthly, please remember the logo of the party*. CPP's logo is in slot number 20 [...]; *fifthly, I am sending a message to the more than five million members of the Cambodian People's Party that our Party has a crucial role to play in the course of building and defending our homeland, especially safeguarding peace and development. To show our maturity, please go to vote and tick in the right box* [...]; *sixthly, I am calling on the Cambodian registered voters to go to vote*. Those who vote will be supporters of democracy and they will be living in peace and harmony with everyone in their villages/communes [...]

Those who would not go to vote because of incitement from traitors would be the ones to destroy democracy. They would be disappointed. I am calling you all to rethink about it [...] I am calling on authorities to keep their eyes on this movement of “staying and eating Khmer noodle” on 28 and 29 July as incited by outlaws in exiles [...] there have been propagandas that elections will be on three days. I must reassert that voting day will be on 29 July – only one day from 7am through to 3pm [...]

### [At Botum Buddhist Pagoda] Voting CPP for Political, Socio-economic, and Cultural Advantages

[...] as you all know, even those whose professions were in arts, in 1979, we had so much difficulties to gather human resources remaining from deaths to restore culture and arts

(Continued from page 8)

ples [...]

### Thanks UNESCO and ICC

I wish to take this moment to express my sincere thanks to UNESCO and other foreign friends for their supports. We also have this meaningful message sent by director of center for world heritages on the tenth anniversary addition of Peah Vihear into the list of world heritage sites. I also wish to thank our friends – Japan and France, who co-chair ICC Angkor (the International Coordination Committee for the Safeguarding and Development of

and continue to training human resource in this area. We have now ascertained that arts have blossomed in the whole country, in urban as well as in rural areas. We have TV channels throughout the country, which guarantee our people's access to basic political, socio-economic, and cultural advantages [...] it is in this note that the only best choice is to vote for the Cambodian People's Party [...]

### Former and Later Generations Work Together with CPP

I am taking this chance to express my sincere appreciation and thanks for people in general, members of the Cambodian People's Party in particular, for supporting and making active contributions to the Cambodian People's Party from the beginning till the present. I hope that both former and later generations will continue to do so to guarantee that younger generations will uplift our culture and arts of all forms [...] I have danced a bit here and I wish to send a signal to international community and to foreign nations to see that in the time of Techo, Cambodia is not in discrimination. Cambodia is in peace and leaders would not even need a bullet proof vest [...] this is a real Hun Sen, who started up with people in every sectors – farmers, workers, traders, artists, etc. [...].

Historic Site of Angkor), which has now grown its actions to also safeguarding Sambo Prey Kuk temple. I thank the People's Republic of China and the Republic of India for co-chairing ICC for the temple of Preah Vihear. I thanks every contributions made for the Kingdom of Cambodia to work for conservation and development of heritage sites [...]

### Let Our People Help Preserve Temples

I would take this moment to call on compatriots to safeguard and preserve temples – listed as world heritage ones and not yet listed ones. We must protect them. Our ancestors had made their parts to build them. We, belong to successive generations, must defend them. It is in this note that I am seeking understanding from people who had been moved out of the temple area out of necessity. The Royal Government had also given them lands in different locations instead [...] we must prevent all sorts of actions in possible violation of land, temple, etc. Should we fail to guarantee that, we would have risked our temples being withdrawn from the list. I hope you understand and will make joint efforts to help preserve [...]

### Message of Condolence to People of Japan

As we have honorable presence of the Japanese Ambassador with us on this meaningful day, and while the Japanese people are facing with hardships and loss of lives because of rain and flood, I am asking you to join me in taking a moment of silence in condolence to the souls of those Japanese who died in that harsh disaster. (A moment of silence). Thank you. Japan is a country of great infrastructure but the natural disaster has been so disastrous. This is a problem faced by the world. We must make effort together to resolve issues relating to climate change in the world [...] I wish to seek HE the Japanese Ambassador to convey my condolence to the Japanese Prime Minister, HE Shinzo Abe, and to the people of Japan [...].

(Continued from page 1)

for its efforts to cooperate with the Phnom Penh Municipality and *Union of Youth Federation of Cambodia* to organize this event. These efforts have brought us memories of what we had come across altogether ten years ago (for addition of the Preah Vihear temple) and also what we have accomplished in the last more than four years.

### Gratitude to Former Kings and Ancestors

Please allow me on this occasion express my sincere gratefulness to former Kings and ancestors of Cambodia of every generation for their efforts to build temples, which include the temples of Angkor Wat, Preah Vihear, and Sambo Prey Kuk that we have already added them into the list of world heritage sites. We must recognize that should there be no efforts from former Kings as well as our ancestors, we would not have historic constructions and sites for our people to take pride on and to add to the world list. We would also not have this event to bring us memory of the days when we added these temples to the world heritage sites list. It was because of efforts of our former Kings that Cambodia is now left with invaluable heritages. Besides the temples of Angkor Wat, Preah Vihear, and Sambo Prey Kuk, we have many more temples that we are working on to add them one after the other into the world heritage sites list but also to safeguard them for our younger generations to come.

### Grateful to Samdech Preah Borom Ratana Kaod, HM King Norodom Sihamoni

I wish to take this opportune moment to express my sincere thanks for Samdech Ov, Samdech Ta, Samdech Preah Borom Ratana Kaod, the late King Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, for his efforts to safeguard the temple of Preah Vihear through the international court in The Hague's decision, a foundation on which we continue to work to safeguard the temple [...] I wish to bring up

this issue a bit to illustrate efforts to implement policy of establishing border of peace, friendship and development with neighboring countries [...] I also extend my sincere gratitude to HM the King Preah Baat Preah Norodom Sihamoni for always supporting actions taken by the Royal Government in enlisting the temples of Preah Vihear and Sambo Prey Kuk, and other intangible cultural assets, in the world heritage sites. It has been a great encouragement for the Royal Government as well as related national institutions to make further efforts [...]

### Thanks the Late Samdech Vibol Panha Sok An, and Lok Chumteav Phoeung Sakona

I wish to take this opportune moment to express my sincere appreciations and thanks to the working groups – (1) led by the late Samdech Vibol Panha Sok An in enlisting the temple of Preah Vihear on 7 July 2008, and (2) led by Lok Chumteav Phoeung Sakona in enlisting the temple of Sambo Prey Kuk on 08 July 2017. Ten years ago, the late Samdech Vibol Panha Sok An stood here with his wife and delivered a speech a day earlier – on 14 July. Now, we are standing here but without the presence of Samdech Vibol Panha Sok An, though we recognize his efforts to leave such invaluable pride for the people of Cambodia. I am so proud of efforts made by the Royal Government, related national institutions, and working groups.

### A Difficult Decision Years Ago

Please allow me to take this chance to share with you how difficult it was for me ten years ago on this day to make a decision. I wish to apologize to the Thai counterpart for bringing this issue up. All I am saying is to remind the Cambodian people on an issue that we should not overlook and we must make further efforts to establish a border of peace, friendship, cooperation, and development. It was the most difficult time for me in my political life to make a decision after Thai army came

into the Buddhist pagoda of Keo Sekha Kiri Svarak in the area of Preah Vihear temple. Cambodia was in its electoral campaign. What decision should I take? It was a big problem and we must not take action in haste [...] let me remind us of the three possible scenarios of the conflict [...]

### Three Possible Conflict Scenarios

Scenario 1 – we would contain situation of conflict only in the Keo Sekha Kiri Svarak pagoda area and there should not be armed clashes. The Cambodian army conducted negotiation with the Thai army [...] I had ordered to do everything possible not to have armed clashes [...]

Scenario 2 – we were prepared also for a possibility that armed clashes may erupt in certain locations near the temple, which would then lead to closing of some electoral constituencies. We were of the opinion that if armed confrontation were imminent and people could not go out to vote, we would have to shut down voting stations in certain locations [...]

Scenario 3 – that was when war erupted along the border (between the two countries). That would bring in the possibility of canceling the whole elections. It was indeed the most difficult decision making time for Prime Minister Hun Sen. Finally, it turned out that we were able to contain situation and conflict did not at the time grow bigger, and we were able to carry through the fair and just elections [...]

### Three Measures Taken Together

After we set up a new government, we continue to seek for peaceful solution to the conflict with related party. We were taking three measures together and that has brought about good relation between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Kingdom of Thailand [...] Mechanism 1 – our army in conflict areas must stand firmly defending national sovereignty. Mechanism 2 – we were knocking the

door of the United Nations Security Council to seek a diplomatic/political solution to the problem. Mechanism 3 – at the international court in The Hague, we sought for re-interpretation of the court's decision in 1962 regarding the Preah Vihear temple and its surrounding. Thanks to every measures taken, we were able to avoid armed conflict and turned the area into a non-military zone [...]

### Transforming former Battlefields and Border Areas

I have affirmed again and again that Hun Sen's prioritized policy was to transform the former battlefields into marketplaces and development. Our nation has now seen with their own eyes that former battlefields have been transforming into development areas in the whole Kingdom of Cambodia. Second policy of priority was to transform borderlines with neighboring countries as one of peace, friendship, cooperation, and development. It is also a successful policy too. There would be no other choice better than these. After implementing the win-win policy that led to ending war entirely, we have secured peace for twenty years now [...]

### Grateful for People's Supports to Conserving Temples Policy

I wish to express my sincere thanks to our compatriots for supporting policy of the Royal Government in the field of culture to add the temples of Preah Vihear and Sambo Prey Kuk into the list of world heritage sites. Our people have made it their ways of sending news and welcoming the pride by making sounds with whatever they could from gongs to empty buckets, etc. There would be no victory that arose without (people's) supports. I always consider people's supports a foundation for defense of national culture, and national defense [...] I am calling our people to continue to support policies of the Royal Government relating to conservation of tem-

(Continued on page 7)