



21 August 2018 — Samdech Techo Hun Sen holds a meeting with representatives from 16 political parties

Meeting With Political Parties Leaders

(21 August 2018 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

Leaving Competition Aside

First of all, I wish to express my warm welcome to Samdech, Prince, Excellencies, Lok Chumteavs, for responding to my invitations for today’s consultation forum. It is a new historic event showing that after a relentless competition to gain people’s trust, we are now leaving aside (our differences) and start working on a process in which we can work together to build our country. It will not be long before the commune elections to be held in 2022 and the general elections to be held in 2023. I think, however, it would be the best way to gather as many contributions and participations as possible for the sake of national construction rather than waiting for another elections campaign to come by, and in the means time, leave it all to the ruling party to work it alone.

More Than One Parties in National Assembly, There Would Still Be Consultation

Participations from political parties would be important for national development. It is in this meaning that I am taking this opportune moment to affirm to Samdech, Prince, Excellencies, Lok Chumteavs that

should there be more than one political parties elected to the National Assembly, I would still convene this kind of consultation. You may ask why? Look, we used to have participations of 39 political parties in 2003 general elections and finally only three of them could made it to the National Assembly. Many others were outside the National Assembly. This pattern of development has gone on and on. It is in this understanding that in this term, should there be more than one political parties elected to the National Assembly, I would invite political parties to join such consultation with the Royal Government still. This forum has been convened not because the Cambodian People’s Party wins the full-house seats.

Leave No Political Parties with Will for National Construction Out of Politics

I wish to clarify that I do not wish to leave political parties who are willing to join us building the country to stay out of politics. I thank one political party leader for sending me a letter on 6 August asking for a possibility to let leaders of all 19

(Continued on page 8)

Meetings Workers/Employees in August

(August 2018 — Unofficial Selection and Translation of Three Meetings)

● The Commune of Chaom Chao, Khan Po Sen Jeï, 29 August 2018



Will Visit Workers at Factories

It is a great pleasure to come and meet you workers today. I have said it since before the election that if the Cambodian People’s Party were to be your choice, I would continue my commitment to meet workers. I would not be able to do so, if it were otherwise [...] now things have been obvious. The Cambodian People’s Party has won 100% seats in the National

Assembly. In this development, I continue to do what I have promised [...] this is the fifth get-together with workers after the elections and I think there will be about ten more [...] I continue to meet with workers until I have met everyone. After such meeting, I would also visit workers at their factories. It is a process of implementing policy for industrial sector development for 2015 and 2025 aimed at contributing to resolving remaining concerns or challenges to ensure your works and incomes [...]

CPP Always Present

(Continued on page 2)

Meeting Athletes for 18th Asian Games

(06 August 2018 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

International Standard Exists in Sports

Today we are meeting here to send off our sportsmen/women, leaders, and trainers to the 18th Asian Games in Jakarta Palembang, Indonesia. It is a good thing that regional and international events take places not on our elections day [...] (I have said on various occasions that) there is no such thing as international standard in politics, but we can have one in sports. In ASEAN, for instance, countries do not follow similar political regime. Some go with presidential regime and some with monarchy [...] more so, we have different elections systems – some follow first-past-the-post, some go with proportional representation, etc. [...] in sports, there is an international standard [...] especially in the recent World Cup in Russia [...]

Truth

Today is 6 August or one week after the elections. There is a magazine that keeps record of world voter turnouts [...] a week after the elections, it places Cambodia at second place after Belgium for high voter turnout [...] as for those who have called it a referendum through voter turnout, they have not got anything else to say (with regard to Cambodian voter turnout) but (making accusation of) “fraud and inflated number.” This has been their nature ever since the beginning [...] it is a tradition in Cambodia as well as in the world, that swearing an oath is one way of making sure if words or actions are true or not true [...] Presidents, Prime Ministers, Senators, and Members of Parliament

(Continued on page 7)

Swearing Is To Make Sure People Solemnly Speak the

In This Issue

- .. Meeting Political Parties
- .. Meeting Workers in August
- ... Asian Games Athletes

(Continued from page 1)

for People

The Cambodian People's Party has always been sharing bad and good time with people nearly 40 years. In months away, we will be celebrating the 40th 7-January liberation anniversary. The Cambodian People's Party has been sharing bad and good times with our people and always present. Some of its dignitaries died leaving many attainments for younger leading generation. Those who are still alive continue have continued on journey with your grandparents and parents. What is more important the Cambodian People's Party and its leaders are accompanying you to advancement to lead the country out of division and war to peace, and out of poverty to development [...]

Controllable Inflation, Maintain Purchasing Power

All in all, advantages you have received along with managing a stable macro-economy, preventing inflation and maintaining purchasing power have not been a simple matter. Compared to neighboring countries, inflation in our country is lower. It is true while certain areas are flooded, certain areas are in drought. In Banteay Meanjei, certain areas are under flood, and some are in need of water. This has been a situation in Battambang, Pursat, etc. Along the Mekong, while flood rises above warning level again in Stoeng Treng, Kratie, and Kompong Cham, it is unfortunate that in Phnom Penh flood level has not been as high as we are expecting [...] though flood has damaged so far tens of thousands of hectares of rice and fruits such as banana and papaya, and other legumes, market prices seem to be stable. Prices of meats and fishes have gone up but within a controllable inflation. The Royal Government has been making efforts to cope with this situation to guarantee purchasing power for salary earned by our workers, civil servants, armed forces [...]

First (Sixth Legislative Term Royal Government's) Cabinet

Meeting – 7 September

On the forthcoming 7 September 2018, there will be this first Cabinet's meeting. It will be a live broadcast of my political statement before the Cabinet's meeting continues behind closed door. I will be working on dividing works and responsibilities among Deputy Prime Ministers and Senior Ministers, and many more internal matters [...] it is clear now about changes. I will leave the fifth legislative term Royal Government to the sixth legislative term one. Our workers will also change as you already did this year from 153 USD to 170 USD of their minimum salary. We will change to a new figure next year [...]

I am calling on companies and factories in the Kingdom of Cambodia to get ready for semi-monthly payroll in 2019. We will implement bi-weekly payroll. I have made this point clear in the elections campaign [...] we will need to pay attention on this matter. We will ensure its implementation of semi-monthly payroll not only in state but also in private sectors [...]

A Swearing Challenge

Some should not just do what s/he thinks of to oppose. That person has not made his swear yet on what he said that "I had hired a killer to kill him in France." I challenge him to take his swear that if it was not true, he could face with deaths of his wife, his children, great grandchildren, and his entourage – at least 100 of them. Up to today, he has not taken his swear yet [...] they may not say swearing is superstitious and (for person or thing that is) stuck. Prior to taking office, members of the National Assembly, the Senate, and the Royal Government all are swearing in [...]

Pardon Granted for Admission of Guilt Letters

Now let me say a few things about politics. It is about pardoning prisoners or convicts. Those pardoned have fallen into two categories. The first kind is the ones who wrote me letters of admission of guilt – such as

Um Sam An, who admitted his wrongdoing vis-à-vis the country's map as an offense. He begged for a pardon. Meach Sovanra and a few others have laid their thumbprints on what they admitted as wrongdoings for what they had done in the Square of Democracy. According to law, with letters of admission of guilt, the Prime Minister is in his position to exercise his power to seek for a pardon from HM the King [...] I have sought pardons for all of them except the one fugitive who is on the run from prison. He may as well be prison himself away and lonely [...] for these convicts, I do not wait till Pjum Ben day. I am still considering a large-scale pardon for the upcoming ceremonial events – Pjum Bem, Independence Day, and 20th Anniversary of Ending War. The Minister of Justice will see to that job. We will let those people out to rebuild their lives [...]

Those Pardoned Free from Pay

On matters concerning with criminal offense as led by a political leader, I have pardoned them all. Those pardoned will not need to pay a thing. HE Um Sam An, HE Meach Sovanra and others of the kind would be free of obliged payments [...] I wish to explain this to supporters of the Cambodian People's Party on why Samdech Techo Hun Sen seeks pardons for them. I just assure you that it is the right thing to do and we should do it whenever we could. They have admitted their mistakes and they have served their sentences to a certain extent. Pardoning them would serve one reason to allow people to live in an atmosphere of solidarity as a nation. However, they should not deem to say it was done because of pressure [...]

Those Released after Serving Court Decision Shall Pay

... On the contrary, anyone who has been released because s/he has served up the prison sentence, s/he is still obliged to pay whatever the court has asked her/him to. The one re-

leased from prison on this condition will have to pay the 800 million Riel he owed to the Cambodian People's Party for the damage s/he caused [...] he must pay back or he would risk being arrested and sent back to jail. You are free from guilt but you still have owe and still has to pay [...] he goes around talking about "rule of mouth," conferring that thing would decides according to what I say. Well, whatever I say always based on legal aspect. The court decided that you pay 800 million Riel for damage you caused and you have not paid it yet. I urge the Cambodian People's Party's lawyer to ask for it [...] (you said it to) insult me. You had better look for money and pay or you will go back to jail [...] your freedom come to border with freedom of others [...]

No Pardon for Suspects

It seems that there are some people to be led by Nob Bun Hor in Khan Chamkar Mon of Phnom Penh to go to Tropaing Phlong (prison) to welcome (release of a) suspect. I am calling on the security and police to look for Nob Bun Hor who claimed going tomorrow to Tropaing Phlong. Some said to have gone and stayed there overnight. Let me clarify to our people that the one (who is kept) at Tropaing Phlong is a suspect and not a convict. There will be no release. Who would do that? He has not yet been tried. There are no guilt to pardon him for. Who would shelf a treacherous case? [...] as the Royal Government, I will continue to keep suing the case [...]

Two Political Parties Should Fill Request in Writing

I read the Phnom Penh Post and I learnt that two more political parties are asking to join with the Supreme Council of Consultation. I welcome them always. However, they should not make requests only on media. When the Council of Ministers invited political parties to the meeting, we also wrote them letters. They should send letters to the Prime Minister too in this case. I have delegated this mat-

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

ter to Chhim Phalvorun to work on coordinating and drafting the Royal Decree and HE Bin Chhin to lead the meeting. I will wait for them to ask for my approval and send to HM the King to sign it [...] if they only talk about joining in the press, how could we go about writing to invite them? [...]

Create No Habit of Financing Political Parties

Some political parties have divulged about who to go in and who to stay out, asking for positions of Secretary of State or Under-Secretary of State, etc. Let me affirm that the Constitution allows that only for political parties with elected seats in the National Assembly. Some have even asked for their people in district and provincial levels. Cannot give you that [...] some have asked for financial help to strengthen their parties [...] it will be up to you. You will earn your salary from Supreme Council of Consultation. You may want to use that income to help your parties. There is no need to complicate this matter to create a habit that the Royal Government feeds political parties. The Royal Government pays whoever will have come and shared inputs with Prime Minister, the Royal Government [...]

A Political Party Purpose Should Not Be for Posts/Functions

... I have also responded to a request by one political party that the Royal Government will not be able to serve its request (of allowing their people into public functions). We cannot do it even at local level. We have already decided on one governor and certain number of deputy governors. Besides being civil servants, they would have to be a third-level or second-level officials to hold functions at district level. For provincial level, functions are for second and first-level officials. Those from political parties will not be fit for these criteria. I would argue if you are creating political parties only for posts and functions, you do not need to go

on. Even as a ruling party, we cannot just throw in officials for those posts and functions [...].

📍 Kandal's Kien Svay District, 23 August 2018



CPP Wins Full House 125 Seats

Last week I dare not say how many seats the Cambodian People's Party has won because it was until 15 August that the National Elections Committee announced the official elections results. It is final now that the Cambodian People's Party wins every 125 seats (in the National Assembly). It is now clear that I will be the new Royal Government Prime Minister, and had been designated by HM the King to compose the Royal Government to seek the National Assembly's approval.

There have been some comments on this by some. I just wanted to remind them to distinguish between the words "designation," and "appointment" [...] as HM the King designate a dignitary from the party that wins the elections to create a Royal Government and to propose it for approval from the National Assembly [...] secondly, the article 119 of the Constitution and the additional Constitutional law calls for [...] a recommendation from the most senior member of the National Assembly to nominate candidate for the post of Prime Minister [...] we are implementing the additional Constitutional law, in this case, relating to continuity of national institutions [...]

People Have Chosen Democracy, Liberal Pluralism, Peace, Development

All in all the Cambodian people have already chosen. Firstly, they chose to take part in the process of democracy, liberal pluralism, and go to vote. This has indicated clearly that people are mature and would not be subjected to incitement with destructive nature. Our people as a whole and workers in particular have chosen to maintain peace and development, a herit-

age left from your parents and/or grandparents, who journey with the Cambodian People's Party since day one of our hardships [...] on this note, a little over 80% of voters in Kandal gave their supports (to the Cambodian People's Party). It is an overwhelming number allowing the Cambodian People's Party to win all 11 seats in the Kandal constituency. Elsewhere, the supporting rate has not been lower than 70% [...]

A One-Party National Assembly Comes from Pluralistic Elections

Let me take this moment to clarify one issue to the public that Cambodia has indeed stepped into a one-party status. However, I must affirm to our compatriots that the one-party status in the National Assembly, as was said by some NGOs and political parties, comes from the wills of the Cambodian people to give the Cambodian People's Party a full house support. We cannot deny it [...]

Let's Build The Country after Elections

That we had had a competition among twenty parties was not that simple. After the elections, noted that so far many political parties have not had their chances to take part in the elections and/or to occupy seat/s in the National Assembly, I have taken this initiative to invite political parties for consultation on organizing a mechanism through which we are working together to build our nation. We had competed against one another in the elections campaign period. The elections is now over, we must work together to build the country. It should be an interest not only for us at decision making level but also for voters too [...] among 20 political parties, only one will be in the National Assembly. In the past, through to 2003, we had up to 30 political parties to contest in the elections. However, only three political parties won seats in the National Assembly, as a result of which between one election to another in a period of five years, those

other parties could not contribute to national construction [...]

"Supreme Council of Consultation" Enjoys Supports of Political Parties

Even if we were to have more than one (the Cambodian People's Party) in the National Assembly through the elections, (this idea of convening political parties for a discussion would happen too, and in this regard) that I have taken initiative to invite political leaders for a consultation on Tuesday 21 August to create a Supreme Council of Consultation (SCC), for which leaders of political parties have given their full supports. We are giving them role to play and work to do. They are no longer sitting and criticizing from outside/inside the National Assembly. They could do a lot to help [...] for example, though the SCC may or may not be up and functional in time, let me affirm to Deputy Prime Minister HE Bin Chhin that we should call on this council to discuss and have their inputs on the budget law of 2019. Let me ask you what would this role be? We are inviting leaders of political parties to tell us what they think about the draft national budget law for 2019 [...]

MEF Will Do a Presentation of National Budget Law 2019

I am of the opinion that those political parties that participated in the Tuesday-21 August meeting have supported and sought to understand and take part in the process. Primarily, I think their first role to play is to discuss and give consultation on the major law. National budget law is a great economic wealth (to be aware of). We leave the door open for participations and suggestions. Some of you may not have the required experiences (and knowledge on this matter). However, the Ministry of Economy and Finance will do you a presentation for them and after that it will be their turns to comment on and make suggestions to the draft law before it goes to the Cabinet meeting, the National Assembly and the

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Senate as scheduled.

SCC Led by Monthly Rotating Chairperson

According to schedule, the budget law will go for adoption by the Cabinet meeting in October. By mid of October, whether or not SCC will be in place, leaders of political parties will still be invited to the meeting. HE Bin Chhin may need to chair the first meeting if the rotating chair is not going to be selected yet. (SCC) will be leading once a month by a rotating chairperson. The first chairperson will be picked through numbering ballots by Samdech the Buddhist Supreme Patriarch [...] again, the Ministry of Economy and Finance will do a presentation of national budget law to you [...]

War Cannot End War

This is a political message out of my goodwill that I have nurtured it since after I overthrew the regime of Pol Pot's genocide. While trying to prevent the return of the genocide, I foresaw that we cannot make war to end war. The best option was to seek negotiation for a political solution. I went everywhere to search for political settlement to achieve national reconciliation. UNTAC (the United Nations Authority in Cambodia) could not realize its job fully. They were able to organize elections but they could not establish permanent ceasefire, and/or dissolve armed groups of parties in conflict. They left Cambodia leaving it in two areas of control and two governments – one was the Royal Government that came out of the elections and the other was the Khmer Rouge who controlled certain space of our territory along the Cambodian-Thai border, and certain pockets in Kompot and Kompong Speu provinces.

Win-Win Policy Ensures Khmer Winners

We have no other way better than carrying out win-win policy which guarantee that Khmer no longer are fighting each other in conflict but are winners in

its outcome. I went to the Khmer Rouge stronghold and told them their retirement to conflict and making war was not at all a surrender or confession but an obligation that every Cambodian must uphold to untie the knots that the previous generation left us with [...] when the war broke out I was not even 18 years old yet. (It is beyond imagination that) the war had brought me a chance to sort things out through win-win policy, a battle in which there were no losers but all winners. Up to this moment, it has been twenty years now.

We will throw a big party to commemorate this event on 29 December 2018. I urge our artists and performers not to engage in long distance program. We will have only one official ceremonial day but artistic performances and other entertainments will go in three full days – 29, 30 and 31 December, after which we will celebrate passing into international New Year at the win-win palace [...]

Triangular Strategy – 2 December 1998

Thanks to the win-win concept implementation that people have voted to give full power to the Cambodian People's Party in National Assembly as well as in the Royal Government, for which I am calling on and gathering human and intellectual resources to help build our country. I could remember that on 2 December 1998, in the Cabinet meeting, I launched this triangular strategy [...] the first angle was to achieve full peace inside Cambodia [...]; the second angle was to ensure Cambodian integration as quick as possible into international community [...] including regaining the UN seat, joining ASEAN, ASEM, WTO, etc. [...] and the third angle was to mobilize human and intellectual, and wealth resources, based on internal and external favorable factors, to achieve socio-economic development to reduce poverty [...] aside from the human and intellectual resources of the Cambodian People's party, we also have these resources in 19 other parties that we must not over-

look for the sake of national reconciliation [...]

Political Parties Should Reap Given Rights

I wish to take this forum to send a message to some political parties that do not reap their rights that I have reserved for them [...] they were asking the Royal Government to clarify the sort of mechanism (of what SCC is going to be like) while I leave it completely up to them to say what they have in their mind and what they wanted to do [...] it would be easy to frame everything my way and write a royal decree for you all to just get in without consultation. I wish you to discuss with me [...] for instance, we have to frame the first task was to initiate and provide inputs to draft policies of the Royal Government. We still have many of those [...], secondly, initiate and provide inputs on draft law and we also have many of those. Some of our laws needs amendment and/or maybe some new ones can come from anyone political parties' leaders in SCC [...] I leave you with right and I do not know what to do when you do not reap it [...]

A Large-Scale Pardon

Let me talk one more thing before we are dealing with matters concerning workers. I wish to remind everyone that when there is a pardon requested (to HM the King), they should not claim that those actions are to be carried out under foreign pressures. They should be careful with what comes out of their mouths. I will launch a large-scale pardon to many, not a few, in the forthcoming time for them to rebuild their new lives. I will choose to do so in the forthcoming major events of our countries. Aside from those already released, we will continue to do for more. (However) people must not say (I were to do so) because of international pressure. I do not like this word. I have planned to seek pardons for twelve others but I needed them to write me letters to seek them pardon. I needed them to apologize. However, if anyone anywhere comes out and com-

ments (this was done) because of international pressure, I will not seek you a pardon until the person seeking a pardon writes another letter condemning the one to comment. I could consider this as a condition [...]

Do Not Infringe Upon Law or Face Arrest Again

... The ones not in jail, I understand, wish the ones in jail to go on living in jail [...] those who are now out of prisons should not be too rebellious. They should not think that they would not face arrest again. The Cambodian laws and/or the world ones, there is no prohibition for a person who had been jailed once to be jailed again [...] if they infringe upon law, law will arrest him/her again, will bring him/her to justice again, and will jail him/her again. This does not mean I shut them up. They can say whatever you need to but not to touch upon others. They should be aware that their boundaries of freedom is where they meet with freedom of others [...] this is not a threat [...]

Ministries/Authorities Concerned Deal with Flood Damages

As of this moment some parts of our territory are facing flood menaces from heavy downpour in Pursat, Battambang, Pailin, Banteay Meanjei, Kompong Speu, a part of Phnom Penh, and a part of Kandal province. Provinces affected by seasonal Mekong flooding are Stoeung Treng, Kratie, Kompong Cham, and Kandal. I urge authorities at every level to take whatever measures necessary to rescue our people from flood. I am asking the Ministry of Agriculture to get ready with additional seeds as people may need them later. Their rice fields are now destroyed and they will need to replant them [...] the Ministry of Rural Development, the Ministry of Public Works and Transports must review conditions of rural and national roads damaged by flood this year. We have saved fund for such disaster. We never ever spend money reserved for disaster manage-

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

ment [...]

We will be exercising thrift on other sectors to increase our financial ability to resolve issues after flooding. There are many damaged roads. The Ministry of Water Resource and Meteorology also has to take a full review of canals and dams. The Ministry of Health will have to provide whatever medicines needed in flooded areas. Local field and referral health hospitals must work harder to serve people's health [...]

I am calling on the National Bank and the Ministry of Economy and Finance to work with micro-financial institutions to consider favor for those who are on their terms while facing with flooding and damages [...] they should either extend their pay-back period or leave out interests [...] they should not confiscate their properties [...]

Will Meet Mention-A Graduates of Senior Secondary School

It is so fortunate that the senior secondary school exam is over and was not affected by flood [...] I will continue to meet with mention-A graduates. The Council of Ministers must be prepared with rewards as we did on previous years [...] I am offering my greeting to those who will pass and also urge those who fail to make further efforts in their studies to get a pass in the next exam [...] by the way, those of you who fail will stand a chance to study for bachelor degree to be organized by the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports in vocational schools, which are administered by the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training. That is a great chance. We will not leave the failed ones behind in hopelessness. You must be hopeful [...]

Post-Election Expenses to Exceed Pre-budgeting

As we all know and see, national income has not fallen in the course of elections campaign. However, taking natural disaster factor into concern, more efforts

and resources need to be put into rescuing our people, mainly from flood, burden of expenses will be larger compared to what we have planned. Time has yet to come for us to call for international assistance, still. We had just shared some one hundred thousand USD, along with fifty thousand USD from the Cambodian Red Cross, to Laos to deal with dam disaster. At this very moment, we do not have the need to ask for foreign assistance to deal with flood disaster in our country. We have this ability and resource to deal with it in our country [...].

③ The Commune of Khmuonh, Khan Sen Sok, 15 August 2018



CPP Wins the Elections, Meetings with Workers/Employees Continue

I have a great pleasure to meet you all as I have promised from before the elections. I said to workers and employees that should the Cambodian People's Party win the elections, I would continue to meet with workers/employees once the elections were over. Should the Cambodian People's Party fail, I would not be able to continue to do so. It would be the new Prime Minister who decides what he would do with it. We are waiting for the official final results and seats allocations to be announced by the National Elections Committee at 7:30 pm. However, people know that the Cambodian People's Party takes the lead in achieving seats in the National Assembly and will proceed to forming the new Royal Government, for which Hun Sen, who has been bestowed by the Cambodian People's Party nationwide congress, will continue to be Prime Minister [...]

Accused Me of Hiring a Killer

[...] The figures (of votes and registered voters) have confirmed. One remaining issue has been that he declared the figures were fraud. I challenged him to swear [...] he resorted to stir opinion that I hired killer to seek his death in France [...]

Let me leave the following message. The man has never understood Hun Sen's heart. Should I want him dead, when he was in the country, he could have been dead only with a throw of guava. Why should I hire a killer? I have no intention whatsoever to have anyone losing his/her life. You may see that even the former Khmer Rouge leaders came to my house and I dine with them [...] that this person has been so unpredictable, I started to feel that there is no point in talking to or with him [...]

About 77% of Workers Voted CPP

The people of Cambodia have shown their maturity and wisdom in making their judgment in every problem. They are mature in carrying out their rights in making decision whether or not to go to vote. I thank the Cambodian people in the whole country in general, and our workers in particular, about 77% of whom have voted for the Cambodian People's Party. It is a high rate. It has brought the Cambodian People's Party a great victory. The Cambodian People's Party is sure that it will be the party to form the Royal Government in the time to come. I am taking this opportune moment to convey through you to your grandparents, parents, and other members of your families for going to vote, and voting for the Cambodian People's Party.

Post 2018-Elections, There Are Joys and Cheering

You may have noticed already the difference and what happened in 2013 does not take place again in 2018. In 2013, from before the elections, people in Phnom Penh already went into turmoil. After the elections, some had even filled their cars tanks and cashed out money from ATM. Some voted for (other party) and felt intimidated [...] people could not do business as usual. As for this elections (in 2018), people continue to do business and land and property have even gone high in prices [...] let me remind the Ministry of Economy

and Finance, according to my source, we seem to continue to exercise ownership transfer tax system from three or four years ago. They are not applicable to current market price for land and property [...]

We Have Made the Country Healthy

Before, during and after the elections, state income has not gone down but continued to grow big. That has allowed state to be able to ensure its ability to carry out its role. Some have calculated that after the elections there would be this or that problem in the economy. On the contrary, this year inflation rate has stayed below 2%, lower than last year. This has clearly indicated that without those thugs, and it was correct that we got them off and away, we have made our country healthy [...] in agriculture, people cultivated 95% of land already even before the Projum Ben (Khmer traditional flood season Buddhist ritual for the dead) comes. This year we may exceed our plan. Industry and handicraft have also made progresses. So has tourism. In this sense that I am saying our country's health is still strong [...]

People Voted in Great Number for Peace and Development

Participation of people in the elections has on one part been a participation in process of democracy and liberal pluralism, and on another an indication of people's recognition the value of peace and development [...] they voted in great number for the Cambodian People's Party because the party is the only actor capable of keeping peace. With peace comes development. The Cambodian People's Party has every ability to do it. The people of Cambodia clearly know about how important peace is. Peace will allow them to keep their trades and jobs, and incomes [...]

More Investments in Health and Education

People's health is indeed our national health. We have the

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

need to increase our efforts to see this issue (of implementing social protections) through [...] let me tell those who go around lying people that I will speed up works (of the Royal Government) in the new term and invest more in health and education. We will make sure that our people are in good health on one side, and knowledgeable on the other. I will send message to political parties and talk about some political concepts. Please allow me to send from this meeting what I have in mind about possibly political parties working together to continue process of democracy and liberal pluralism, and to allow people to have chance to help build our nation [...]

More Bus Lines, Free-of-Charge Rail Transports on Khmer New Year and Projum ben

The Municipality of Phnom Penh must figure out providing more lines of city buses to allow commuting by workers to their workplaces. The other day I talked about discussing with Oknha Kith Meng about allowing workers to commute by rail to/from their hometown free of charge on Khmer New Year day and Projum Ben day [...] In just two more months, the Projum Ben Day will come and discussion should commence. I hope by doing so, we will be able to help workers save on transportation expenses [...] these are objectives and policies we already set out. The forthcoming Royal Government will continue to pay attention even from today to strive better, deeper, more effective, and wider than ever [...]

Hacking Facebook – a Cybercrime

... Having no way of hurting me, the man has turned to my Facebook page. It was a bad thing no one could have imagined. I hope such cybercrime would meet with condemnation in the world. They tried to hack page of the National Elections Committee and they did so too with mine. They deleted whatever I posted from 10 August

back to 30 March [...] we reposted. It was a crime for what they did. I would not say how we go about dealing with this. I would leave this to competent authority [...] firstly, they wish to turn upside down the announcement of elections results. They posted that the Cambodian People's Party would share two seats to Funcinpec and two for the League for Democracy Party. It was not difficult to see who would have done this [...] secondly, they fabricated this news about me hiring killer to go after his death in France. The person wrote he had this news from French intelligence. I would leave this to President Emanuel Macron to figure it out which French intelligence would have shared such information [...]

Facebook Cooperates Well and Fast for Safety

I thank Facebook for a good and timely manner collaboration which ensure (the country's) safety. What could have happened if they posted in that page order to move troops from one place to another? Luckily, we also have other media and network to counter their ill intentions and plans. Beside Facebook, we also have other means to get to the people and the world. They would not just let themselves believe whatever (you may have do or say) in the Prime Minister's page [...]

There May Not Be Many Parties in National Assembly, We Do in Society

Now I wish to talk to political parties who contested in the elections and also wish to contribute to construction of the country. I have followed up with pleasure in the past days that certain political parties have committed to resume their political life without having to wait till 2022. They will continue to strengthen their parties and will get themselves ready for the elections in 2022/2023. Many have decided to keep their votes. Some have received thousands, tens of thousands, and even hundreds of thousands of votes [...] some even have resorted to create new parties

after the one they were in fail to get to the people. It is in this note that I conclude that though we do not have many parties in the National Assembly, we still and always do in society.

A Consultative Forum between Political Parties and Royal Government

As for me, no matter how many parties will there be in the National Assembly, I wish to create a consultative forum between the Royal Government and political parties contested in the elections. It will be a new forum in the sixth legislative term of the National Assembly. It will be an informal consultation forum, through which inputs from political parties could feed into the Royal Government for purpose of making their contributions for national construction. Through his means, those political parties could also keep their actions and voices close to the people. They would even use this opportunity to gain more supports in the following term elections. It will be a forum that yield interests – about peaceful and harmonious social cohabitation, a culture of dialogue between the Royal Government and parties that are not in the government and/or parliament [...]

Meeting Political Parties in Capacity of Prime Minister

... It will be up to the National Elections Committee to say how many elected political parties will there be in the National Assembly [...] some would certainly not be able to join political life in the national Assembly. I have one choice which I think is the best. I am ready to create a forum of consultation with contested political parties [...] I will not meet them in my capacity as President of the Cambodian People's Party but as Prime Minister. I will invite them to the Peace Palace for dialogue. I am thoughtful on this possibility. I will write to invite them. Each political parties can send two or three of their bests to meet me before we form the government. Those who like the idea come and those who do not like may do

whatever they wanted.

Political Parties Could Help Draft, Monitor Policies

We can sit down altogether and discuss what we have in common and/or that are different from each other. For instance in agriculture, what we have in common [...] carrying out organic farming, what have we in common and what we think differently on the matter. We should try to find a way to work together. There is now this law relating to food safety putting together by the Ministry of Industry and Handicraft. We also have more draft laws to which political parties can generate their inputs [...] they can also help monitor policies and implementations. For instance, policies regarding female workers' and females of poor families' deliveries, has it been properly implemented? Political parties can monitor and share their opinions what need to be done? This could ensure that the ruling party will not be unaccountable in what they are doing [...] I even think if it is required, we could also invite designates from political parties to hold advisory position according to their expertise to ministries [...]

Inviting Intellectuals, Not Policies, from Other Parties

There seems to be two political parties to run errand for positions in exchange for money. First, the Khmer United Party, and second, Funcinpec. Let me assure them. For the first cabinet lineup, there will be only the Cambodian People's Party in the Royal Government. There will not be anyone from any political parties. In later instance, we will consider parties with reasonably good human resources. I may invite them to hold positions of State Secretary or Under-Secretary of State, or advisors. That will follow. However, I must declare that I will go for this only to implement entirely the political platform of the Cambodian People's Party, for which the people voted in landslide to support it already. I cannot implement

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 1)

ment have all sworn an oath before they take office [...] I am talking about swearing oath because I wanted to send a message to those who keep saying that the voter turnout has been inflated, voters have been intimidated, etc. I dare to take swear to die by any means [...] and I challenge you to swear too [...]

Challenge a Swear for Tricksters

They have called it a referendum. Before elections, if voter turnout is low, they said, that means they will have won. Now that there has been a high voter turnout, they resorted to talking about fraud and inflated number [...] (in every previous elections) in 2003 and 2013, they brought elections cases to the Constitutional Court. The Constitutional Court asked them to swear and they never dare to [...] I wish to sort this matter out with them and they may not say that I have chosen bad way of doing it. I have chosen this swearing thing because you have made yourselves the tricksters. The remaining option is to challenge you to swear [...] since they refute high voter turnout [...]

Cambodia Vice-Chair of UN General Assembly This Year

I have a message for some in the country (who pass around rumor) about soon there will be a new UNTAC (United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia) and there will be (foreign) troops in Cambodia again. How could they have imagined and said so? This year, Cambodia will be vice chairman of the UN General Assembly and a member of ECOSOC. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been requesting for recruitments of certain diplomatic staff to fulfil this mission [...]

If Cabinet Formation Possible in August, Go to UN

I may add a bit more to this scenario. Should there be no elections issues to sort out at the Constitutional Council and there will be no legal barrier concerning this stipulation in

the Constitution “*The legislative term of the National Assembly shall be 5 years and terminates on the day when the new National Assembly convenes. The National Assembly shall not be dissolved before the end of its term except when the Royal government is twice deposed within a period of twelve months,*” my original plan was that the first session of the National Assembly would convene under the presidency of HM the King on September 19, and the Royal Government will be created on September 20, which in the afternoon of the same day will swear an oath to take their posts. The first Cabinet meeting should be taking place in the morning of September 21 [...]

If, however, there would be no legal barrier, we could form the Royal Government in August. There have been discussions around and there does not seem to be an issue with the Constitutional Council. Should we be able to form the Royal Government in August, I would have a chance to go and deliver a statement at the UN General Assembly to prove that as a sovereign state, the elections need no approval from anyone except from its HM the King [...] if the formation of the Royal Government would go on September 21, I would not have the chance of going and delivering statement at the UN General Assembly [...]

Countries Continue to Work with the Royal Government

Some have fooled people around that the International Criminal Court (ICC) will arrest Hun Sen. I will be somewhere near the International Court soon. I will be in the UN [...] they may get their demonstration ready. People who wanted to meet me also are ready for it. There will be meetings in Europe on 17, 18, 19, and 20 (October) in Brussels. From 20 through to 22 (October), I will be in Turkey. From 22 through to 25, I will be in Geneva. I am sending this message to clear up minds of some people who have been fooled by incitements from outside the country [...]

(internationally) we have our troops in Sudan, Somalia, Central African Republic, and Lebanon [...] what have they said about it? We also have the seat at the United Nations. Not a single country withdraws its embassy from Cambodia. They continue to work with the Royal Government [...]

Votes for CPP Traditionally between 47% and Slightly above 51%

The fact that you think so much of votes you used to have was yours, was a wrong thinking. Traditionally, the Cambodian People’s Party had had between 47% and slightly above 51% of the votes. In the recent elections, swing voters has added more than 20% to the traditional number. At one point in history, people voted 90 seats for the Cambodian People’s Party. I called that after a Khmer proverb “calling back after scolding.” What does that mean? [...] parents from time to time have their hard times with children. They may scold them. Soon enough, they call them back (or reconcile). People do not detest the Cambodian People’s Party. Certain people, such as criminals, etc. do indeed and I know that, no matter what they will never vote for CPP [...]

They may remember that the Cambodian People’s Party have more members, and their children are also many. They are a big family. When your field is small, you cannot produce more [...] for the calling back after scolding that I said is because we have been living with people and sharing their grievances and happiness for over forty years. Some parents are angry with their children and scolding them. After a while, when they understand their children, they call them back. Customarily, the ones living with parents are not their satisfaction. Those who live far away and come to see them once in a while, they tend to like them better [...]

New Royal Government Compositions and Procedures

As discussed previously, we would do it (forming the Royal

Government in August) if there would be no legal barrier. I would seek HM the King’s approval to convene the first session of the National Assembly to allow such formation to go through. The Cabinet list is in fact in my hand. The mechanism of the National Assembly is also ready. The political platform of the Royal Government is also ready [...] we will continue with the rectangular strategy, which I termed Phase IV, because it has not fully successfully completed yet. We still have to sharpen certain angles in the Phase IV [...] Change (of positions) or appointments in the time to come will be decreed again. We will end the previous Royal Government Cabinet from Under Secretary of State through to Prime Minister, before making a new reappointment list [...] for public functionaries, or people holding rank of General Director and below, they will be holding on to their posts [...]

The Prime Minister alone will be appointed by HM the King. The Prime Minister will organize a Royal Government which will submit to the National Assembly for confidence motion. The approved list will then go the HM the King who will sign approving formation of new Royal Government that will swear an oath to take up positions and duties. In this case, not to count in Deputy Prime Ministers and senior ministers who do not hold ministries, the new Royal Government members will consist of 30 people – 28 ministers, a Secretary of State, and a Prime Minister [...]

As for Secretary/Under Secretary of States, should you not see your names in the first list, you may wait for successive appointments by Royal Decrees. Previously, appointing a Secretary of State would need to wake up the National Assembly. From now, appointing Secretaries/Under-Secretaries of State will be by Royal Decrees [...] in this development, there is no need for us to come up with one whole list altogether with members of the Royal Government [...].

(Continued from page 1)

political parties to observe National Assembly sessions. As we are meeting here today, what we will achieve would be more than what she has asked for. As for National Assembly sessions, you may know that even students can ask to be observers. However, they may not be able to do so for the Royal Government's Cabinet meeting.

A Forum between Prime Minister and Contested Political Parties

In today's meeting I wish to reiterate that it is not a meeting between (ruling) political party and other political parties. I am convening this consultative meeting not in my capacity as President of the Cambodian People's Party with all of you. I am meeting you in my capacity as Prime Minister of the Royal Government. Today, Samdech Say Chhum, Vice President of the Cambodian People's Party represents the Cambodian People's Party, with participations of sixteen other political parties. I heard that one political party may show up late because of congested traffics [...] it is in this note that I reaffirm that our consultative forum today is between the Royal Government and political parties (contested for seats in the National Assembly in 2018). I am stressing on this to avoid misinterpretations by some, for example the press [...] recently, there had been interpretations about the way HM the King designated a Prime Minister [...]

At NA Senior Member's Recommendation, HM the King Designates PM

It is important that they should read a paragraph relating to this issue. They may look for related article in the Constitution for any decisions to be made. In the article 119-New (formerly article 100) of the Constitution, it is required that recommendation must be made from the President of the National Assembly with approvals from the two Vice Presidents of the National Assembly. *HM the King, based on that recommendation, shall*

designate a dignitary from among the representatives of winning party to form the Royal Government and present themselves to the National Assembly to ask for a vote of confidence. However, for this process of designation, HM the King based his decision on recommendation from senior member of the National Assembly. This has emphasized that we are implementing additional Constitutional law concerning regular functioning of state institutions. Some politicians, on this point, because of expressed will of opposition, do not delineate its meaning [...]

Meeting to Resolve Misunderstanding

... There is no one to point a finger at in this case. This could have happen been because of the fact that there were never a meeting. It is in this concept that I wish to have a meeting. Only by meeting and talking to each other, we will be able to sort things out together. Any interpretations made through the press or social media would not do it [...] (the Light of Khemara Party showed up), take for instance the Local Democracy Party made a statement addressing three points – firstly, Prime Minister's initiative is in conformity to what they have in their national reconciliation booklet; secondly, they would join the process after the functioning of the Royal Government and National Assembly; and thirdly, they asked the Royal Government to clarify related procedures and mechanism [...]

It Is Political Parties' Right to Come Up with Mechanism

I wish to take this moment to clarify, should I tell them what kind of mechanism I have in mind, it would be a predetermined design for which they would not have their say. I wish to leave every right to you all to discuss and consult with me the mechanism that you all think would be the best one for our nation. I do not come up with agenda or pre-designed mechanism. If I were to have them made in advance, why would I

ask you all to come? [...] I wanted you to discuss with me and I will bring up my concept about "the suggested mechanism and how do we proceed with effectiveness and each political party has its chance to contribute its opinion to the Royal Government.

Political Discussion Awaits Mechanism

I wish to make clear that we have not got to discuss politics yet. It is easy to understand. We have not come up with the required mechanism yet, so we cannot proceed to talking politics. If we were to do so it would be similar to handing out leaflets at the time of elections campaign. People may take them and place them in trash, keep them somewhere they never even look at [...] if we were to do that, we would have people coming in and talking, and leaving in the end. How do we go about ensuring effectiveness from this? On another note, each and every political party has already presented its political platform to the Cambodian people already [...]

Time to Start Implementing Political Platform, Serving People

On another note, this is not the time to do a presentation of political platform of political parties but to start implementing and taking actions to serve people. I still see that what the League of Democracy Party said was not wrong. Only maybe we did not have time to talk and explain to each other. They said that they would not (this forum) because firstly they respect the will of the Cambodian people who voted for the Cambodian People's Party. However, as Prime Minister, I have made it clear that (in conducting this forum) principles of political party is not involved [...] this could have been only a lack of explanation and/or relations and dialogue. There will be political package but the process and implementation of such mechanism/policies would require consultation. For instance in agriculture, [...] it is not necessary true that every

policies issued by the Royal Government are perfect and applicable [...] they may need amendment and adjustment [...]

There are clear need in policy formulation and draft law that I am seeking presence of political parties. It is not to seek your supports to the Cambodian Political Party that is going to lead the Royal Government or to help frame political platform of the Royal Government [...] take for instance we have just implemented policies covering female employees in pregnancy employed as civil servants, armed forces, and registered and non-registered workers [...] we are making an additional step into providing assistance to women in pregnancy of poor households. Due to limited resources, we have not made a big step yet on that front. There will be many issues. We cannot not expect a package of seasoning to make our soup taste great or a chef would not be able to cook to everyone taste. This is what I would say to frame our discussion today [...].

(Continued from page 6)

political platforms of other political parties [...] I would look for their inputs to improve and promote implementation of the Cambodian People's Party's political platform.

To Gather Human Strength, Intelligence, and Property for Country's Development

We used to have consultations with non-governmental organizations on various draft laws, why else we could not do so with political parties who had contested in the elections. I wish to gather as much inputs as possible. I have said on various occasions that I wish to gather together human strength, intellects, and property to develop the country.

I wish to use this sixth legislative term Royal Government to gather the country's brain power resource. In the course of campaigning, I have seen and listened to many of their ideas and wishes too [...].