

Lang Ka Buddhist Pagoda Achievements

(27 May 2013 — Unofficial Translation, Selected Impromptu Comments)



27 May 2013 — Samdech Techo Hun Sen and Madame with people at the Inauguration of the Buddhist achievements in the pagoda of Lang Ka in Phnom Penh (Kampuchea Thmey)

The Paris Peace Agreement: “Preventing the Return of the Recent Past Regime”

Why do we have some political leaders stepping out and making such comments? I would instruct those involved in this work to post the audio documents in their websites. The Parties responsible may conduct their authentication checking. In time of peace in the whole country and people are celebrating what is called Day of Remembrance of the Genocide on May 20, such thing should not have taken place.

I may recall that the discussion on the Paris Peace Agreement took such a long time to reach agreement was because the disagreement on the issue of how to include in the Agreement the prevention of the possible return of the genocide regime of Pol Pot.

I proposed to include the sentence in the Paris Peace Agree-

ment. It was rejected by the tripartite coalition government at the time and by some countries. I also could not accept (any Agreement without such statement in it).

Finally, in Tokyo, we have found a solution. Then Japanese Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, now President of the International Court of Justice in The Hague and in law of the Japanese Emperor, issued an invitation for me to have a medical checkup in Japan. In fact, it was not really a medical checkup.

There was a negotiation going on from 7 pm through to 2.30 am. He said to me that what you have proposed is correct but if we were to include such statement in the Agreement, the Khmer Rouge side would not have agreed, and so would some other countries.

In such case, we would not achieve the agreement. We

(Continued on page 5)

Buddhist Achievements in Prey Veng

(16 May 2013 — Unofficial Translation, Selected Extempore Comments)

Three Achievements, Buddhist and Secular Relation

I am so glad today to have the opportunity to return to the pagoda of Serei Sarpij after I came here once in 1997 to put into official operation the Primary School of Buddhism - Hun Sen Serei Sarpij in this pagoda. Having come here again, I clearly noted with my own eyes the progress made contrastingly from when I was here in 1997, and am sure far more from the time under Pol Pot. In 2010, when the head monk requested for my assistance to finish the construction, a photo left with my assistance

(from 1997) shows that we both were younger. In 1997, I was 45 years old and now I see that you and I are 16 years older. I thank HE Heu Pavi for representing me in bringing donation and contribution to the pagoda for the construction.

As is reported by HE Has Sareth, Governor of Prey Veng province, we have three achievements to inaugurate today – (1) a six room Hun Sen-Serei Sarpij Secondary School of Buddhism, (2) a 16-rooms residential hall and (3) a 20-rooms residential hall. The

(Continued on page 6)

Commemorating Labor with APS Workers

(01 May 2013 — Unofficial Translation, Selected Impromptu Comments)

... I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to the efforts lately made by leaders, government officials as well as those of the workers and staff of the Autonomous Port of Sihanoukville (APS) on this very joyous occasion ...

More Rice Goes Through the Port

According to the report by HE Tram Iv Toek, Minister for Transports and Public Works, there is a strong indication that the amount of rice exported to foreign market via the port has gone up 102% compared to same period in 2012. That is a good sign for our objective figure of rice export no less than one million tons by the year 2015. In fact, we produced a large quantity of rice

but we did not have the right milling and processing capacity. That is what I called “where there is gold but there is no paper to pack it” situation. The more rice we have but we could not mill and sell them the way we wanted.

As of present, there are increasing investments in preparation of rice export. In the first three months of this year, the export figure of rice has marked 72,000 tons compared to 35,000 tons last year for the same period. The figure has ensured our hope. In 2010, we did 51,000 tons, 2011, 148,000

(Continued on page 2)

In This Issue

- Lang Ka Pagoda Achievements
- Prey Veng Buddhist Achievements
- Autonomous Port of Sihanoukville

(Continued from page 1)

and 2012, 180,000 tons. Since we already achieved 72,000 tons for the first three months of this year, we hope that by 2015, the port will be a good place to monitor the amount of rice going through to foreign markets.

It is another good sign that we have recorded the export, twice already, of 15,000 tons the dried cassava chips. We have million tons of cassava but we have not found the right market for it. However, with efforts made to establish relation with foreign markets, especially with the People's Republic of China, the country with the largest population in the world, our cassava goes via this port to the Chinese markets.

It is not our only intention to export our dried cassava to foreign markets but to attract investments for processing it in the country so that we will be able to export half-processed or final products. We have to make further efforts to channel investors into this sector, especially the investment in food processing to produce feedings for animal to make use of agricultural crops like corn, cassava, etc. that we have in abundance. We need to involve more actively in opening wider access to foreign markets.

Cambodia Would Have Developed Fast If There Were No Coup in 1970

I would take this chance and time to make a small remark in relation to the progress made in this port. HE Tram Iv Toek already made a presentation to you all the different stages of development the port has gone through so far. However, before grasping all those, please let me speak a bit about the fact that why all these are possible. There is a saying that goes 'once drinking the water, one has to think of its source' or 'eating a fruit, one has to think of from where it comes.'

While talking about all these achievements, we also have to think about Samdech Ov Preah Borom Ratanak Kaod, Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, for the efforts and resources he had spent in building the Preah Sihanouk Sea Port with a railway connecting it to Phnom Penh.

Though it was true that goods going through this port was less than one million tons in 1960s before the coup in 1970s, one should be clear that one million tons of goods was not a small amount at all in 1970. It was indicating a resounding development of the country. It is in this thought that I always say that if there were not March 18-1970 coup against Samdech Ov, Samdech Ta and Samdech Ta Tuot (great grandfather), up to today, Cambodia would not be less developed than those neighboring countries as we are today. We may have noted with pride altogether the astonishing development of the port and the quantifying amount of goods exported to foreign destinations. That is the truth.

Were there no coup and the port were uninterruptedly operational, and the country were not at war, could anyone imagine how far the country could have gone? Our people's income would not be recorded at just 1,000 USD per annum as it is today. It could have reached thousand or tens of thousands already. According to a study conducted by HE Sun Chanthol and presented during the trip to accompany HM the King to Monduliri, in those days when Cambodia's per capita income was 200 USD, it was recorded that in South Korea, their per capita income was only 62 USD. The condition in which the two countries were comparatively studied was that Cambodia came out of the French colony and South Korea from war. Cambodia made it fast.

This has clearly shown that whoever creates this tragedy has brought about disaster to the people and the port as well. I am so pleased that we have attached Samdech Ov or Samdech Preah Borom Ratanak Kaod's name Preah Norodom Sihanouk to this province, where the port from his time is serving as a breathing machine for our economy. The province will be staying with his name forever as long as the Cambodian People's Party is in power. However, there would be no guarantee that this name could go on when other parties come to power. It will be up to them since we do not have the right to do it otherwise. After all, I do not believe they would win, though they have made 'winning' their recurring slogan all along.

Improved Working Condition and Salary

I think I told you a story when I was here last time about a ship and three men. They argued about which one is fast. I think I told this story once in 2003. Now I do not buy the thought that we would have lost in one election from two-third of the seats in the National Assembly to below 50+1. I find it unscientific. I do not believe that our people would deny the fact that the country's economic growth has gradually ensured and improved. They all know clearly for themselves when they compared themselves to 2008. They would know right away that between then and now, the elections in 2013, what they have gained in extra.

Our workers also know clearly how much they earned in 2008 as their monthly salary. I could recall that it was like 50 USD, then 61 USD and now 80 USD. As of May this year, the principal salary of the workers will be no less than 80 USD. Since they would work extra hours, in various cases, our workers would earn more than

80 USD per month. I would not have any objection too if factory or employer would give their workers 200 USD per month. Apparently, more and more factories are competing for workers and their salary offer in some instances is 100 USD and higher.

As for the employees in the Autonomous Port of Preah Sihanoukville (Samdech asks the workers), the salary in average is over one million Riel (more than 250 USD). The issue here is that any given principal salary must not be lower than 80 USD. There is nothing wrong to give more but not less. Factories and enterprises should compete on their provision of salary, healthcare, housing, childcare and food for their workers. I am sure that where there is good policy on these issues, workers are satisfied and work harder. On this note, I would stress that workers or farmers themselves know clearly the progress they made between 2008, the last elections and the next election, which is coming in less than three months [...]

I urge all politicians to be brave and recognize the truth and historical fact. Some of them never touch the issue because they are afraid (it would anyhow relate them to those events). In fact, even the US citizen has written about the fall of the regime of Lon Nol, the bombardment of Cambodia under order from President Nixon in what is widely known to be operation "breakfast" in 1969. I brought this matter up to remind all of us that if the country remained under the leadership of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, whom we currently refer to as Samdech Preah Borom Ratanak Kaod, we would not have faced tragedies and hardships in the efforts to reconstruct the country, where there have been graves and destruction beyond description.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Multipurpose Seaport

I have a live memory of the time when I was the head of this commission to sort out congested goods that were coming in as assistance to the Cambodian people in the seaport of Kompong Som, or currently the Autonomous Port of Preah Sihanoukville. It has always a live memory of workers using their trousers as sags to put rice in. The task was hard then. There were not many people in the city and we depended completely on human labor to carry goods. There were no cranes and lift as we do today. People carry them on their shoulders and backs.

There have been many requests to invest in the development of the port. I always say I would not agree to any proposal that would depend on my rice flour to make rice cake for me. I bring this matter up every year because there have been this push for privatization of the port. It is to my disagreement always. We have put a strong rebuff to the idea. Now we have secured fund from Japan for the expansion of the port. I came for the first expansion of 240 meters and again 160 meters. We extended the port 400 meters in all. Last year we put into operation the special economic zone adjacent to the port.

We are consulting and planning to turn it into a multipurpose port with its water depth of 13.5 meters to allow docking of the 50,000 tons capacity ship. As of present, our port only docks ship of 20,000 tons. Any bigger ship would have to dock in Singapore first to transfer delivery to smaller ships to bring them to Cambodia. We also anticipate busy actions when it comes to oil operation in the area. Therefore, it is important that we need to bring our port capacity to the next level.

Autonomous Port Share

As is planned, we will bring the Autonomous Port of Preah Sihanoukville (APS) into the stock market. It is still under discussion. There are many requirements and conditions. Take for instance, the fact that we have borrowed from Japan in Yen, what does that mean when we quantify them in USD, especially when we repay the loan. We hope to list the APS in the Cambodian stock market to accumulate more funds for further port development. No matter what we will do, this port will not fall into private hands. We will continue with the public enterprise management.

I would in this instance offer my appreciation for the efforts made by directors and leaders as well as those of the governing board. I also appreciate the efforts made in relation to what we call "all actions under one roof." I inaugurated in 2009 this "actions under one roof," where custom, CAMCONTROL and economic police are staying under one roof in their operation. It has become an experience not only in this port but also in other passes, whether it is a port or an airport. It has also served as a good example of how to facilitate the cross-border trade between Cambodia and other countries using what they call "one-stop service."

Port Activities Development

In relation to that, I also give my appreciation to related institutions, especially the Preah Sihanouk provincial authority and armed forces for their good cooperation with the port, which has altogether assured the loading growth of the port. The port activities has elevated from 2,439,384 tons in 2011 to 2,659,785 tons in 2012. As far as number of ship is concerned, 877 ships docked in 2011, 941 docked in 2012. Some 23,941 containers passed in 2011 and 25,574

containers in 2012. Income made from port activities was 31 million USD in 2011 and 35 million USD in 2012. These are some of the crucial economic indicators.

The APS is not the only port that we have goods going out and coming in. We also have other ports activities – the seaport at Keo Phos, the river port at Phnom Penh, the border passes at Poi Pet, Bavet, etc. I am so disappointed that some politicians mistook my comments and made his interpretation. It is like what I said in Prey Veng in relation to the fact that pagodas serve partly in the policy that supports elder people and children. They mistook it to overall policy. Elder people need to go to pagodas to exercise their religious rites and some would even live there. I wish they listened to me carefully before they made comments. I made it clear that pagodas serve partly the policy for elder people. I did not say it serves alone and entirely.

Not all elder people go to pagoda. Some live with their families. Their children look after them. Why did they make it a topic? Improper remark would result in value loss. Take for instance, when I am talking about goods passing by this port, I did not infer to economic activities in the whole country. It is only one of the country's economic indicators. When the size of export and import through this port gets bigger, it indicates overall economic progress of the country too.

Export Markets

We are now applying the "outward looking" policy. What does that mean? It means we must transform Cambodia into a country that promotes local products and export. The Royal Government has made continuous efforts to look for external markets for our products – agriculturally and industrially. We made a push in the

US, Europe, Canada and ASEAN. It is not yet 2015 (when the ASEAN Economic Community becomes real) but we must make efforts from now. In his farewell remark to me, the Malaysian Ambassador agreed with me that Cambodia exported a big amount of rice to Malaysia. In order to ensure people's increasing engagement in local production for export, the Royal Government finds external markets and attracts investments into the country. For instance, we want to export not only dry cassava chips but as final product such as cassava flour, for example.

We are doing the same for garment industry. We make efforts to look for markets because without markets we cannot attract more investments, which in turn will create jobs for workers. We have made every possible effort to become one of the members of the World Trade Organization (WTO). We are also doing the same as a partner in the ASEAN framework. Cambodia is one of the ASEAN countries that conduct negotiation on trade with other partners – China, India, South Korea, Japan, Australia, New Zealand – also on this trend of ensuring more markets. In the ASEAN Summit recently in Brunei, we will also negotiate with Hong Kong. Cambodia is anticipating opportunity from the free trade area of ASEAN-China, ASEAN-Korea, ASEAN-Japan, ASEAN-India and ASEAN with other partners.

Cambodia's 14th Year Membership of ASEAN

Yesterday was the fourteenth anniversary of Cambodia's membership to ASEAN – April 30, 1999. In 2014, we will celebrate the fifteenth anniversary with a wider discussion to review results from becoming an ASEAN member. We skip it this year. We

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

will do it next year, 2014. I would depend on HE Cham Prasidh and Sun Chanthol to remind me on that. We will launch a forum for which intellectuals from all corners of life, the youth also included, to join us making evaluation as to what do we achieve from becoming an ASEAN member?

It is in this note that we must monitor the overall economic development. Record of goods charged and discharged in APS is a very important indicator, which helps us monitor the overall economic activity. In 2009, the amount of goods passing by APS dropped because it was the time of financial crisis and economic downturn.

We now noted that the amount of goods passing through has picked up again. This should indicate the up curve of export of Cambodia. We should note our import has increased as well. The garment exports brought about over 4,000 million USD or 5,000 million USD to include other sectors. We should note also that border trade with Thailand is about 3000 million USD in size and that with Vietnam is the same.

As far as trade with China is concerned, it has reached beyond what former Premier, HE Wen Jiabao, and I pinpointed. We agreed to expand our trade to reach 2,500 million USD by 2015, but we already did so in 2012. Having seen that, former President of the People's Republic of China, HE Hu Jintao, and I have earmarked the trade achievement to reach 5,000 million USD.

As you can see, this small country has quite an immense trade volume. We have managed to achieve all this not by chance or by creating obstacles for investors. We have prepared hard and soft infrastructure that attracts investors.

Attracting More Investments

When we talk about hard infrastructure, we mean for example APS, roads, bridges, airports, electricity, clean water, etc. to cater to the need of investors. The soft infrastructure refers to legal, regulation and human resources. We have done both. They have guaranteed more investment confidence.

The more investments a country can secure the more progress the country makes. This applies not only in the case of a poor country as Cambodia but in developed country like the US, France or other countries in Europe. They all need foreign direct investment (FDI). The US needs FDI from Japan and other countries. Every country in the world rich or poor needs investors.

We are not applying policy that scares investors away but one that create their confidence and attract their investments in local production for both the local needs for consumption and service and for export, while creating more jobs and income for the people. Take for example we could have created tremendous added value from cassava if we could find more investments to process it into animal feed, alcohol, ethanol, etc. Farmers grow cassava and factory is their markets. People can grow cassava but also use their surplus labor to work in the factory. They will make money from both the cassava they grow but also earn monthly stipend from working in the factory.

The same is true for rice mill. We will continue to lose so much from rice export – in rice bran, broken rice pieces and husks. If we could find investors to set up rice mills to get our rice to the export standard, we would make more profit from the lost parts, which we can use to raise animals too. Therefore, our policy is to improve investment environment

to attract investment to Cambodia.

As you can see now we have received gradually growing investments from Japan. Yesterday, Japan offered Cambodia 90 million USD for the construction of the national road 5. I am so grateful. I thank Japan firstly for the segment of road that Japan has chosen to build, after Japan offered helps in building the national road 1 and the bridge of Neak Loeng. They will serve as connectors in local road infrastructure but also a connector to Cambodia's southern corridor important for countries in the framework of the greater Mekong sub-region or ASEAN.

Secondly, I thank the Japanese Ambassador straightforwardly for signing this agreement to offer Japan's assistance right before the elections. In 2003, when Cambodia was stuck in political stalemate after the elections, some countries exercised their wait-and-see position to after the establishment of the new Royal Government. As of present, none applies the wait-and-see position anymore, maybe, and I think, because they understand the gravity of the situation.

The Three Poles of Economic Development

I have spoken a lot already. I still think it is important to talk about the fact that we have considered the province of Preah Sihanouk as head of the dragon. We have likened Cambodia connecting dots of economic poles in a form of a dragon. We have now put the dragon altogether. Its tail is lying at the border with Laos. We have designed our economic development based on three potential poles – Phnom Penh, Preah Sihanouk city and Siem Reap. We are making our best to turn the northeastern part of the country into the fourth pole. I foresee that in years ahead there will be a huge industrial zone out there

through investment and provision of land titles for the people.

We should see that the progress made in Preah Sihanouk city. I remember that while there was this fifth congress of the Cambodian People's Party in 1985, I visited a number of provinces. I went to Koh Kong. On the way back, we stopped by Kompong Som – that was what we called the province of Preah Sihanouk then. I posed a question to then governor Mr. Horl about the economic directives of the province. The congress set four products as target of the economic achievement – rice, rubber, fishery and log. Mr Horl also set rice as goal for the province. I said to him why you also choose rice, when you do not have land for rice. You should promote seas fishing. However, the four economic targets set in 1980s are no long relevant to the present.

Last year, APS received some 870,000 tourists last year. While observing the seasonal greeting of this year, 92,000 tourists have come to Preah Sihanouk province and city. People should be careful with the way they set up prices for their products or tourists would change their destination to Bokor resort in Kompot, to Kep, Koh Kong, Siem Reap, etc. More efforts must be made to guarantee good service and safety for tourists and people who come through.

We have here three special economic zones – one is adjacent to the APS, one at Stoeng Hao and one at Bat Trang. I am sure factories and enterprises in these special economic zones need to settle housing for workers so that they do not walk in the street to demand for housing anymore. Factories owners and enterprise owners should know how to address demands to secure fidelity to management ...■

spent so much time of this point.

Finally, we came to the agreement to include “*preventing the return of the recent past regime.*” HE Tia Banh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defense was also in the discussion from beginning to end.

Pol Pot’s Genocide a Fabrication - The Opposition Leaders Say

We had done everything possible to guarantee that the regime of Pol Pot would not return to power. I also have made great effort in every term of the Royal Government to work with the United Nations in order to have this trial of the former Khmer Rouge leaders. The former Khmer Rouge soldiers who have integrated with the Royal Government condemn Pol Pot and organize the celebration of the January 7 victory in their strongholds since after 1996. Why the political leaders in Phnom Penh dare state like this? When s/he does not recognize the history that involves even the killing of her/his own parents, how could we expect her/him to recognize anyone? How could you trust in her/him?

While (Pol Pot) killed and put many in mass graves in Choeung Ek, they say those were fabrications. How people react to this is totally up to the people. I respect the people’s rights. In Khmer we say if a piece of bamboo used as mattress is broken, a new one could replace it. However, when a word comes out of one’s mouth, there is nothing to deny it.

I urge HE Khuon Sodary, Second Vice President of the National Assembly, to convene and discuss with members of the Cambodian People’s Party to draft an urgent law for the National Assembly in relation to those who make statements that the Khmer Rouge regime

did not kill people or there is no such thing as Tuol Sleng torturing centre. In Europe no one dares say that there were no killing by Hitler. It is outrageous that they could go this far just to obtain political gain over the Cambodian People’s Party. They do insult the soles of people killed under this regime. I think grandfather Jum Mey and Bou Mi (survivors of Tuol Sleng prison) would have some matters to sort out with them.

Kong Kuam: “Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk ordered the coup”

I need to bring to your attention is what HE Kong Kuam, President of the Sam Rainsy Party and senior advisor of the National Rescue Party, said on May 24 in the district of Trang, Takao province, in relation to Samdech Preah Borom Ratanak Kaod, Preah Norodom Sihanouk. We have been working on a statue in his memory at the Independence monument area so that the people of Cambodia can pay respect for and his picture hung on walls of all state institutions. About what he said, the Quick Reaction Unit (of the Council of Ministers) has already issued a statement. In what he said, HE Kong Kuam did not consider Lon Nol as the coup maker that brought Samdech Ov (Preah Norodom Sihanouk) down but Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk who ordered Lon Nol to launch the coup. It is a serious issue.

I am sure you can find and listen directly to what he said in the website of the Quick Reaction Unit but I just read a passage that was sent to me and I quote: “The situation has turned difficult now. Lon Nol should become Prime Minister and set up a national rescue government. Lon Nol should do the job inside the country. I will go abroad.” It was said that the situation was the result of preparation by the Vietnam-

ese, Chinese and Soviet communists even. According to this statement, it is inferring that the March 18 coup in 1970 was also a fabrication. The whole country went into destruction because of the coup launched by Lon Nol. Now they said it was not Lon Nol who launched the coup but Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk who ordered it.

As a victim of the coup, Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk has now become the one to take the fault. For HE Kong Kuam, I always have high thought of him and he engaged in politics since when he was in my team. Now I find it hard to believe what he had said just to ascertain political gain. I think the Cambodian people should memorize this. One other leader of the same group, Koem Sokha, President of the Human Rights Party and now in the National Rescue Party, had just said that Tuol Sleng was a fabrication. Now we all hear this from HE Kong Kuam. If we do not take serious measures to protect the late HM, how could his soul rest?

Upholding Faithfulness to the Throne and HM

I have done and sacrificed everything for HM. I lost an eye and was wounded five times. I also did everything possible so that HM (Preah Norodom Sihanouk) could return to the country. You may have seen the pictures. It was since the time that I went to meet him for negotiation until I went to accompany them back to the country in 1991.

Finally, I accompanied HM’s body from Beijing back to Cambodia for a grand funeral our country can offer to signify our respect for his efforts for the country and people. I have fulfilled my role and duty as one of millions of his grateful child, except perhaps those who opposed HM like those who have this theory that HM ordered Lon Nol to carry out

the coup.

If, in the name of the Royal Government of Cambodia and the Cambodian People’s Party, I dare not step out and defend HM, what meaning does it make when we swear to hold faithfulness to the throne and HM?

At the funeral, according to astrologer, my birth sign and zodiac would result me a bad luck as it is not be compatible with the birth sign of HM. When we offered light to the pyre, Samdech Me, the Queen Mother, also stated again to Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Royal Palace HE Kong Sam Ol to remind me on that. I annotated on the letter that I will not miss this very important event. In our meeting, my wife was also present, HM the King and the Queen Mother said they did not want bad thing to happen to me. I responded that if I were to do so what does being faithful to the throne mean. In fact I learned since when I went to Beijing that my birth sign was not compatible with the birth sign of the late HM.

Not the Royalist But the One that Defends It

It is quite new. If I were to keep it, those people will go on discrediting the reputation of the late HM, even he had passed away already. If learning this but did not respond to it, I would not be a Techo or a grateful child, who had left in 1970s and followed HM. I would say that the Cambodian People’s Party is not a royalist Party but the one that defends it.

Monarchy could stay on depends on how much people support. There is no need than to name it the royalist Party but the Party that protects the monarchy suffices. I would hold my two hands together and offer my respect from afar that I would do everything to pro-

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 1)

total cost of building the three achievements is 198,400 USD. Why do we have to build many-story building here? We have the secondary school of Buddhism here so there are many monks who come to study and need a place to stay. I am grateful to the effort made by the head monk as well as the district and provincial head monk for this beneficial effort. This has made the pagoda a good place for senior people and Buddhist followers at large to practice their religious belief [...]

I came here to see the Pothi Luas pumping station in Prey Veng. I also had my children with me. I can recollect that HE Bin Chhin at the time was the Deputy Governor of Prey Veng. We stayed in the provincial town but I left early in the morning without the knowledge of governors to observe the rice purchasing process. I even checked the scale too. I did that because there was a time when they pre-arranged rice purchasing and scaling process for me to see it. I think that was the case in Kampong Chhonang, when brother Daok Narin was governor. It was about 4 pm. I talked to the people "why don't you come to sell rice in the morning?" They said: "I did sell in the morning but they asked for our presence because there is some senior officials coming to see."

With this experience, since people never saw Hun Sen by the face for absence of TVs in remote areas, I blended in. It was back in 1985. They did the same when I visited the fishing lots. I always asked my staff to get motorcycle ready but I never let them know where I would go. In Pothi Luas I found that the scale created problem. As leader, sometimes one has to check his/her junior staff.

Titles for Inundated Land

Yesterday I had a report from

HE Has Sareth concerning the land titles for inundated land. I have said it once in Koh Thom. There was one day that I coincidentally called HE Has Sareth and cadastre officials to my house in order to resolve some problems concerning lands that are not registered yet in some districts of Prey Veng. I also clarified to them the policy concerning land title to be issued for people who occupy and reap benefit from inundated land. Everybody knows that those areas in Cambodia can be six-months, or at least three or four-months under water. In some cases, they are under water up to nine months. The question is do people who use those types of land can obtain land titles.

Under the time of the State of Cambodia, we issued them the land title, widely known to our people as the one with imprinted feather. There is also a circulation on the issue. We also have issued a sub-decree on this matter. Particularly, I delegated the responsibility for Deputy Prime Minister Sar Kheng to oversee the handing out of land titles to the people.

As far as the issue is concerned in the province, land measuring prior to this date was impossible for it deemed to be relating to the law on fishing lots, which some had interpreted that the fishing lots extended to wherever the water reached. The Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction and the Ministry of Agriculture had discussed the matter. On March 8, 2012, I issued a declaration and a sub-decree to deregulate the fresh water fishing lots in the whole country. There is no reason whatsoever to talk about fishing lots anywhere in the country and therefore land title will be issued automatically.

In the whole province of Prey Veng, land titles of 16,039 over 18,900 parcels have been

issued for 4,534 over 6,376 families in 30 villages of nine communes in three districts. Particularly in the district of Preah Sdech, 1,546 over 6,407 land parcels have been registered and issued land titles for 1,016 over 2,690 families in twelve villages of three communes. What I need to clarify is that though there is not youth volunteer mission here, the land measuring must continue with the cadastre officials. I am asking for your cooperation to infiltrate or claim no further land in the inundated areas. We need to keep some of the areas as shelters for fish to reproduce. We need to maintain a balance of benefiting from the dry season rice and crop cultivation and fish reproduction.

I wish to stress we are carrying out the work not only in Prey Veng but throughout the country, except in the area of Tonle Sap lake that is under study. To claim land ownerships, people must exercise rights to use, reap the benefit and manage the land. For people in the Tonle Sap area, though they have not got the third right – managing their land, still they have exercised fully the first two rights – use and reap benefit from it. The Royal Government engages a thorough study on areas to be cut out and given to the people. It is relating directly to our rice barn. Again, I am asking our people not to infiltrate and claim inundated areas where we need to keep for fish to reproduce.

Monarchy under Insult, We Must Protect

Today I have some works to share with our people and please allow me to send from here a political message. Firstly, I need to assure people whose the message is for not to get too excited that Hun Sen was afraid of them. We need to protect the monarchy and HM the King as well as the whole institution. A prince has involved and engaged in politics

with the opposition party. It is alright that he choose to be in politics and with the opposition. What matters is the fact that on April 28, in Kompot province, in the effort to publicize political platform of the National Rescue Party, he said that he represents the Cambodian royal family. Samdech Krom Preah Norodom Ranaridh wrote me a letter on April 29 saying "... though it is his right, I need to deny absolutely that the prince does not represent me, a member of the Cambodian royal family at all..."

On May 10, six days ago, in an interview broadcast on Free Asia, Prince Sisowath Thomico said in response to the question what does he gain from the forum (that his party organized in Kratie), and I quote:

"Some said they want peace and progress but I wanted to make sure that progress should come down to lower tiers. I have told the people some important points that firstly if we depend on the figures of the communal elections in 2012, we see clearly that the Cambodian People's Party has lost already. The CPP had only 3.5 million votes. Six million voters more did not vote for the CPP. Why the opposition parties did not win then? It was because there was division among them. However, the electoral status in 2013 has changed. Now there will be only two parties to contest. The Cambodian People's Party will achieve 3.5 million votes and the Cambodian National Rescue Party will get the rest six million votes. I mean at this hour, today, the Cambodian People's Party lost already. Leaders of the Cambodian People's Party know well. Those at the junior level are unclear about this. They do not know that they have lost yet..."

"Secondly, what do we use the

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

victory for? I told the people to choose either the communist regime or the Sangkum Reastr Niyum regime, which I represent ...”

As you can see here, in Kompot he said he represents the royal family and in Kratie he said he represents Sankum Reastr Niyum (Populist Society).

Please allow me to interpret this point before I get to the issue concerning the figures of the vote. This will be a political message, not against this type of person. I have no need to explain to this person but I need to share it with people in the whole country to see the dangerous term used in this instance.

Firstly, I would appeal to our people not to have confused thought towards HM the King and HM Samdech Me, the Queen Mother for this prince who claims to represent the royal family and the Sankum Reastr Niyum. Some analysts may have thought that HM the King and the Queen Mother are catching fish with both hands. The thought is disastrous for the royal family. This has gone worse when the prince has been using the name of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk and his title in the Cabinet of the Queen Mother. Many analysts have been suspicious that it is a maneuver of HM the King and the Queen Mother.

It is disastrous indeed and I have to come forward to protect our respected King and the Queen Mother. I put my life as a guaranty that this issue has nothing to do with HM the King and the Queen Mother. It is totally the political right of the prince and the prince only who has joined the opposition countering to the foresight of Samdech Preah Borom Ratanak Kaod. Samdech Krom Preah Norodom Ranaridh stated in his letter that that is

countering to the advice of Samdech Preah Borom Ratanak Kaod too. HM the King works closely and regularly with the Royal Government and communicates with the National Assembly. HM the King worked hard even in his mourning period of Samdech Preah Borom Ratanak Kaod. The Cambodian People's Party is the firmest wall to protect the throne, monarchy and HM the King.

With this clarification, I would urge our people not to cling to confused thought that the fact that Prince Sisowath Thomico joins the opposition party is the maneuver from HM the King and Samdech Me. Prince Thomico wrote a letter to seek an apology and also requested a meeting with me. I annotated let's do that some other time. He joined that Party afterwards. In Hainan, the People's Republic of China, prior to heading for Beijing, the Cambodian Ambassador to the PRC received a call from Samdech Me to inform me of Prince Thomico to join the opposition party and it was hard to stop him. I understood her difficulty. The title bestowed by HM the King as Techo is for the protection of the King. On May 8, HM the King presented my wife with the title of Samdech Kittiprittbandit too. Titles presented by HM the King for the leaders of the Cambodian People's Party are not by chance. They are the strong wall protecting the throne.

Who Is Prince Sisowath Thomico?

Let me now go into the second point that the prince has declared “representing the Cambodian royal family” or “... to choose the Sangkum Reastr Niyum that I represent.” Who is Prince Thomico? He was a soldier in the Lon Nol regime. With this fact, he cannot talk about protecting the monarchy or the throne or HM the King.

He himself joined Lon Nol to uproot the monarchy and Sangkum Reastr Niyum. Lon Nol was against (the late) Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk and the Queen Mother. Lon Nol toppled the monarchy. Lon Nol launched a coup to eliminate Sangkum Reastr Niyum and created the Khmer Republic under the pretext to rescue the country. Now we have this “rescue” thing again.

Prince Thomico has no right to claim what he says as he was one of Lon Nol's soldiers who took the life of the monarchy and carried on his shoulder Lon Nol's rifle in fight against (the late) Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk. A man who betrays his own parents, grand-aunt and granduncle ... how could anyone trusts him. Your HRH, I may clarify that when my wife and I - HE Sar Kheng, HE Men Sam An, HE Pol Saroeun, etc. included - were grown up men and women, we carried rifles on our shoulders in response to the appeal of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk. We fought to regain his rule, while HRH was a soldier that took the life of Sangkum Reastr Niyum and the monarchy.

It was quite fortunate for you that the Cambodian People's Party and Funcinpec jointly created constitutional monarchy, which allows you to be a Prince again. I may let you know a secret. In Vientiane, holding hand together with Samdech Krom Preah Norodom Ranaridh, we discussed about “reinstating the monarchy.” We agreed that Samdech Krom Preah worked with Funcinpec and I worked with the CPP so that the two parties reached the agreement to reinstate monarchy. Being in politics, I would urge the Prince to walk on his feet and not to wrongly steal someone else's power. What I am saying today will be heard. Since he wants to be in politics and he now is, probably he should be

relieved from the current royal duty that he receives stipend from the state. Maybe let him goes on receiving it so that he could use it for expenses and in his campaign. I may remind HRH that Princess Norodom Arun Reasmey, President of Funcinpec, never exploits the royal institution's name and power to attain votes from the people.

Different Groups to Overthrow Monarchy

There is one other point relating to the vote. Since you have brought this matter up, I wish that you should be angry. HRH always show his suspicion as to why the Prime Minister likes to talk about protecting the monarchy. The same trend of thought expressed from the opposition parties. I already took an oath before the body of Samdech Preah Borom Ratanak Kaod in Beijing that I am determined to protect the monarchy, the throne, HM the King. If there were no cause of concern, I would not have said those things. Now, please have your attention on this. There are four different kinds of flags here. Whatever they do, if they only change me out of the Prime Minister post or the Cambodian People's Party out of power, would not be a cause of concern.

You can see here. This is the flag of the *Khmer People's Power Movement*. As you can see, they change the flag. This leader once stepped on the stage of the Yellow Shirt of Thailand. I have requested to the United States to help investigate this case. I think the police already forwarded the case to the US already. I requested to them when they were here to protect President Obama. The US would have to go against action unleashed by their citizens against a state with whom the US holds diplomatic tie. Chhun Yasith, committed act of armed terror in 2000 in Phnom Penh, was

(Continued from page 7)

arrested and jailed in the US. I heard HE Nhek Bun Chhay said he already committed suicide in jail. I have no account of that. This group based in the US and has an armed personnel training ground in Thailand. Some from Phnom Penh also are in this group.

This is what they call **Liberation Tiger Movement**. They also have their own flag. Here is their organizational chart. This group disguises themselves in the opposition party. The first group also does so because they could not disguise themselves in Funcinpec or CPP. They shelter in opposition parties to have political legitimacy in a political party and to continue their armed movement as well.

The third group here is **The Great Kham Movement**. It based in the US. They also have their version of flag. Some people of the movement also disguise in the two opposition parties. Now they have merged into one. I do not frighten our people with this fact but with these flags and mentality, there could be a possibility of war.

This one that we have already stripped its flag is the **Khmer National Liberation Front**, created in Thailand but Thailand expelled. We have arrested them but we withhold their flag and information. They also have their men in the opposition parties. There is this other fifth group called "Former May Force Soldiers." They also have their own flag and armed group inside Thailand. We have continued our cooperation with Thailand to neutralize this group.

We arrest terrorists only. May HE Net Savoeun, head of national police, send a set of these flags to Samdech Krom Preah because it may be of his interest to monitor the issue in order to protect the monarchy in his name as the President of

the Supreme Privy Council. To take Hun Sen out is just opening the gate, while the truth is to overthrow the monarchy and HM the King.

To get there, they need to remove the protecting wall. Please do not be confused on why Hun Sen and/or the Cambodian People's Party issue political framework to protect the monarchy and the King. Without any cause of concern, that would not be necessary ...

IRI Survey

I have brought here figures generated by one of the American institutions to share with you. The International Republican Institute (IRI) has conducted opinion polls from 2006 through to late 2011, which until now it is about over a year old. There are also polls conducted by other institutions as well. According to IRI, 81% of respondent agreed in 2011 that *Cambodia is on the right track*. The figure has improved from 76% in 2010. The poll improved in just one year. This figure has been generated from some 2,000 respondents by the US institution.

As far as *the popularity of the Prime Minister* is concerned, 87% of respondents said they trust in Prime Minister Hun Sen. Before the polls in 2006, I do not know where my popularity was but in 2006, I was already at over 80%. This means that until now I have kept the curve higher than 80% in seven years.

This is one among other reasons that the Cambodian People's Party keeps Hun Sen's candidacy for the post of Prime Minister. The fact that IRI opinion polls brought about disfavor for them, these people have made continuous insult on IRI. As for the result of the last elections, the Cambodian People's Party got 61%, the Sam Rainsy Party 20% and the Human Right Party 9% ...

(Continued from page 5)

tect even though the late HM already passed away. I would not allow anyone to insult HM. I already took an oath before the body of the late HM in Beijing. With your children that are faithful to and supporting the Cambodian People's Party, we will carry on.

All this has ascertained that these people would destroy the monarchy. It is so obvious. I have not shown you yet the picture of a member of the National Assembly from an opposition Party who participated in a seminar with a different flag hung in it. We will have it posted on website. As a member of the National Assembly, why do they take part in such forum where they used a different flag? I suggest the national police send the picture to the Quick Reaction Unit.

I already sent one to Samdech Krom Preah Norodom Ranaridh already. They are sitting in the parliament and taking oath to be faithful to nation, religion and King, but they are seen in this forum with a different national flag. I think this is nothing to hide. Hun Sen has no intention to prevent anyone from exercising his/her own rights but I have the need to protect the throne and the constitutional monarchy.

I would seek permission from our beloved and respected HM the King and the Queen Mother to take action on this issue. I think the Funcinpec Party also has to react to this statement of HE Kong Kuam. It is not a simple and small matter. It is a big one.

While so many people turned out to pay their last respect to the late HM, how could these people make such statement? While grasping gain from attacking the Chinese, Vietnamese and Soviet communists, they dare condemn the HM (Samdech Preah Borom Ratanak Kaod), who is the victim

of the March 18 coup conducted by Lon Nol.

People's Decision

I am appealing to our people to digest and think through should they trust leaders of the opposition Parties which will contest in the elections when they argues Tuol Sleng was a fabrication and HM Samdech Preah Borom Ratanak Kaod was the one that ordered the March-18 1970 coup.

There is no need for any draft of legal tool to sort out this issue since we will protect and assure justice for the late HM. When he returned to the motherland, all political parties – the Cambodian People's Party, Funcinpec, and the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party (of Son San) - declared support for the late HM as the Head of State and considered the March 18 coup illegal. Everyone should remember that. We will not allow a change to the history.

Hundreds of thousands of people shed their tears, lost their lives because of shelling and bombardments in the war between 1970 and 1975 and more under Pol Pot.

I am so sorry for politicians who did all this. Concerning what happened in Pailin, HE Kem Sokha, said that he is to bring the matter to discuss with Prime Minister Hun Sen. On that matter the Ministry of Interior will take action.

However, it seems that the issue is purely internal and there is no outsider involved. He invited people to a meeting and some people posed him questions then they had a verbal clash. It was purely among them. They should not turn it to be a bothering case. I would warn them too when they just go out insulting others. It would be fine when they talk to their Party members but they should be careful when they invite other people as well. ...