# កម្ពុខាធស្សនៈថ្ម Cambodia New Vision

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27 September 2017—Samdech Techo Hun Sen Visited Workers at Chak Angre Leu, Khan Mean Chei, Phnom Penh

### Chenla Graduation/Diploma Presenting

(28 September 2017 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

### Let Us Safeguard Peace for National Development

[...] Our country is in a process of development to move from a least income to one with lower-middle income country. Our ambition is to advance by 2030 into one with higher-middle income. With our economic growth at 7% per annum, I am confident that we will be able to realize this endeavor. We already have a road map. We only need to make efforts altogether to guarantee that our country is in peace for the sake of national development.

## Living in a Complicated World

No country in this world, while in its state of war, would realize its development. As we already learnt from the past and in the present how countries while being at war bogged down in problems yet to settle.

Kurd's Quest for Independence

In Iraq, while engaging in the war with ISIS, they would soon have this issue with the establishment of Kurdish state, after the Kurds launched a referendum to separate from Iraq. The

question here is how would the central government in Baghdad react to the Kurdish quest for independence? How would other countries – Iran, the US, etc. react to it? [...] Since the Kurds are the one who fight ISIS as well, this dilemma would only grant benefit to ISIS. We will wait and see, what is going to come out of it [...] It is quite a delicate issue and the world (we are living in) is so complicated.

Nuclear Crisis in the Korean Peninsula

The nuclear crisis in the Peninsula is hard to predict. In days, Washington and Pyongyang traded words of threats on one another. One threatens to fire upon the other and vice versa. Conflict temperature rises [...] in 2006-2007, there were talks about shooting down the North Korean missile once it fired. We have not seen that. Lately the North Koreans fired three times over Japan. They have made it clear that should they wish to land their missiles in Japan, they could. Would there be anything shield to catch them? If they have anything to catch them in

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### Shutting Se San II Hydropower Control Gate

(25 September 2017 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

### Sacrifices for Human Requirement

[...] I appreciate the efforts made by the Ministry of Mines and Energy, as well as those of the company and governing council of the province of Stoeng Treng, in resolving concerned issues in a timely manner, especially relating to the reserved area. Every development has impacts - big or small, on environment. We just need to make a judgment whether we should carry the project out or not. Some environmental extremists should think again. On the one hand, they were asking for availability and at a lower price of electricity. On the other,

they hinder our efforts to develop energy projects. What would be their real motives? In everything that we are doing, there are oppositions.

In Cambodia, organizations that operate in opposition purpose would enjoy financial assistance from some foreign countries. We may just ask a question that the fact that there are thousands of airplanes flying in the world everyday would there be no impacts on environment. Some rich countries that drilled and pumped oil from the seabed or riverbed and on land, were there no environmental impacts? Some countries take their steps

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### **Meeting Canadia Industrial Park Workers**

(06 September 2017 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

### First in Battlefields, Peace Negotiation, Rice Field, and Now in Factories

I am so happy today to be with over ten thousand workers in the Canadia Industrial Park. I thank you all for such a warm welcome, especially from my nephew-niece workers. I am so grateful that I have this chance to come to see you at your working place [...] Perhaps your grandparents or parents could have seen me traveling places. In the time of war, they would see me in tranches and at the fronts with the troops. They also saw me going many places for peace negotiation and settlement for Cambodia. Later, they could have remembered seeing me in rice fields with our farmers to resolve their concerns. We have transformed our country from food-shortage to a 5million metric tons surplus of rice for export. Now it is time for me to meet with workers in

the framework of implementing policies relating to the 2015-2025 Industrial Sector to bring our country ahead into one of the high-middle income countries by 2030 [...]

### Buying Veng Sreng Road Maintenance from Private Contractor – A Benefit

I have the need to proclaim some more decisions in the interests of our workers today, especially for female ones. Before coming to those, I must bring up a fact that we must be making efforts altogether stage after stage to make such changes [...] as you can see that I could be your father, your

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the air, where would the debris go? [...]

This Is Not Time for Weapons of Mass Destruction

Military exercises held in Japan and South Korea led to thinking in North Korea as some kind of threats. They resorted to fire missiles. More missiles shot, many military exercises held. This tit-for-tat situation has placed the world in an uncertain nuclear dilemma. If a nuclear war happens, the world would face disaster. However, I have a confidence that involved parties will work together to find a peaceful resolution. This is not time to fight one another with weapons of mass destruction

There Should Be Negotiations to Avert War of Mass Destruction

I wish to take this occasion to inform our workers in South Korea and their families that we should not be too concerned about this issue. I believe that war will not happen. We have seen such threats hundreds of time. However, the war will not happen because it will not leave anyone a victor. They all would lose. The US has been king resounding voice but it is far away. Japan and South Korea are specially and likely to be real victims should the war happen. South Korea and Japan, especially South Korea, would want to see a peaceful resolution to defuse tension. It is in my understanding that, no matter what kind of negation it would be, there should be one to discuss and guarantee that this war of mass destruction will not happen.

Iran Nuclear Issue and Refugees in Middle East and Europe

The Iran nuclear problem, in addition to missiles fired by the Americans, the Israelis, and Russians to the Syrian territory, has also put the world at stake. Dues to color revolution and regime change by military means in many countries in the Middle East has caused influx of refugees to Europe. It has become a huge burden when

millions of Middle Eastern refugees arrived at their doors. You may see that as consequences of color revolution and regime change by military means.

Refugees from Iraq, Libya, and Syria are flowing into countries in Europe and some refused to host them too. The German Chancellor Angela Merkel just won with a slimmer majority for the next term. Her support dwindled because of her promise to receive up to one million refugees. I also talked with the Swedish Prime Minister on this issue in our meeting at Davos, Switzerland. At first, the Sweden opened its border but in the end he had to shut it down because they fear of ISIS infiltra-

Duterte's Effort Stops ISIS in Region

The world economy seems to have risen but the world political situation has slipped into uncertainty. This has become one risk of causing trouble in the world order, which could culminate in disaster. I hope that these issues will not be rampant to our region. It is true that our region suffered ISIS attacks, especially in the Philippines. If there were no efforts of President Rodrigo Duterte of the Philippines to fight and take back Marawi city in Mindanao Island from them, ISIS would have secure their stronghold there.

Rohingya Refugees

I have a concern about what could have happened when the ASEAN leaders meets in November in Manila. It is the issue of Rohingya refugees or Bengali. There was already a disagreement between Indonesia and Malaysia, and Myanmar on this issue in AIPA meeting. Not recognized as one of ethnic minorities in Myanmar, they called the Rohingya the Bengali. In Bangladesh, they do not recognize them as the Bangladeshis. Some fled through to Sri Lanka. This has put them in a jeopardized situation of no place to go or to be. I hope this issue will not become a hot

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### **Health Sciences Diploma Presenting**

(11 September 2017 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

## Congratulation to 3,986 Graduates

... I am here with you for this auspicious event and I will be hurry to the airport to take a flight to China for the ASEAN-China Expo event. Today, the National Assembly also convened urgent meeting to resolve an urgent matter regarding act of treason that we discovered recently. The National Assembly will decide for upcoming legal procedures.

To fulfill this task before leaving for China, I have asked for a flight delay as I think that I will be brief this morning. HE Mam Bun Heng, Minister of Health, already filed a report to us all of the overall progress of health sector. Today we are welcoming 3,986 more human resource into the health sector, some of whom would find jobs in state hospitals and some would work in private ones. Some would also practice this trade on their own

I wish to express my sincere appreciation for efforts made by HSU to achieve such progress and to congratulate our graduates at all levels. I hope they will be able to find jobs and continue to make advancements in their careers. Science is advanced and so are health checking equipments. However, we need human resource to be advanced too or it would not be a difference. We need to master knowledge, technology, and equipments.

## Consider Patients' Lives as Their Owns

What is more important would be virtue of a physician. I would like to take this opportune moment to appeal once again to our physicians to consider patients' lives as their own. No matter how fascinating our policies would be, if our physicians did not implement them, we would see no changes. Recently, I have proposed to implement certain policy vis-à-vis pregnant women in the framework of social protection policy

to start on 1 January 2018. The state will provide cash for women workers in delivery, in addition to their three-month maternity leave with 120% salary. As we all know, pregnancy follow-up check is free of charge for all.

You may remember that these past years I have called on and we have focused on midwife training. It turned out that we have a high demand for them. We have now reached a reasonable big number of midwives. We must keep up with this task. It is not over yet. We need to go far to reach our goal to serve the need for health inspection and treatment for our people.

I hope that the health budget package for health is getting bigger because, like a social guarantee, it demands that everyone is accessible to health inspection and treatment. We are looking forward to implementing a universal policy on this. We are now putting into practice an equitable fund for over three million people. We will include roughly some 1.2 million workers into the system. We will make further efforts to achieve new progresses.

## No Age Limit to Promotion in Health Sector

I hope that those of you who graduated with different specializations and levels will heed these recommendations and make use of them to serve our people's need. We have resolved some of the issues in the past. In the recent past, we also revolved this problem relating to age. It was not an issue of the Ministry of Health alone but also those laws that we had in place before. Specialists had not been admitted into the government payroll because their ages exceed allowed for entry exam. That had finally brought about issue that in hospitals, we had professor specialist to work under a Doctor, who sometimes was only a contracted ones. Now we have no more problem concerning ages to take exams

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to achieve nuclear energy to produce electricity. When it went out of control, many people died. Why would they do it still? It was because there is a requirement in human life. As for Cambodia, we have oppositions at every phase of our efforts [...]

### Sufficient Electricity to Drive Socio-economic Development

I also have appreciation for the organization of villages. I think that one day I will take my time and spend some time there. I could have been there last night if it were not raining. I would be happy to spend time there to find sort of weather pattern and figure out how good efforts we made to resolves impacts from the hydro project for our people [...] all four northeastern provinces, including Preah Vihear, are in short supply of electricity to drive their socio-economic development.

The whole country needs electricity and we will continue to build power sources stage after stage to respond to such needs. I mentioned above about the need to guarantee purchasing electricity generated by the station. Whatever amount they produce, we will have to buy it all. We have the need to figure out on the one hand growth of demand of electricity and on another on transmission lines that will wire electricity from Steong Treng to Kratie, Kompong Cham, and connect it to other mother lines in Phnom Penh.

## Every Village Access to Electricity by 2022

As of present, electricity price continues to drop from the previous high prices. The Electricity of Cambodia has minimized its profit and that has led to shortage of fund to invest in transmission lines. According to plan, we will provide all 14,168 villages in the whole country access to electricity. In the mean time, 11,194 villages or 79% of them have access to electricity at a reasonable price [...] in some places, there are discontent towards Electricity of Cambodia for blackouts. I just wish to have your attention that in

certain places, we have not been able to supply stable power. We just do whatever we can. Blackouts are common in Kratie, Stoeng Treng, Ratanakiri, Mondulkiri, etc. We will address this problem when we have more power. We will make electricity supply stable and lower price too.

## Electricity – People's Current Need

Needs in our country are growing bigger. People in Stoeng Treng who used torch from tree sap or fish oil before would now at least use battery to store and provide power. In order to store power in a battery you would also need to do it with electricity. With this call addressed, I hope that people in the northeastern provinces will benefit from energy development in this area. I take this opportunity to thank our people for moving out of the project area to allow the Royal Government, through this company, to work on this investment for benefits of industry, service, agriculture, etc. in adjacent areas and in the whole country.

This current need of our people we cannot neglect. Mark my words – "people current needs". In previous phase, people were using traditional light and power, and in their current new phase of lives, they need electricity [...]

About five years ago, there was an ambassador, who came to see me about the Se San hydropower project impacts. He argued that the project would have impacts on some 70% of the fish population (in the Mekong) ... I set a light on this statistics that that would make fish in our country very clever. I gave him my points that fish are living in the Mekong and Tonle Sap. They would not live in the Se San ... when we have this reservoir built, we will release fish in the system. There will be lots of them here.

## Thank the Government of China for Investments

I am taking this opportune moment to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for the (Continued from page 2) topic in the forthcoming ASEAN summit [...]

### Use Special Budget to Defuse Danger of Chemical Bombs in Svay Rieng

Let me come back to what is going on in our country. Yesterday I led a discussion to find out how to deal with this unexploded chemical bombs in Svay Rieng. How many thousands families of our people there will need to evacuate. Yesterday there was a question to me about with what budget do we use to remove this danger. I pointed to using the RGC's special budget. We have a committee in charge of chemical weapons [...] The US accused Saddam Hussein of chemical weapons and weapons of mass destruction. They invaded Iraq and brought him down. They found nothing there.

Now, there are two left in Svay Rieng. We have to deal with this issue [...] I have said that let us wait for the US to come take them. That will not happen. For our safety, the Chemical Weapons Committee will have to act on this matter. We will have to evacuate our people [...] this is proof of what is left from war in the past and we in later generation will have to

deal with it.

### There Would Be Flash Flood from Rain, Cultivation Exceeds Plan

In days ahead, I am appealing to our people in provinces who may encounter this impacts from flash flood as the Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology predicted heavy downpour in days to come. As for Phnom Penh and Kandal, we must take extra precaution. Kompong Speu would face up before anyone else flooding in Prek Thnaot River. As soon as the river of Prek Thnaot receives flood, the Ministry of Water Resource and Meteorology, and Phnom Penh Municipality will know what measures to take to avert flood in the western part of Phnom Penh, where many factories are [...]

In agriculture, we can say that we have secured cultivation exceeding our plan. However, according to people's habit, they will plant more rice as the water recedes. The Mekong level has lowered and we hope for a good level of water to organize boat race in the coming water festival in November. Last year we raced in a rather low level of water. This year we may have a good amount of water to race boats in [...].

supports provided by the government of the People's Republic of China in urging their investors to place their money and efforts in Cambodia. Most of the hydropower projects in Cambodia funded by the People's Republic of China. Some countries, while expressing wishes, had not been keen enough to start. I would suggest that we take back license from those who have conducted studies but failed to get their projects off the ground and give it to new interested party. We may have to start it with the ones along the river of Pursat. It may now be time. We have the need of electricity or its insufficiency would have impacts on development [...]

In fact, the province of Stoeng Treng benefits greatly from the Royal Government develop-

projects, especially through financial assistance from the People's Republic of China. We have here the Cambodian-Chinese Friendship bridges of Sekong and of Mekong at Stoeng Treng, the national road 9, 7, and 78 [...] there will be more people coming to reside in this part of the country. I should remind you that I also came to Stoeng Treng last month to oversee the creation and establishment of the military division 128 to guarantee national sovereignty and security for this part of the country [...]

## Prime Minister Candidate for the Sixth Term

I am grateful to the supports of our people here in Stoeng Treng

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### **Congratulating Senior Citizen Kong Nai**

(29 September 2017 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

It is a great day that we are hosting together and hailing reception of the Fukuoka Prize awarded to Kaosal Viacha (Talented Speech) Kong Nai from Japan. We just listened to a traditional song that is quite customary to Cambodians. He also just performed us an amusing song that I first heard about it from him in Kompot in 1982. It is 36 years now.

It is a big gathering today participated by many senior performers, including Mr. Prach Chhuon, one of the best and oldest performers of Chapei Dang Veng (a Cambodian two-stringed, long-necked guitar). He also had a go for us to listen to his song [...]

Culture is not only about arts or songs. It covers many issues and aspects. We have made every effort to keep our culture alive, not only in national but also in world heritage context—tangible and intangible. Chapei Dang Veng has become a listed world intangible cultural heritage in 2016. I hope that we will continue to conserve more Cambodian tangible and intangible cultural art objects and tools [...]

As for the Fukuoka Prize, senior citizen Kong Nai is the third to have received it. We congratulate him for the prize. Two other persons who have received this prize included also the late senior citizen Chheng Phon. We must see that this is not an honor to senior citizen Kong Nai alone but a great honor for our country as well.

On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, I presented him appreciation and congratulation of our people and nation. This is what I termed alive heritage. We have proven with our efforts to bring our country out of ashes to such progress. I thank our people for loving and supporting their national culture as a whole, and Chapei Dang Veng in particular [...]

I shall remind that from next year, I will have a gathering with people in arts profession. We will do it on March 3 – the National Culture Day. We will have dinner together. I would ask the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts to avoid organizing on Saturday, Sunday, or Monday, as some performers would have prior engagements with TV stations, or even traveled far [...]

I wish to affirm that in the framework of the Royal Government, I will present senior citizens Kong Nai and Prach Chhuon – the medals of Moha Sereivath. Kong Nai will collect a prize from the Royal Government of 100 million Riels and Prach Chhuon will collect a sum of 20 million Riels [...]

I am taking this opportune moment to express my sincere thanks to the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, and other performers and arts professionals, for making their best efforts to create the country such marvelous achievements.

I hope that we will continue to reap more progresses together. As long as we keep up our forest, we will not be short of firewood. Or I mean, if we keep peace, we will be able to safeguard developments and everything we achieved together from scratch [...]

I am so glad that I have been with other Cambodian leaders from day one until now and I am declaring my candidacy for at least two more terms. I will not allow anyone to cause destruction to this country. My presence is necessary to safeguard it and keep it peaceful.

We will not allow color revolution or any acts of treason. We will not accept any color revolution to come out of command post in Phnom Penh. We monitor it and prevent it.

We will continue to do so and will resolutely keep this nation safe from destruction. My presence is necessary to continue the country's peace and development.

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brother, or even your grandfather. I am sure your grandparents, parents, and you yourselves have seen and known what Hun Sen has been doing for the country and people, for your parents, grandparents, and for you. I am not person that they and you do not know. Should I have no relation with this nation and people of Cambodia, I am sure I would not have had such welcome and participation [...]

I am sharing today a policy for social protection concerning our care and attention given to pregnant female workers and in deliveries, which I brought up in my previous meetings with our nephew-niece workers. [...] Take for instance, the Veng Sreng road, in 1990s when we were not resourceful, we let the road be managed and maintained by private contractor to serve the need for industry and transportation. I discussed this issue with the then Mayor of Phnom Penh Pa Socheatvong. We purchased it back and let our people use it free of charge. We facilitate our workers' need for traveling by helping them save from toll fees. The factories getting benefits from this decision also share a part of their profit with our workers.

### From Few Factories, Less Workers, Small Exports to More and Bigger

We have made efforts altogether to bring our country from one of the low income countries in 1998 when our people's per capital income was only 262 USD, to the present per capita income of 1,400 USD. We are not satisfied with that yet. We are working together to move our country to a more developmental stage - higher-middle income country by 2030. As for this labor sector, it is a great success that we have created this industry where there are in all 11,068 enterprises, employing over 1.18 million workers. Just to round the number up. As for apparel, there are up to 1,107 factories employing 743,614 workers already. In 1997, we had only 64 factories and there were only 82,000 workers. For female workers, especially those who are pregnant, we will issue more policies in benefits to them.

[...] In 1997, the size of export was 227 million USD. At present, it has reached a size of 7,663 million USD. We talked about dozens and/or hundreds of millions USD before, now we are talking about billions of USD from export in our trade. Our export size as a whole, we have recorded roughly 12 billion USD [...]

# Workers/Employees Financially Improve Their Families' Economic Conditions

In relations to salary, during a lunch with workers, a niece told me that she earned only 35 USD from the beginning. I wish they remembered that before 1997, our workers' salary was only 30 USD or more, but less than 40 USD, while in Myanmar, workers earned only 25 USD. In 1997, workers' salary in our country rose to 40 USD. As for now, and we are implementing it in 2017, your minimum salary is 153 USD. Workers could earn up to 170 USD or 181 USD if they include other benefits. Mostly, workers told us that they earned over 200 USD because of other works concerned they could do. Our workers send a part of their income home to assist their families in rural areas.

Yesterday I had a look at figures and reports of land tilted for the cultivation of rainy season rice. I have noticed that we have achieved a figure that is exceeding our planned ones. However, tilting by animal came to only 6% of the work, while over 93% done by machines. From where do people tilt their land by machines get money? A part of it would be the money sent by their children workers to the families. They use the money to help with their agricultural production.

### Starting from January 2018, Minimum Salary Will Not Be Less Than 160 USD

I wish to take this occasion to reaffirm with nephew and niece (Continued on page 7)

### Meeting at Vaddhanak Industrial Park

(15 September 2017 — Unofficial Selection and Translation)

### To Guarantee Development, We Must Have Peace and Political Stability

[...] We have works to do to advance our economy further. That we need higher income and larger export, we must attract more investments. However, before talking about works to do, we have to make sure that we guarantee peace and development - two inseparable elements. You may observe that countries with development are those with peace and political stability. They are not ones in wars. You can look at Iraq. Syria, Libya, Yemen, and other countries in Africa, and even some countries in our region. They are still at war. In those areas, there are no factories, enterprises, schools, and even they would be under bombardments.

Therefore, to guarantee for development, we must guarantee peace and political stability. Only the Cambodian People's Party has the ability to carry this task through. In some countries, we see that turmoil is growing. Even Myanmar, a friend in the framework of ASEAN, we see that they have difficult time in controlling some areas. Fighting re-erupted between the government troops and tribal forces. The Bengali or Rohingya people have now become a standing issue among countries.

... The National Assembly has sought ideas from the Royal Government concerning the issue of Rohingya or Bengali in Myanmar. So the two buzz terms that we cannot separate them is peace and development. I may reaffirm that without peace there would be no development. In absence of development and poverty continues to grow, one cannot keep peace [...] that has called for task 1 to keep peace, ensure political stability, and guarantee security and social order. We need to safeguard peace, political stability, and social order for safe and stable jobs. Every factory and enterprise must join hands in safeguarding political stability,

security, and social order. There should not be room for any movement to take place in your factories and/or your work areas. In 2013 and 2014, the Veng Sreng road area was a hot spot of protest. Who started it? Someone who at the time came and gave breads to protestors had crossed the border to Thailand at 520 and boarded a plane from Bangkok to South Korea then to the US. He also attempted to cross into Canada ... He is holding two passports - one diplomatic one and one normal one [...]

Who would go and protest at 2am to demand better work When condition? violence erupted, they claimed missing so and so. That was why I said in order to account for those missing we had to summon the protest leaders for interrogation [...] at that time, some workers who did not join them for the protest, they broke loose the gate. They did that in Phnom Penh. They did that in Svay Rieng. We shall never let such things to happen that leads to loss of jobs. We also must keep our factories free from drugs and gangsters. Workers must stand together, in close cooperation with factories owners, and vice versa, to guarantee political stability, security, social order, which will in return guarantee safe and stable jobs for you [...]

# Question 1 to US Ambassador - Whether What Kem Sokha Said Was True or Not?

I have a few points concerning political issues both domestic and foreign. It will be my direct response to the US. May I request the attention of HE the Ambassador, Your Excellency declared that it was an accusation on the US, baseless accusation. May I ask for Your Excellency's clarification if "what Kem Sokha had said was true or false?" ... HE Kem Sokha did accuse the US about instructing methods to overthrow (legitimate government in Cambodia) by way of what they did in Yugoslavia and Serbia. He

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to get a government position in the health sector. We also carry out similar policy in public functions for those of you who would want to change your careers or to get a promotion. There will be no age limit anymore.

### Will Ask China for Technical Materials for Health

In my visit to China today, I would propose to my Chinese counterparts to provide Cambodia with technical materials for health sector as we are looking to strengthen and expand more referral hospitals to areas where there are concentrations of factories. I do not wish to continue because I already have a plane in waiting. I might have to have lunch on the plane as I will have to start work until late at night after stepping out. Yesterday I also came to Koh Pich to meet some four thousands workers. I have scheduled to meet workers on every Wednesday but for this week, I will reschedule such meeting with over ten thousand workers to Friday. We are doing it in the framework of further promoting our industrial sector 2015/2025 to help achieve our goal of moving Cambodia from lower middleincome country to higher middle-income country in 2030.

#### Allow No Treason as In 1970

As for treason act, there will be no forgiveness. The National Assembly is in session today. (Should) the treason act were conspired in the party as a whole, the party would have to dissolve according to law. We allow no treason to destroy our country like what they did in 1970. It has been fortunate that Cambodia discovered treason, and had arrested the person who carried it out. If the concerned party continued to defend the person who committed treason, it would mean that the party was also one of a kind. That would call for action that such party should not be functioning in the Cambodian democracy anymore. There are many political parties in Cambodia. Though one party is dissolved, there will be many

more.

Please allow me to send out a message to our compatriots that any conspiracy carried out with foreign countries to destroy Cambodia as in the 1970s would not go free. It was because of treason committed by Lon Nol, Sirikmatak, Cheng Heng, In Tam, the country suffered heinous tragedy. It was a good luck that we discovered the treason. It was a systematic conspiracy. Let us leave the matter to law. Democracy without rule of law would bring anarchy and/or bloodshed. According to law, we arrested a man who committed treason in flagrante delicto [...]

## National Assembly Meets to Decide on Legal Procedure

The National Assembly meeting this morning is not to strip off parliamentary immunities but to decide if they would allow a legal procedure to start. If they wish to stop that process, they would need to find threefourth voices in the National Assembly to do so [...] where can they find them. It is not a simple matter. It is not a case on adultery. It is a treason case. You may want to go back to his words. A Cambodian politician ordered by foreign nation to do this, to do that, and he even would want to do to Cambodia as what happened in Yugoslavia. After the fall of Yugoslavia, what happened? There were divisions. Finally, Kosovo asks Cambodia to recognize it. That is the tragedy from the fall of Yugoslavia.

I am also asking a member of the National Assembly who escaped to Thailand yesterday to return because has had involved in a case of the 2013 protest [...] It is known that he had escaped to the Thai side through Komrieng pass [...] should there be a need, we will be able to cooperate with Thailand to bring you back. However, let me just confirm that the meeting today is no to strip anyone of parliamentary immunity but to decide whether the treason case should continue legally.

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#### (Continued from page 5 A)

clarified about (countries) sending professors to help organize and see it through. Was it true or false? Who accused whom between the two – Kem Sokha and the US [...] they were true words that came out of Kem Sokha's mouth [...]

Maybe the Ambassador is not capable of interpreting this matter but it is important to make a statement of what Kem Sokha had said. For Cambodia and according to Cambodian laws that was treason. Before taking position, we all have to take oaths before the throne, HM the King, and Preah Moha Sangharajas that we shall not allow foreign influence in Cambodian affairs - domestic and foreign. Has Kem Sokha received such order or influence from the US? or Kem Sokha just told a lie? Started from this fact that Kem Sokha was arrested. You may want to take up responsibility and offer your interpretation on the issue. Kem Sokha openly recognized it and no one forced him to do so.

They (US) used to instruct Lon Nol on a coup in 1970 to bring down Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk and Cambodia had become a target of 2.7 million tons of bombardments. I am calling our people to stand up and exercise national policy to defend national sovereignty against foreign interference [...] it seems the same problem has come back [...] Kem Sokha admitted that the US did it and he did it at the instruction of professors from the US and Canada. I have instructed the national police, immigration, and foreign affairs to find out any US citizens suspicious of aiding and abetting (event) in 2013, and earlier. We had known about two spies who gave instructions to what happened in the Veng Sreng road. Cambodia has no intention whatsoever to bring such matter to the US but they should not look at us with their unfriendly eyes.

# Question 2 to US Ambassador – US Citizens Cautious for Security Reason

Your Excellency issued a statement for the US citizens to be cautious of security. Let me ask whether you have proof or information that Cambodia is going to be under a terrorist attack. If there is such information, why Your Excellency did not share it with Cambodia. since we are partners in cooperation against terrorism? Is it that you are prepared to attack Cambodia? I am waiting for your response. Are you intimidating the people of Cambodia at the time that they are enjoying Pjum Ben festivities? [...]

Cambodians must trust themselves. We may have everything we need to prevent terrorist acts but we wanted a clarification from the US Ambassador for us. Why did you tell the US citizens (in Cambodia) to watch out? Have you had information that ISIS or Al-Oaeda is going to fight Cambodia? If that was the reason, as partners, why did you not share it with us? [...] this is my question to one of the two US Ambassadors who arrogantly violated Cambodian sovereignty [...] we have our sovereignty and security to protect and as a leader of a country I would not stand such insult on me personally and on my Cambodian nation [...] You may want to take back your Peace Corps. A newspaper operated and evaded tax closed their publications and they accused us of closing it down. They taught us to abide by the law but they acted on country as if we have no law. When we exercise our legal measures, they accused us of suppressing right of expression. Only when those newspapers scold us that they would say it is a free press.

# Question 3 to US Ambassador — Pressuring Cambodia on Repatriation Program

... Many Cambodians are listening to my speeches. I may share with you widely here. Cambodians living in the US, when they are found guilty to go to jail in the US, they would not let them live there anymore. There is an agreement on that and they have pressurized us to carry it through since the begin-

ning. If we do not sign the agreement, they would tighten their visas. We signed the agreement and implemented it. There have been 566 or more returnees to Cambodia. Among them, four committed suicide. I wish you and the people of Cambodia listen to this. It is a tragedy. Thev committed wrongdoing, they go to jail is one thing. When they had to be in Cambodia and their families are in the US, can anyone fathom it?

Taking issue of humanity into consideration, Samdech Krola Haom Sar Kheng and I had our discussion and came to a decision that we should seek to propose some amendments to the agreement. We did not seize it unilaterally. We propose to amend it [...] we have made it clear that we propose a discussion on amendment of the agreement. We could not imagine that the US lacked kindness and humanitarianism while they speak out about human rights all the time.

We have prepared officials to interview 26 new returnees, but the US administration told us that they issue no visas for our foreign affairs officials. Automatically, the US has terminated the agreement unilaterally. In response, Cambodia tells the US that cooperation in searching for remains of MIA in Cambodia ... will be on hold temporarily [...] I must clarify that we are not removing the agreement. We are putting it on hold temporarily. As long as the US withholds, we also will not cooperate on this matter [...]

This is what it takes to be an independent and sovereign country. I am seeking the US embassy not to patronize Cambodia [...] I do not wish to see anti US demonstrations as in 1965-1966 again.

However, Cambodians are high in their patriotism. They take no insult from anyone. We are an independent country, liberal and sovereign. We could not allow act of destruction through organization of treacherous persons inside the country ... We must uphold the law [...]/.

### (Continued from page 5 B) Foreign Embassies Should Not Patronize Cambodia

11 hope our people and foreign friend understand. We cannot allow our nation destroyed by anyone. Certain foreign embassies have acted as if they were parents of Cambodia. They do not seem represent a state [...] we have yet a score of 2.7 million tons of bombs on our land to resolve. They came on us, attacked us, and demanded us to pay [...] Remember in front of the National Assembly, HM the King was shaking hands goodbye with diplomats, an ambassador walked with this hands

It was a lout diplomacy. We cannot accept such diplomatic behavior. I hoped it did not happen and would not have happened in diplomacy since Cambodia observes mutual respect with every country. I hope that this world will have more justice, mutual respect, and use no force or threats on one another [...]./.

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and hope that you will continue to vote for the Cambodian People's Party for the country's development. In the last elections, people of Stoeng Treng voted overwhelmingly for the Cambodian People's Party. There will be a general election on 29 July 2018 and I will continue my candidacy for the post of Prime Minister. I have said it that I will stand for the next two terms, at least. I am sure vou will vote for the Cambodian People's Party so that I will be able to continue this journey with our people [...] I believe I could live at least another 30 years and ten more years as Prime Minister would not be too difficult for me. I thank our people for their supports [...]

# Constitutional Interpretation – Exclusive Right of Constitutional Council

Yesterday was our Constitution Day. I wish that everyone calling themselves analysts to study the Constitution. That I reacted to a foreign embassy that insult-

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workers that starting from January 2018 the minimum salary of our workers will not be lower than 160 USD. The Royal Government will ensure, let me affirm it, that your minimum salary will be 160 USD at the lowest. The final figure will come later depending on negotiation between factories owners and representatives of the Royal Governments and workers. Those who earn more than the minimum salary requirement, we are happy for them. Whatever profit we could find for workers and workers benefit from them is legal. Paying them less is wrong [...]

### Heritages of Techo

Our country still has to attract more investments. You may ask yourself and remember to tell your parents, families, whose efforts that have brought factories, enterprises, and situation as we have now? I am proud that after saving our people from tragedy, in which I myself also became a handicap and lost a child, I have been able to share a journey of hardships with our people to rebuild our country from ashes, to prevent the return of the regime of Pol Pot, and to bring our country peace.

Heritages that I have left for the country would be Cambodian people's revival from the regime of Pol Pot, my contribution and leadership to make peace a true happening. We have peace through contributions made by various factions according to the Paris Peace Agreement. However, I also achieved an exclusive peace through formulating and leading the implementation of the win-win policy, which ended war, division and brings reunification of Cambodia. I have contributed, with other leaders. to the economic development of Cambodia to bring the rate of poverty from 100% down to 13% in 2014. We are preparing for another survey to figure out how far down the rate of poverty has gone.

According to norm set out by the United Nations, people who earn one USD per day have moved above the poverty line. Based on a newly defined poverty line, earning 1.25 USD would place them above the line. As for you working in factories, you earn about five USD per day. Construction workers also earn not less than five USD. With other policies that we set out in agriculture, industry, and services, we will make it better. We have moved our country from a few ragtag hotels in Phnom Penh and in Siem Reap to have hundreds of them. These are Techo's herit-

## People to Protect Inherited Peace and Development

I hope you all and the people of Cambodia as a whole will keep invaluably inherited peace and development. We must keep them safe from destructions to be inflicting by anyone – bother local or foreign. You may not want to place hope in anyone who have not done anything but making protests. As for what happened in this place, we have now discovered and arrested the chieftain. Why would workers protest at 2am? They broke open the factories to ask people out to join their protests. If they were really doing protests to improve working conditions and pay, they would not have protested at 2am or 3am. Some who went out giving bread to protestors in those hours, we have also identified [...]

It was a conspiracy with foreigners to launch what they did. They have not been successful. They would do their best to try. It has been fortunate that the Kingdom of Cambodia did not allow what happened in 1970, when a group of people acted in conspiracy with foreign countries to overthrow Samdech Preah Borom Ratanakaod Norodom Sihanouk, to happen again. They said they wished to use a Yugoslavian model in Cambodia. What does that mean? It is violence. You will not get away from responsibili-

They bombed Belgrade and the Chinese Embassy was there to suffer the attack as well. Slobodan Milosevic was gone. Yugoslavia lost Kosovo. Wishing to become a country, Kosovo seeks our recognition. We cannot recognize Kosovo because they use force to break it from Yugoslavia. We will not allow anyone to destroy what our people have made efforts to achieve altogether. I am just one of millions who have made all these positive things happen for the benefits of our country [...]

## CPP and Hun Sen Help You to Get What You Have Now

We have come to three words that are contradicting each other. They asked investors not to come to Cambodia, foreign countries not to give assistance to Cambodia and not to purchase goods from Cambodia. We have made efforts all along to ask for assistance, for investment and for foreign countries to purchase Cambodian goods. It is not a policy set out by a political parties but true actions [...] You may want to share with your parents and relatives that what you guys have is because of the Cambodian People's Party, Prime Minister Hun Sen. [...]

We must keep everything we have in hands. We must not allow those who oppose their own nation to collude with foreign circles to destroy the country and people's peace. I hope our foreign friends carefully read their words and do not overlook them. No one country would have accepted things that the person had said if you were we. "They ordered, they told me to do this, they told me to do that, they asked me to take up the Yugoslavian model, I did not do it at my own will, I had professors from the US, Washington, Canada, Montreal."

... How could they claim themselves patriotic? They took oath before the throne and HM the King, Samdech Sangharaja that they would not act under the order of any foreign power in their policies — domestic or foreign. Why did they do it otherwise? They did not care what could have happened to other people's lives ... They claimed losing so and so at the

Veng Sreng road. Well, now that we have him, we can ask him [...] how many more were involved in this matter. We must ask them to set the matter straight [...] I have instructed that to seek for those people, one must have to arrest leaders of protest and ask them [...] Competent authority will take the responsibility [...]

### Task 1 – Together We Protect Peace, Political Stability, Security, Social order

There are five tasks to fulfill aside from peace, political stability. Task 1 – together we protect peace, political stability, security, social order for work security, and stability. We will achieve this task only by working together. This place is our rice pot. We must stand united. We must not allow anyone to incite and create trouble. I also ask some not to act as thugs in strikes and protests. While some claim their rights to protest and/ or strike, they should also know the boundary of their actions. They have no rights to prevent other people from going to work [...] they should not force others to join them [...] we will see how the court will see about those [...]

#### Task 2 – Together We Keep Existing Jobs and Create More

Our second task is to work together to maintain what jobs we have now and create new ones. I wish to stress that we must keep what we have. We must also create more jobs. We are working on a scheme of keeping what jobs we have and creating more. To keep jobs we have does not mean we are stagnant but we must try to keep and do them in a more productive way to make factories profitable. A part of such profits will come back to you in form of increase of your salary and entitlements. As for creating more jobs, more people are waiting for their ones. We have people working legally and illegally in foreign countries - Thailand, Malaysia. We have legal workers in South Korea and we are seeking more for our people

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... On the part of state, we will continue to attract more investments and expand our markets. If we were to lack markets, what we have produced and even make more through expansion of factories, we do not sell them too. We therefore continue to make efforts to facilitate investment environment by improving infrastructures from water to land, to rail, to air, and to provide efficient and better price electricity. Aside from apparels, we also have other products such as agricultural produce to seek other countries' help in purchasing from Cambodia.

## Task 3- Together Increase Capability and Knowledge

The third task would be to increase capability knowledge [...] I am appealing to our workers to continue to increase your capacity and knowledge so that you will be able to fulfill high-skill tasks and to earn more money. I am so happy to see that employers association has created a chance through various training courses for people who are head of working teams, administrative sections, etc. so that they could improve knowledge and skills of our workers.

# Task 4 – Together for Social Protection, Working Condition, and Safety

As for task 4, we are focusing on social protection, working condition, and work safety. I wish to tell our workers that that you paid 50% for your healthcare benefit in the social security regime, while another 50% paid by your employers, starting from January 2018, our workers no longer pay their parts. The employers will take the shares. That means that nephew-niece workers would be saving between 8,000 Riel and 13,000 Riel per month [...]

This will apply for workers wherever and in whatever products they work will benefit from a free consultation and treatment in every state hospital. The state will pay on their behalf through the equity fund, which has been implementing

for over three million workers already. We will include every worker in that equity fund ... The Ministry of Health and other related ministries will have to get themselves ready to respond to perhaps an increasing number of one more million workers for consultation and treatment. We may have more because we will also include workers in unregistered trades.

### Pregnant Female Workers Leave Works 15 Minutes Early, Delivery Benefits

I have something to say for women. I hope men and women who are not married yet will be unhappy with this. They should be happy instead. Firstly, female workers who have to deliver are entitled to a three-month leave with pay of 120% (of their salaries). I am calling on factories to allow pregnant female workers to leave works 15 minutes prior to end of working hour [...]

After my review of a policy (that I have asked concerned officials to work on it) I am declaring today and now for female workers in both registered and non-registered trades. A female worker giving birth to a child is entitled to 400,000 Riel from the Royal Government. If they have twins, they will get 800,000 Riel. In case they have triplets, on top of their entitled benefits of 1,200,000 Riel, they will receive my package of assistance for triplets too. I think I have about 319 families already who received my assistance for their triplets. I think, perhaps we can throw a meeting. Some received my assistance at the hospital and some in their homes [...] the policy will start in January 2018 at 0 hour.

As for delivery benefits, we are providing it to the mother no matter what happens – alive or dead ... The state will earmark the fund and will provide to them through the social security fund. The Ministry of Economy and Finance is preparing this funding package. The state will prepare a sum of ten million USD for this purpose [...]

These are new policies for

workers. I am calling on workers in registered and unregistered trades to register at the Ministry of Social Affairs so that workers and female workers in particular, will receive this benefit. If their employers failed to register them, they would miss the benefits. I am calling on all workers, no matter where they operate their trades with their hands and feet to see the benefit and claim them.

## Pension for Workers Starts in 2019

We also will start to implement our policy to provide retirement pension to workers from 2019. Our workers will also have retirement pension as the civil servants and armed forces do [...] in order to receive such benefit, workers will have to fulfill conditions regarding certain work durations in factories. Civil servants will have to work 25 years to get their retirement pension. Someone said over there he worked for 15 years already. If your salary is 300 USD, You will earn 80% of your full salary [...]

### Task 5 – Emigrant Workers

The fifth task is to continue to pay attention to resolving issues relating to our workers that are working in foreign countries – legally and illegally. They may learn that in order for them to be able to work in Thailand for instance, there must be works carried out between our country and Thailand ...

We did the same with Korea and Japan to send our workers there. Thailand sends their workers out to Korea, Japan, Taiwan, and Saudi Arabia for higher pays. The only countries that are in needs of labors are Singapore, and Malaysia. The Philippines sends out the most and over ten thousands of them work in our country [...]

### Continue Candidacy for Two More Terms

... I hope and have confidence in our workers for next elections. I have decided to declare that I will continue my Premiership for the next two terms. Previously, I hesitated and

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ed Cambodia, some people said that (I should not have said it because) there was no approval from the National Assembly [...] calling themselves lawyers and analysts and they interpret the Constitution, which only the Constitutional Council who has the right to do so. They are making mistake and claim to be right [...] I wish that the person should devote his thought on leading his party to (election) victory [...] calling themselves analysts but always having negative views.

Well, since yesterday was the Constitution Day – 24 September 1993/2017, I just wish to say this much [...] to warn our nation that a slight misdirection would bring the country disaster. People should be cautious when they decide on who to lead the country [...].

asked myself when would be the best time for me to leave. However, after seeing such treason by some, I have decided to continue my work no less than ten more years. I hope that nephew-niece workers will support it and vote for me. I am sending your families a message that I will continue to be present and we will work together to keep factories and what we have built. We allow no one to destroy our people's peaceful life ... In this world I could be the longest-serving Prime Minister after I was the youngest in the world. I am sure I have the ability to continue to work before my retirement in my eighth term. Some would be 80 years old and I would be 75 years old, now only 65, why could I not do it [...]

Factories and enterprises are like my children because I am leading this country since when I was Minister of Foreign Affairs, Deputy Prime Minister, and Prime Minister. I have been in office for 33 years, and 39 years to include also my portfolio as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs. Cambodia's advancement cannot separate from Hun Sen's role [...]/.