



ព្រឹត្តិបត្រព័ត៌មាន
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Weekly Information Bulletin

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Inauguration of a Portion of National Road N°1



On 05 January 2009, Samdech Techo Hun Sen presided over the inauguration ceremony of a portion of the National Road N°1 from Neak Loeung to Koki market.

The 42-kilometer road portion is part of the rehabilitation project of the National Road N°1 from Phnom Penh to Neak Loeung, financed by the Japanese government’s grant aid and the Cambodian government’s budget.

The Premier said that the importance of the National Road N°1 will serve not only the transportation field, but also as a corridor of the economic growth and the rehabilitation project will help solve road traffic problem, increase people’s living standards and boost education and welfare.

The National Road N°1 is linking Phnom Penh and Ho Chi Minh City of Vietnam. The reconstruction of this road will contribute to strengthening people’s relations and economic activities in Cambodia as well as with its neighboring countries. “This road will become a real economic corridor in the region”.

Reaction of Cambodia against an editorial of the Thai news the Nation

The Chargé d’affaires of the Royal Embassy of Cambodia to Thailand in late December 2009 has strongly reacted against an editorial by Thai newspaper The Nation, calling it “completely absurd and vulgar.”

Here is the full text of the reaction:

“Mr. Editor,

I wish to reply to the editorial published in your newspaper, The Nation, on 29 December 2009, under the title “**Hun Sen’s Vanity Is A Danger To The Region’s Unity.**” While this editorial is completely absurd and vulgar, it has shown how your newspaper has become a political propaganda tool of a government in power, with a complete lack of decent politeness, professional journalism, and truth. Undoubtedly, this editorial has greatly contributed to the

deterioration of relations and exacerbating the tensions between the two countries.

First, I think if you call a foreign leader highly respected in his country “a halfwit,” then you are more than a halfwit yourself, an imbecile. This is a finger-pointing rule, which fully applies in this case.

Second, to say that “Hun Sen may be riding on Thailand’s back to boost his popularity...” means that you are completely ignorant. Samdech Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia, does not need any popularity at all, based either on Thailand’s or The Nation’s popularity, because he is Vice Chairman of the Cambodian People’s Party (CPP) which had won a landslide victory in the elections and now has more than two-third of the seats in the parliament. He also had been elevated to the dignity of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo, highly bestowed upon him by His Majesty, the King of Cambodia.

Third, Cambodia did not extradite H.E. Thaksin Shinawatra, former Prime Minister of Thailand, because he was overthrown by a coup d’etat. Cambodia does not expect or want anything in return. It is just a question of justice for a leader who was overwhelmingly elected by the Thai people.

Fourth, with regard to the spirit of good neighbourliness, it is important for the neighbouring states to respect each other, especially national integrity and sovereignty. Today, there is no good neighbourliness with Thailand because the Thai Government:

- opposed Cambodia’s inscription of the Preah Vihear Temple on the World Heritage List despite the fact that the Temple belongs to Cambodia and its location is on the Cambodian soil.

- refused to recognize the name of the Preah Vihear Temple, although the whole world, including the International Court of Justice, had recognized and used it.

- invaded Cambodia by sending its troops inside the Cambodian territory first on 15 July 2008 and subsequently thereafter.

I wish to request you to kindly reprint this response in your newspaper in full.

Yours sincerely,

Chargé d’affaires”

Conference on Economic Crisis and Cambodian industrial relations

There are 516 garment and footwear factories have been operated in Cambodia with roughly 358,660 workers, of which 418 are in Phnom Penh City and 98 are in provinces.

H.E. Mr. Um Mean, Secretary of State of Labor said at the fourth conference on economic crisis and Cambodian industrial relations held recently, in a period of 2009, 93 garment and footwear producers closed their business leading to impact on Cambodian 38,190 employees’ jobs, while 55 garment and footwear manufacturers opened their business, providing jobs to 15,173 workers.

Some 60 factories, which once suspended contracts of employment for 35,337 workers, are now resuming 50 percent of their operation, he said.

There are many government subsidies being granted to the private companies to maintain the macro-economic stability in the country.

After private enterprises were closed down, vocational training courses were given to 40,140 workers up to late

October, accounting for 45-50 percent of unemployment by using a fund provided by Samdech Techo Hun Sen Foundation.

Cambodia: 1,191 Development Projects in 2009 -2010

From 01 January 2009 to 01 January 2010, Cambodia had **1,191 development projects**, said by Cambodian Development and Rehabilitation Council (CDRC) of the Council for Development of Cambodia.

The biggest development bilateral partners with Cambodia is Japan with 228 projects, followed by Canada 53, Australia 42, South Korea 40, China 17, New Zealand 9, the U.S. 5, and Switzerland 4.

Moreover, hundreds of projects were also done under the cooperation with UN agencies, international financial institutions, the European Union and other agencies.

PM: To criticize opposition party on Neak Loeung Bridge

On 05 January 2010, Samdech Techo Hun Sen reacted against the recent comment made by an opposition parliamentarian at a National Assembly session that the Japan's ODA for Neak Loeung Bridge project has been suspended because the Cambodian government could not settle the people's compensation. He said that was a baseless comment.

The Neak Loeung Bridge needs more time to study, so it is the technical problem, and actually the Royal Government has spent US\$1 million for the construction site.

The Neak Loeung Bridge is the time and technical issues, not the compensation problem, and Japan still supports the

Neak Loeung Bridge construction project.

31st Anniversary of Cambodia's Victory Day on January 7

On 07 January 2010, the 31st anniversary of the great victory on 07 January 1979 was held at the headquarters of the Cambodian People's Party (CPP) in Phnom Penh.

Present at the ceremony were Samdech Pothisal Chea Sim, Samdech Chakrei Heng Samrin, Samdech Techo Hun Sen, along with thousands of Cambodian people in attendance.



After recalling the historic event to commemorate the January-7 victory and all achievements gained by the Royal Government led by CPP in the national development, Samdech Pothisal Chea Sim was quoted as: "CPP supports efforts of the Royal Government of Cambodia in urging for successful implementation of the Law on Finance for Management in 2010, which is an important political tool for putting into action the national development strategy, especially the Rectangular Strategy-Phase II, and responding to impacts from world financial and economic crisis on national economy. CPP supports draft of the recently adopted anti-graft bill by the Cabinet, which has reflected common wills between state and people aimed at building a Cambodian society of equality,

justice, dignity, harmony and progress. CPP offers its support to the current process of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia in trying crimes committed by senior leaders of the Democratic Kampuchea regime,” he said, stressing that we oppose attempts for using the Chamber for ill intention with impact on peace, national reconciliation and development, which have been our hard-won achievements.

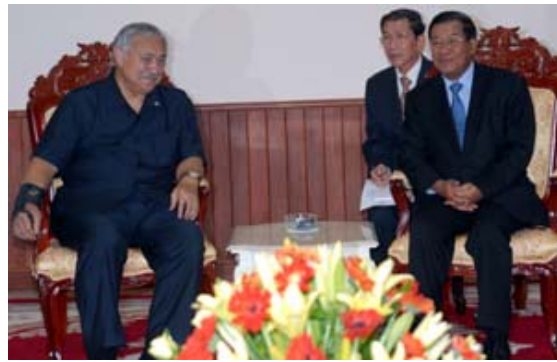
CPP highly appreciates results from border demarcation efforts with Vietnam and Laos, while continues to fully support the process of completing border pole mounting for the sake of leaving them as historical inheritance for Khmer generations to come”, he said, emphasizing that the party strongly condemns circles that neglect national interest while bringing about actions aimed at preventing the above efforts”.

He continued that the party also supports positions taken by the Royal Government of Cambodia in practice of diplomatic relations and border issue resolution with Thailand by peaceful means, in spirit of good neighborliness aimed at building a border of peace, friendship, cooperation and development.

The CPP party leader also voiced his support for Samdech Techo Hun Sen as its premiership candidate for coming terms.

U.S.: To consider the cancellation of Cambodia’s debt

A visiting US Congressman and other two Congressmen Joseph Cao and Mike Honda promised to discuss about the cancellation of Cambodia’s debt with other Congressmen. They concluded their three-day visit to Cambodia from 05 to 07 January 2010.



At the meeting on 07 January 2010 with Samdech Techo Hun Sen, Mr. Eni Faleomavaega, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment, said it would be better if the debt could be turned into development aid to Cambodia.

Mr. Eni Faleomavaega affirmed that he will also help Cambodia on education and children issues. He told that the purpose of his visit is to seek the Premier’s recommendation in order to promote the cooperation between the two countries.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen thanked the US government for its assistance to Cambodia, especially in the fields of education, HIV/AIDS, children’s health....ect, which form a bridge to boost the relationship between both nations.



Visit of DPM Hor Namhong to Lao

A Cambodian delegation led by H. E. Mr. Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation arrived in Vientiane on 05 January 2010 to attend the 11th meeting of the Laos-Cambodia and Cambodia-Laos Co-operation Commission to enhance the long-standing bilateral cooperation. He paid a

courtesy call on Lao State President Choummaly Sayasone at his office in Vientiane.

At the meeting, Lao President and Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister highly valued the development of the traditional relations of friendship between Cambodia and Laos.



In this connection, the Spokesman would like to clarify the national and international public opinion especially all the Thai people that the International Court of Justice in The Hague delivered its judgment on 15 June 1962 that the Temple of Preah Vihear and its vicinity are situated under the sovereignty of Cambodia.

This decision was based on the Annex I map resulted from the work of the Franco-Siamese Mixed Commission set up by the Franco-Siamese Convention of 13 February 1904 and Treaty of 23 March 1907 which regulated the frontier in the eastern Dangrek region.

DPM Hor Namhong: To Join meetings in Vietnam and Japan

At the invitation of H.E. Pham Gia Khiem, Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister of Vietnam, on 11 January 2010, H. E. Mr. Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister led a delegation to attend the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Retreat, the 3rd Meeting of ASEAN Political-Security Community Council and the Special Meeting of the ASEAN Coordinating Council to be held in Da Nang, Vietnam, on 13 to 14 January 2010.

These meetings discussed measures to move forward Community Building Process and External Relations, especially for the year 2010.

Besides, at the invitation of Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan H.E. Katsuya Okada, the Cambodian deputy prime minister will also attend the 4th Foreign Ministerial Meeting of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC), which will be held from 16-17 January 2010 in Tokyo, Japan.

On the sidelines, H.E. Hor Namhong and H.E. Hugo Martinez, Minister of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador will sign the Joint

Communiqué on establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Inauguration of Sugar Factory in Koh Kong Province

On 11 January 2010, Samdech Techo Hun Sen received Mr. Chamkoon Chinthamit, president of a newly-built sugar factory and confirmed to preside over the official inauguration ceremony of the factory located in Koh Kong province, some 270 kilometers west of Phnom Penh.



The newly-built factory can produce only 2,000 tones of white sugar per day due to the lack of workers. Mr. Chinthamit said that he is cooperating with the local authorities and Cambodian peasants to encourage them to grow sugarcanes for his factory.

Volunteer Doctors for free medical services to people in Kampong Cham

Last week, groups of Cambodian, American and Korean volunteer Doctors respectively provided free medical services to the people in Batheay district of Kampong Cham Province.

The volunteer group included 20 Cambodian doctors and five American doctors from an organization based in Texas, United States and in another group, there were 20 Korean volunteer doctors from Dong-A University Medical

Center Volunteer through World Channel Sharing Foundation, South Korea.

These two volunteer groups were led by H.E. Uch Borith, Secretary of State for the Ministry Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

Condemnation of aggressive attitude of Thai FM

On 12 January 2010 at the graduation ceremony held in the National Institute for Education, Samdech Techo Hun Sen has strongly condemned Mr. Kasit Piromya, Thai Foreign Minister for attempting to use the Preah Vihear Temple as his political hostage and also recommended Thai Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva to discipline his arrogant foreign minister.



Last year, Kasit Piromya incited a demonstration movement to ask for the Thai possession of the Preah Vihear Temple and the day before yesterday, he declared that the Keo Sikha Kiri Svara pagoda is located on the Thai territory, this is an intolerable act of aggression and scorn.

Cambodia-Vietnam Security Ties

On 12 January 2010, H. E. Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung, Vietnamese Prime Minister stressed that Cambodia's Ministry of Interior and Vietnam's Ministry of Public Security needed to boost their co-operation to benefit people in both

countries, while he received H.E. Mr. Sar Kheng, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Interior in Hanoi.

He expressed his pleasure with the great achievements in the traditional and friendly relations between the two countries, as well as with the results of meetings between Sar Kheng and Vietnamese Minister of Public Security Le Hong Anh.

He said he hoped that in the future, the two ministries would actively implement their agreements.

H. E. Mr. Sar Kheng affirmed that the Cambodian Government was ready to cooperate with Vietnam in implementing the agreements reached by the two countries' leaders, including the cooperation agreement between the Cambodian Ministry of Interior and the Vietnamese Ministry of Public Security.

No Plan to hold talk with Thai FM

On 13 January 2010, before leaving for Vietnam, H. E. Mr. Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation told reporters that Cambodia will not raise the issue of Cambodian Keo Sikha Kiri Svara pagoda to hold a bilateral talk with Thailand when the Foreign ministers of the two countries attend the ASEAN ministerial meetings held on 13 to 14 January 2010 in Vietnam. He has no plan to hold a face-to-face discussion with Thai Foreign Minister Kasit Piromya on the issue of Cambodian Keo Sikha Kiri Svara pagoda, and if he meets him, he will meet just as usual in the ASEAN ministerial meetings.

The diplomatic relation between Cambodia and Thailand is not related to the issue of former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra appointed as an

economics adviser, but to Thai soldiers' intrusion into Cambodian territory.



He also elaborated on many hostile acts caused by Thailand to Cambodia such as three invasions into Cambodian soil by military clashes, Thai refusal to have Cambodian Preah Vihear Temple listed as the World Heritage of UNESCO, and Thai denial of recognizing Preah Vihear Temple as an official name by requesting for being registered as Thai name called Preah Viharn.

The Cambodian foreign minister also strongly condemned Thai soldiers' action against Cambodian citizen as an act of cruel behavior and no humanity.

IT Database of Juridical Officials

On 13 January 2010, ninety-seven members of the Ministry of Justice received diplomas after they had successfully completed an intensive information technology (IT) training program funded by the United States.

This course provided the graduates basic technology skills and trained them on the use of an electronic information system that is being installed at the ministry by the United States.

Mr. Flynn Fuller, USAID Mission Director said as more and more Cambodians come to trust the country's courts to resolve their disputes, the volume and complexity of the ministry's work will increase.

Approval of Cambodian Expropriation Law

On 14 January 2010, the Cambodian Senate approved Expropriation Law which will allow authorities to withdraw legal ownership on land and other immovable properties for public development purposes and building infrastructure to serve the national benefit.

Through the law, an expropriation institution is composed of an expropriation committee conducted by Ministry of Economy and Finance and its sub-committees at municipal and provincial levels.

An independent evaluation commission or agency for land and immovable properties is formed so that the compensation is able to be paid to owners according to the land market prices.

The law will be used for contribution to implementing the royal government's rectangular strategy for infrastructure rehabilitation and construction toward the national development.

Cambodia, Vietnam Vow to Build Peaceful, Friendly Border

H.E. Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung, Prime Minister of Vietnam said that Cambodia and Vietnam will join efforts to build the common borderline into one of peace, friendship, stability, cooperation and development, when he received H. E. Mr. Var Kim Hong, Cambodian Senior Minister, who is Chairman of the Cambodia-Vietnam Joint Border Commission, in Hanoi on 14 January 2010.

He also urged the two sides to soon finalize demarcation on field. This would contribute to promoting cooperation between the two countries in many areas and welcomed and highly valued results

of the recent of the joint border commission, where the two sides agreed to plant a number of markers this year and discussed measures to settle several difficulties.

Vietnamese Prime Minister and Cambodian Senior Minister expressed their belief that land demarcation between Cambodia and Vietnam will be completed by 2012 as agreed by leaders of the two countries.





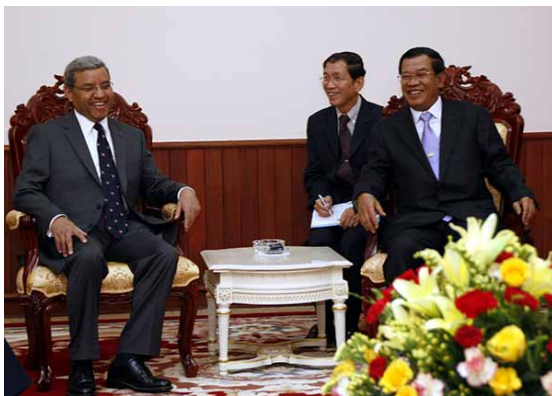
ប្រតិបត្តិការសប្តាហ៍ **Weekly Information Bulletin**
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Visit of UN Envoy to Cambodia

On 18 January 2010, Mr. Surya Prasad, UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia began his 13-day official visit to Cambodia. From 18 to 26 January, he will meet with Samdech Techo Hun Sen and many high-ranking government officials as well as representatives of national and international human rights organizations, then, he will continue his visit to Battambang and Siem Reap provinces from 27 to 29 January.



The purpose of visit is aimed at examining the functioning of the National Assembly and the judiciary, including the Supreme Council of Magistracy and the Constitutional Council.

Dialogue Partner of NGOs with the Government

On 19 January 2010, Samdech Techo Hun Sen voiced full support to the proposal of Mr. Surya Prasad Subedi, UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia, on the election of representative of the NGOs in Cambodia.

At the meeting with Subedi, Samdech Hun Sen fully supported his suggestion that he wants Cambodia to elect the NGOs’ representative in order to be a dialogue partner with the government.

He also encouraged making an urgent public announcement on this suggestion to the NGOs in Cambodia.

Foreign Reserve of Cambodia

At the annual conference to review all achievements gained by the National bank of Cambodia (NBC) in 2009 and set its objectives for 2010, H. E. Mr Chea Chanto, Governor of NBC said that Cambodia’s foreign reserve capital in 2009 was more than US\$2,600 million, an increase of 25.2 percent as compared to 2008.

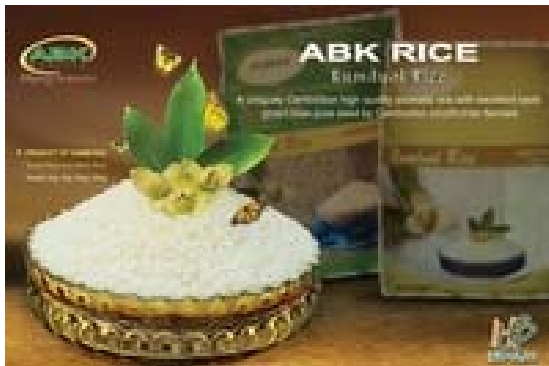
In 2009, NBC maintained its macro-economic situation in spite of a little decrease of the growth rate and a little increase of inflation rate.

The Governor of NBC attributed the decline of Cambodia's exports to foreign markets to the world economic crisis. He said Cambodia's economic growth was 2.1 percent in 2009, down from 6.7 percent in 2008.

Earlier, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) predicted that Cambodia's economic growth would be -2.7 percent in 2009, while World Bank suggested -2.5 percent, and the Asian Development Bank predicted at -1.5 percent.

Cambodia: 20,000 tons rice export annually to EU

Angkar Rong Roeung Co., Ltd said that Neang Malis has annually exported 20,000 tons of rice to EU markets, and in 2009-2010 it got US\$2 million as a special loan from the Rural Development Bank to upgrade the rice miller and buy more rice to stock for export.



The export price is around US\$1,080 per ton and the major markets are Spain, France, Germany and Switzerland. The rice has been bought mostly from local farmers in Kampong Speu, Kandal, Takeo, and Kampot provinces.

Cambodia and Israel Bilateral Cooperation

Cambodia and Israel have agreed to further boost their bilateral cooperation, especially through the exchanges of visit in all domains. This was announced at the meeting on 18 January 2010, between H.E. Uch Borith, Secretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and Mr. Itzhak Shoham, Israeli Ambassador to Cambodia

H.E. Uch Borith said that the country's general situation and development, particularly in the fields of agriculture and social affairs. The Israeli ambassador accepted Cambodia's request for Israel's agricultural technical assistance and he pledged to increase the number of scholarships for Cambodian students to continue their studies in Israel.

Cambodian Civil Engineering Contingents to Chad and Central Africa

On 20 January 2010, Samdech Techo Hun Sen announced that Cambodia will send soon civil engineering forces to the Republic of Chad and Central Africa. He also continued that Cambodian peacekeeping forces have accomplished successfully their mission in Sudan and Central Africa.

By now, Cambodia has sent its mine-clearance and peace keeping forces under the UN umbrella to Chad and Sudan.

Pledges of SCA to upgrade airports

During the visit of the Société Concessionnaire des Aéroports' (SCA) delegation on 19 January 2010, Mr. Joel Velasque, Chairman said that SCA to extend airports in Cambodia.



According to the SCA, the investment has shown profits and the company is willing to upgrade the three airports – Phnom Penh, Siem Reap, and Kang Keng (Preah Sihanouk) – so that they can reach the international standard.

SCA is the French company that has been granted a concession from the Royal Government since 1995 to invest three main airports.

Reaction against Bangkok Post's editorial

The Royal Embassy of Cambodia to Thailand has strongly reacted to an editorial article of the Bangkok Post, considering it as completely ridiculous, absurd and vulgar.

Here is the full text of Mr. Ouk Sophoin, Charge d' Affaires a. i. dated 19 January 2010:

“I would like to reply to the editorial article written by Pavin Chachavalpongpun, the pseudo Thai scholar, published in Bangkok Post, on 18 January 2010, under the title “**In spat with ‘Siem’, Hun Sen needs Hanoi in his corner.**” Although this article is completely ridiculous, absurd and vulgar, it has fully demonstrated how your newspaper has simply become a political tool to serve the government in power and those who have a political agenda in order to undermine the current relations between Cambodia and Thailand, without having any utter sense of professional

journalism, truth, tactfulness and politeness.

Therefore, what your newspaper has done is to allow the view of such a vulgar scholar to express his ultra-nationalistic and fundamentally provocative view, which has significantly contributed to the worsening of the bilateral relations and escalating tensions between the two neighboring countries. Both your newspaper and this pseudo, cocky scholar would be held accountable for the growing tensions between the two countries.

First, for Cambodia, the restoration of diplomatic relations depends on several important factors: (1) Thailand must stop demanding for and encroaching on Cambodia's land near the Preah Vihear Temple; (2) Thailand must stop opposing the inscription of Cambodia's Preah Vihear Temple on the World Heritage List; (3) Thailand must stop demanding to use its own term for Cambodia's **Preah Vihear Temple** which had long been used by the Khmer people since the 11th century when it was built and named, as well as had been recognized by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) since 1962 and more recently by the World Heritage Committee.

Second, to say that “Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen continues to challenge the Thai leadership” is completely ignorant. Samdech Techo Hun Sen has never challenged the leadership of any country, including Thailand. Prime Minister Hun Sen only defends the national interests, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Cambodia. As the prime minister of Cambodia, he has the right to appoint any person to be advisers to the Cambodian government. **This is the sovereign right of Cambodia.**

Third, the Cambodian leaders do not engage in a zero sum game and would not use the balance of power in

Cambodia's relations with its neighboring countries. Our Cambodian leaders would never play "one neighbor against the other," as pretentiously claimed by this unscientific, discredited author. In fact, they are only dealing with **realpolitics** in Cambodia's relations with its neighbor.

Fourth, your newspaper should stop misleading the public on the history of Cambodia. Historically, the Army of United Front for National Salvation of Cambodia was set up in 1978 by the Cambodian leaders, namely Samdech Chea Sim, Samdech Hun Sen, and Samdech Heng Samrin, and appealed to Vietnam for help in order to topple the genocidal Khmer Rouge regime. Without the collapse of the Khmer Rouge at the time, there would not be any Khmer Rouge tribunal today. In fact, the Vietnamese troops all withdrew in 1989, two years before the signing of the Paris Peace Agreements in October 1991.

Fifth, the bilateral relations between Cambodia and Thailand are fundamentally based on mutual respect. If a neighboring state treats another neighboring country well, that country would certainly reciprocate in kind. This is the principle of reciprocity, which is widely used in international relations.

Sixth, I think that this pseudo scholar has quoted an opposition party leader in Cambodia, who has been well-known as ultra-nationalistic and xenophobic. By quoting Sam Rainsy's words on Cambodia-Vietnam border issue, this vulgar scholar has allowed himself to become the spokesperson of Sam Rainsy, without knowing it.

Finally, to claim that H.E. Deputy Prime Minister Hor Namhong, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation: Ambassador Hor Nambora, Cambodia's Ambassador to the United Kingdom; and Ambassador You Ay,

Cambodia's Ambassador to Thailand, are of the Vietnamese lineage is absolutely an insult. This Thai ill-bred scholar, if he is civilized and well-educated, would not state such a thing that Cambodian leaders and high officials are "Vietnamese proxies." It should be recalled that these words were the favorite terms used by the Khmer Rouge to attack the Government which had overthrown the genocidal Khmer Rouge regime in 1979. Do you know the name of the neighboring country which helped and sheltered the Khmer Rouge in the 1980s and for most of the 1990s?

I wish to request you to kindly reprint this response in your newspaper in full."

Visit of Nobel Laureate in Economics to Cambodia

On 21 January 2010, at the meeting with Samdech Techo Hun Sen, Professor Eric S. Maskin, the Nobel Prize winner in Economics in 2007 has highly appreciated Samdech Techo Hun Sen's political platform, which has developed rapidly the country in all fields.



During the meeting, the Premier briefed the professor on the country's situation and the impacts of global economic crisis on Cambodia.

Professor Maskin said the political platform of the Royal Government, including school building and human resources training, are the key factor to develop the country.

Australian Company in Agricultural Sector

In the meeting on 21 January 2010 with H. E. Mr. Sok An, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of the Council Ministers, Mr. Peter Costello, Director of the Australian-based BBK Partners, a financial and corporate advice company said that he has presented its US\$600-million investment plan in the agricultural sector in Cambodia and willing to invest in the agro-industrial plantation – rice, bananas, sugar canes, oil palm, teaks – on an area of 100,000 hectares.



He is convinced that this project will be successful thanks to his company's experiences and high technology. This investment plan will create some 15,000 jobs for Cambodians.





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Progress of Cambodia-South Korean Cooperation

On 21 January 2010, Samdech Techo Hun Sen has welcomed the progress of the Cambodia-South Korea cooperation obtained over the past few years in the exchanges of visits and experiences by the legislative and executive institutions of two countries. He said this while receiving the South Korean parliamentary delegation led by Mr. Moon Hee-sang, its Vice President.



Moon Hee-Sang said his delegation visit was intended to further consolidate the cooperation with Cambodia, especially between the legislative and executive institutions.

Reducing the State Budget expenditure

On 22 January 2010, at weekly cabinet meeting, Samdech Techo Hun Sen has urged the relevant officials to speed up the collection of the state revenue and all the government institutions to cut down the expenditure for keeping the balance between the state revenue and expenditure in response to the world economic crisis. He asked the municipal and provincial authorities to tackle all the disputes happening in their localities on the basis of the public interests.

The Premier also gave a permission for appointing the civil servants or promoting the rank of the officials to replace those who were retired or vulnerable or died, but kept postponing the recruitment of new members into the government institutions.

USD 2.2 millions to Renewable Energy Projects

On 22 January 2010, the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) agreed to grant USD 2.2 millions to support the Ministry of Industry, Mines, and Energy’s renewable projects.

The grant will support the electricity from solar power and the air turbine in Koh Slar Development Village in Kampot province and the Kolen Village in Siem Reap province. These projects will benefit some 700 families, most of them are disabled soldiers.

Japan: Invest in Cambodia

On 23 January 2010 at the meeting with H.E. Mr. Sok An, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister in charge of the Office of the Council, Mr. Yoichi Hidenao, head of delegation of the Commercial Chamber and Industry of Osaka and executive director of MARUBENI said that the JETRO Company of Japan will open its office in Cambodia to further lure more Japanese investors in Cambodia.



Border issue with Thailand

On 24 January 2010, H. E. Mr. Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign affairs and International Cooperation said Cambodia always prepared for solving the border dispute with Thailand by either the peaceful means, or military, or the international court or the United Nations.

He highlighted this when he was leading a delegation of senior officials from the Cambodian Foreign Ministry to visit Cambodian soldiers stationed in the Preah Vihear area.

He also attributed the border disputes between the two countries to Thai intrusion into Cambodia's soil, the Preah Vihear Temple listed as the World Heritage of UNESCO and so on.

Exports art products to foreign countries

Cambodian art products of silks, marbles, wood, silvers, and lacquer have been exported to 140 foreign countries.

Artisan d'Angkor, a private enterprise, currently the company provided 1,100 jobs to Cambodians, said that Cambodian art products of silks, marbles, wood, silvers, and lacquer have been exported to 140 foreign countries.

It contributed to the national economic development and the poverty reduction according to the rectangular strategy of the royal government.

Inauguration of Sugar Factory in Koh Kong Province

On 25 January 2010 at the inauguration ceremony of sugar factory in Koh Kong province, Samdech Techo Hun Sen asked the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to review all the undeveloped concession lands to be offered to the company that runs a real business. He criticized some companies for keeping the land undeveloped in order to sell the license after the Cambodian government offered the concession lands.

The Royal Government encouraged foreign investments in the development of agricultural and commercial fields of the country through the governmental subsidization. The factory has the capacity of producing some 7,000 tonnes of sugarcane per day.

The sugar factory is constructed with a fund of 90.6 million US dollars, which is

70 percent owned by Thai company and 30 percent by Taiwanese company.



Up to now there have been eight companies investing in sugarcane plantation and sugar mills in Cambodia, including two in Koh Kong province, three in Oddar Meanchey province, one in Kratie province and two in Kampong Speu province, covered an area of 66,000 hectares.

The Premier also said the setting up of the sugarcane factory brought many benefits to the people and the country such as the creation of job opportunity, the increase of the people's profit, the transformation of technology, and so on.

Visit of Hollywood Movie Nobel Prize Winner to Cambodia

On 26 January 2010, at the meeting with Samdech Padei Techo Hun Sen, Mr. Oliver Stone, a well-known Hollywood movies maker and editor said that his two-day visit, which aims to give a lecture for "Bridges- Dialogues towards a Culture of Peace" program on 27 January at the University of Cambodia.



He also informed that his interested in the involved documents to make a film over Khmer Rouge regime.

The Premier expressed thanks to Mr. Oliver for his paying much attentions to the involved documents of Cambodia in the Khmer Rouge regime as well as his important visit to share experiences to Cambodian students and people.

UN with more 5-year assistance plan

On 26 January 2010, Cambodia and the UN signed a five-year development assistance plan for 2011-2015, which will benefit millions of Cambodians.

The UN in Cambodia looks forward to continuing to work with the Royal Government toward reaching that day when Cambodia announces that the Cambodia Millennium Development Goals have been met and that all people living in Cambodia have same access to opportunities to lead a full and productive life, irrespective of their race, age, gender, health status, geographical location, socio-economic standing, or political in affluence.

Inauguration of the restoration project of National Road No. 62

On 27 January 2010, Samdech Techo Hun Sen presided over a ground breaking ceremony of the restoration project of National Road No. 62 in the Northern provinces.

The road 128 kilometers long, running from Kampong Thom province to the provincial town of Thbeng Meanchey in Preah Vihear province, was constructed with a Chinese loan of 52 million US dollars.

Preah Vihear province, and a part of Kampong Thom, Oddar Meanchey and Stung Treng provinces are not only a potential area of natural tourism and

economy, mainly agro-industry, but also that of mineral deposits.



The Premier said that the construction and the restoration of the road are a gold and silver opportunity to link those areas to Siem Reap province to attract local and foreign tourists to visit Angkor Wat Temple as precious cultural property of Cambodia and the famous marvel in the world.

No Cambodian troops send to Afghanistan and Iraq

On 27 January 2010, as requested by the UN, Samdech Techo Hun Sen refused to send Cambodian de-miners to Afghanistan and Iraq. He said that 1,000 Cambodian troops were asked to be sent to Afghanistan and the requests were made several times, but he says “no”. If they go, there will be a problem because each day there are bombs blasting here and there and terrorism, so he does not let them go.

The Cambodian people experienced a lot in a casualty from war and land mines.

PM: Promoting the Capacity of RCAF’s Human Resources

At the seminar held on 28 January 2010 to review the reform of RCAF in the last five years (2005-2009) and set its objective in the next five years (2010-2014), Samdech Techo Hun Sen urged the Ministry of National Defense to promote the capacity of the human resources in the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) in more five years at the level equal to that in the regional countries as well as in the world.



He noted that in the early 21st century, Cambodia still has a gap if compared to some regional countries, mainly a lack of human resources to be faced, which he requested the ministry to surmount.

The Premier highlighted the situation and the main principles for implementing the policy of national defense, being aimed at being sure to maintain national independence, sovereignty, peace, security, public order for contributing to the national development.

He also warned his military men to perform good deeds for the sake of the nation and the people.

