



CONTENT :

- Cambodian National Assembly Delegation To Attend International Conference in Quebec. Page 1
- Cambodian Premier: China Is a Good, Close Friend. Page 1
- PM Hun Sen and His Spouse Donate US\$310,000 to Build Buddhist University. Page 2
- Cambodian First Lady To Be Appointed with UN Senior Title. Page 2
- First Vice President of French Senate Is Satisfied with KRT's Progress. Page 3
- Government Is Determined to Crack Down on Corruption. Page 3
- Cambodia Promotes Rice Export. Page 3
- Declaration of Cambodian Foreign Ministry over Thailand's Demand. Page 4
- Thai Foreign Minister To Join Meeting of the Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation in Siem Reap. Page 4
- IRI: Cambodia Is On the Right Track. Page 5
- Rabbit Island (Koh Tunsay) Travel Guide. Page 6

Cambodian National Assembly Delegation To Attend International Conference in Quebec



A high-ranking delegation of the National Assembly led by its President Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin leaves for Quebec.

Phnom Penh, January 28, 2011 AKP – Cambodian First Vice-President of the

International Parliamentary Conference on the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (CIDECE) to be held from Jan. 31 to Feb. 5 in Quebec.

National Assembly delegations from 77 countries will take part in this six-day conference, according to a

press release of Cambodia's NA Secretariat General.

On the occasion, on behalf of Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, NA president and chairman of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly for 2010-2011, H.E. Nguon Nhel will deliver a speech and join a discussion on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions. –AKP

* * * * *

Cambodian Premier: China Is a Good, Close Friend



Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen cuts red ribbon to inaugurate the 1,066 meter-long Cambodia-China Friendship Bridge (Prek Tamak).

Phnom Penh, January 25, 2011 AKP – Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen considered China as a long-lasting, close friend providing its assis-

tance to the national development in Cambodia, mainly the infrastructure construction projects. He wished the relationship and cooperation between the two countries to last forever, while presiding over the inauguration of the Cambodia-China Prek Tamak Friendship Bridge in Kandal province on Jan. 24...

To be continued to page 5

PM Hun Sen and His Spouse Donate US\$310,000 to Build Buddhist University

Phnom Penh, January 25, 2011 AKP –

Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen and His Spouse, Bun Rany Hun Sen, have donated more than US\$310,000 as a private contribution to building the Preah Sihamoni Raja Buddhist University.

The Preah Sihamoni Raja Buddhist University is located within 144-year-old Svay Pope Monastery in Phnom-Penh. It will be a four-storey building with an estimated construction cost of some US\$480,000.

Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen announced the donation Sunday while attending the ceremony to welcome the achievements made by the pagodas of the Dhammayutta Order throughout the country, and the 66th anni-



Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen and his wife Lok Chumteav Bun Rany Hun Sen .

versary of His Holiness Samdech Preah Abhisiri Sugandha Mahasangharajah Dhipati Bour Kry, Great Supreme Patriarch of Dhammayuttikanikaya of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

“We have no discrimination of beliefs by the people in Buddhism of the

two Orders, Dhammayutta and Mahanikaya,” Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen said.

“We have no discrimination of beliefs by the people in Buddhism of the two Orders, Dhammayutta and Mahanikaya,” Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen said.

He pointed out that the physical infrastructures were needed for the monasteries through donation and contribution from the Buddhist followers, who, in return, would receive the education of ethics, morals, and Dharma.

Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen highly appreciated the excellent, enormous support, assistance and contribution of His Holiness Samdech Preah Abhisiri Sugandha Mahasangharajah Dhipati Bour Kry to the progress and value of Buddhism and the Cambodian society as a whole.

The number of Dhammayuttikanikaya monasteries has up to now increased to 161 with 2,500 monks, and that of Mahanikaya monasteries has a total of 4,307 with 54,861 monks. –AKP

Cambodian First Lady To Be Appointed with UN Senior Title

Phnom Penh, January 24, 2011 AKP –

Cambodian First Lady Lok Chumteav Dr. Bun Rany Hun Sen is expected to be appointed next month by the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon with a senior title for her highly committed endeavor to address joint social issues, in particular in the area of child and woman health promotion in Cambodia.

Lok Chumteav Dr. Bun Rany Hun Sen’s restless humanitarian initiatives and leadership earn Cambodian Red Cross a new

opportunity wherein the institution is promised with a budget of US\$40,000 for the period of 5 years.

At the same time that Cambodia is on the right track to meet many of its Millennium Development Goals, the country faces a specific maternal mortality issue. The portion of 461 mother death among 10,000 live birth in 2008 makes Cambodia one of the countries in Asia that have such high loss of mother lives.

The most challenging obstacle to tackle maternal

mortality rate in Cambodia is the lateness in decision making process of mothers to access pre-natal and post-natal care by well-trained medical staff.

With the appointment of the Cambodia’s first lady who has experienced by herself the loss of her first son at a very early stage of his life due to war-limited health care facilities and who possesses midwife skills, it is expected that Cambodia will be able to reduce the maternal mortality rate to 250 per live birth by 2015.

The expectation is also

assured by restless effort of the Ministry of Health and its counterparts in achieving the aim.

In 2006, the Cambodian First Lady won the National Champion of the Asia-Pacific Leadership owing to her dedication to combat HIV/AIDS in Cambodia. Cambodia consequently succeeds with its millennium HIV/AIDS goal, the achievement recognized internationally and nationally inspiring new efforts. –AKP

First Vice President of French Senate Is Satisfied with KRT's Progress

Phnom Penh, January 28, 2011 AKP –

Visiting French Senate First Vice President Ms. Catherine Tasca expressed her satisfaction with the progress of the Khmer Rouge Tribunal (KRT), during a visit on Jan. 26 to KRT.

Ms. Tasca, accompa-

nied by senators and officials of the French diplomacy, highly evaluated KRT's mission to bring justice to the victims of Democratic Kampuchea or the Khmer Rouge regime.

Mr. Raung Chhorn, representative of Acting Director of the KRT Office of Administration

H.E. Kranh Tony, informed the French delegation of the trial of Kaing Guek Eav, alias Duch, former head of Tuol Sleng prison or S-21, and the Case 002 concerning the other four senior Khmer Rouge leaders including Khieu Samphan, former head of state; Nuon Chea,

former NA president; Ieng Sary, former deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and his wife Ieng Thirith, former minister of social affairs and education...

To be continued to page 5

Government Is Determined to Crack Down on Corruption

Phnom Penh, January 24, 2011 AKP –

Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen has declared to take serious measures against high-ranking government officials who get involved in corruption.

“Even though [the generals] who have three stars, but also those who

have four stars or five or even the ‘moon’ will be arrested,” underlined the Cambodian premier on Jan. 22 at the inauguration ceremony of SOS Hermann Gmeiner School in Sen Sok district, Phnom Penh.

During the past months, some high-ranking officials of the judicial body and the

armed forces have been successively arrested for getting involved in drug trafficking and corruption.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen also took the opportunity to call on young people to get away from drug, HIV/AIDS and other negative acts.

The SOS Hermann Gmeiner School in Phnom Penh is the 6th among

over 10 projects of SOS Children's Village International already signed with the Cambodian Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation.

According to a news release of the said ministry, the school built at the total cost of US\$1.1 million could receive some 400 students from grade 7th to 12th. –AKP

Cambodia Promotes Rice Export

Phnom Penh, January 24, 2011 AKP –

To show government's support and encouragement, Deputy Prime Minister H.E. Yim Chhay Ly late last week led a delegation to see thousand tons of well processed Cambodian rice produced by 40,000-farmer-family association ready to export to international markets, thanks to the collaboration with Angkor Agriculture Rong Roeung Company.

H.E. Deputy Prime Minister appreciated the approach that the Angkor Agriculture Rong Roeung Company is applying with 40,000 farmer families in four provinces – Kandal, Kampong Speu, Kampot and Takeo and the company's high-tech facilities to produce 30 tons of husked rice per hour.

Focusing on organic rice production, the company partners with its target farmers. Under the

partnership, those farmers receive quality rice seeds and farming technical support. With the said assistance, the partnered farmers are able to produce between 2 to 3 tons of rice per one hectare of their land.

The company is committed to buy all rice yield produced by those farmers with the price of 1.600 riel [roughly US\$0.40] per kilogram. For 2011, the company expects to buy

from 60 to 70 thousand tons of rice from its partner farmers.

Seeing the sustainability of the company's approach, the Rural Development Bank provides US\$5 million loan to the company to ensure its smooth operation, which H.E. Yim Chhay Ly considered as an effective attribution to Cambodia's economic growth as well as to poverty reduction. –AKP

Declaration of Cambodian Foreign Ministry over Thailand's Demand

Phnom Penh, January 28, 2011 AKP –

The Cambodian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation has issued a declaration in response to the demand of Thai prime minister to remove Cambodia's flag from the Keo Sikha Kiri Svava pagoda of Cambodia.

The following is the full declaration dated today:

“On 27 January 2011, Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva of Thailand demanded that Cambodia must remove its flag from the KEO SIKHA KIRI SVARA pagoda of Cambodia. In this regard, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation wishes to reassert as follows:

- On 13 February 1904, France and Siam signed a Convention to establish the Joint Commissions on the Delimitation of Frontiers between Indo-China and Siam. In the period between the year 1905 and 1908, the Franco-Siamese Commissions produced a total of 11 maps, including the one that demarcates Sector 6 which is the area of the Temple of Preah Vihear.

- In 1954, Thai troops invaded Cambodian territory and occupied the TEMPLE OF PREAH VIHEAR. On 6 October 1959, Cambodia submitted this case of aggression to the International Court of Justice (ICJ). Based principally on the above mentioned map produced by the Franco-Siamese Commissions, the ICJ adjudicated on 15 June 1962 as follows, ‘...the Temple of Preah Vihear is situated in territory under the sovereignty of Cambodia;’ ‘Thailand is under an obligation to withdraw

any military or police forces, or other guards or keepers, stationed by her at the Temple, or in its vicinity on Cambodian territory;’

- Article I (c) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand on the Survey and Demarcation of Land Boundary, signed on 14 June 2000, also recognizes the above mentioned map as a legal basis for the survey and demarcation of land boundary between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Kingdom of Thailand.

- According to the map produced by the Franco-Siamese Commissions, the KEO SIKHA KIRI SVARA pagoda, built by the people of Cambodia in 1998, is clearly situated in the

Cambodian territory. Therefore, the flag of the Kingdom of Cambodia is legitimately flying over this Pagoda.

- Such a statement made by the Prime Minister of Thailand in parallel with Thailand's military exercise at the border with Cambodia is clearly provocative and constitutes a casus belli for future acts of aggression against Cambodia. Cambodia reserves its legitimate rights to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation wishes to emphasize that this statement made by the Prime Minister of Thailand is unacceptable and that the Kingdom of Cambodia firmly rejects such an insulting demand.” –AKP

* * * * *

Thai Foreign Minister To Join Meeting of the Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation in Siem Reap

Phnom Penh, January 28, 2011 AKP –

Thai Foreign Minister H.E. Kasit Piromya will pay a visit to Cambodia to participate in the 7th Meeting of the Joint Commission for Bilateral Co-

operation Between Cambodia and Thailand to be held on Feb. 3-4, in Siem Reap province.

The visit will be made at the invitation of Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Min-

ister H.E. Hor Namhong, said a press release of the Cambodian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation dated today.

The meeting is aimed at strengthening and ex-

panding cooperation in all fields between the two countries, it added.

During the meeting, both sides will adopt the Record of Discussion of the meeting, the press release pointed out. –AKP

From page 1**PM: China is a Good Friend...**

He also expressed his gratitude to China for its assistance to the national rehabilitation and development in the country.

The premier further appreciated China's aid to Cambodia, saying that China always carried out all the projects earlier than expected.

He also elaborated on the country's economic growth and the internal and external integrations.

"In my concept, the

main investments must focus on infrastructures such as road, bridge, irrigation and human resources," he said.

He said, "I am proud of the policy of the Cambodian People's Party (CPP) as well as that of the Cambodian royal government, which created a situation to link people to people, along with transportation as well."

Speaking at the event, H.E. Pan Guangxue, China's ambassador to Cambodia, said the US\$43.5 million Cambodia-China Prek Tamak Friendship Bridge was the

third Chinese-funded bridge to open in Cambodia, after the Cambodia-China Sekong Friendship Bridge in Stung Treng province and Cambodian-China Prek Kdam Friendship Bridge, also in Kandal.

Phnom Penh and Beijing have inked agreements to build two more bridges, the Cambodia-China Chroy Changvar Bridge in Phnom Penh and another project in Takhmao.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen said several other highway projects have also been signed or are

under negotiation, and that China has already funded the construction of more than 1,500 kilometers of roads in Cambodia.

Last month, during the Cambodian premier's five-day visit to China, he and Chinese leaders signed 12 agreements related to infrastructure and agriculture projects.

The Prek Tamak Bridge is 1,060 meters in length and 13.5 meters in width, with a designed speed of 60 km per hour. The contractor of the project is China's Shanghai Construction (Group) General Company. —AKP

From page 3**First Vice President of French Senate...**

Mr. Raung Chhorn further wished for more contribution from France to support KRT's process. Since the tribunal's estab-

lishment, France has contributed some US\$6.5 million, of which over US\$6 million to the international side and over 200,000 to the national side.

The French Senate delegation led by Ms. Tasca, also chairperson of French-Cambodia Friend-

ship Senate Group, arrived here on Jan. 24 for a week-long visit to Cambodia. During her visit, she was received in a royal audience by His Majesty King Norodom Sihamoni and held talks with Senate Second Vice President H.E. Tep Ngorn, and Act-

ing National Assembly President H.E. Nguon Nhel.

According to the schedule, the French delegation will also meet with Siem Reap Governor H.E. Sou Phirin and visit the French School and bilingual classes in Siem Reap

IRI: Cambodia Is On the Right Track

Phnom Penh, January 24, 2011 AKP —

Most of the Cambodian people are still saying that Cambodia, under the current leadership of Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, is on the right track, according to the International Republican Institute's survey issued late last week.

The survey conducted between June and August 2010 showed that 76 percent of the 2,000 interviewed people throughout the country said Cambodia is moving in the right direction, the group's opinion assessment focused on the fast growth of the infrastructure including roads, bridges, schools, health centers, irrigation

networks and so on.

Only 23 percent of the people who were interviewed said that Cambodia is on the wrong track, and among them 42 percent said Cambodia has corruption.

The questionnaire of the survey also detailed on the activities of the corruption, one of the questions asked how big is the

corruption and bribery within the local authorities from communal level to the provincial and the national levels. 16 percent of the interviewed persons said almost all officials at the commune and district levels are corrupt, while 17 percent said almost all officials at the national level commit corruption. —AKP

TOURISM &
CULTURE:

Rabbit Island (Koh Tunsay) Travel Guide



Rabbit Island is a small tropical island in the Gulf of Thailand located about 20-40 minutes south of Kep Cambodia by local boat. The island is blessedly undeveloped and lacks most services except for some rustic bungalows and a couple of rudimentary beach shack restaurants. Secluded white sand beaches dot the edges of the island, backed

by a hilly coconut palm interior. Most services are near the westside beach. The surrounding waters are relatively clear and warm, offering some snorkeling opportunities around the rocks. Coral is scarce but colorful fish abound. You can stay on the island or make a day trip of it - go in the morning, lounge on the beach and return to Kep in

the afternoon. Rooms/ bungalows on the island run \$10 or less. Arrange a boat trip to the island through your guesthouse in Kampot or Kep or just go to the Koh Tunsay Boat Dock in Kep town next to the Long Villa Restaurant (see Kep map on page 113.) Boats are almost always available. A round-trip trip to the island and back runs

\$20 for the whole boat, so bring some friends to split the cost. The round-trip price is the same whether you stay a few hours or a few days. Tour operators and guesthouses in Kep offer day packages starting at about \$7/person inclusive.

Source:
www.canbypublications.com

Published in January 2011 by:



Royal Embassy of Cambodia to Switzerland

**Address: 3, Chemin Taverney, P.O. Box 213
1218 Grand-Saconnex,
Geneva, Switzerland.**

**Tel.: (+41)22 788 77 73
Fax: (+41)22 788 77 74
Email: camemb.gva@mfa.gov.kh**

Website: <http://mission.itu.ch/MISSIONS/Cambodia/>