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PM Hun Sen Presides Over the Celebration of the 64th Anniversary of the International Children's Day



AKP Phnom Penh, June 01, 2013 –

Cambodia's Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen presides over here this morning the Celebration of the 64th Anniversary of the International Children's Day (June 1st), the 12th Anniversary of the World's Day Against Child Labor (June 12th) and 2013 Cambodia Children's Day.

Photo: Chey Phoumipul

National Assembly Adopts Law on Denial of Khmer Rouge Crimes

AKP Phnom Penh, June 07, 2013 –

The National Assembly of Cambodia in its extraordinary session held here on June 07, 2013 under the chairmanship of its President Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin passed the Law on Denial of Crimes Committed during the Khmer Rouge regime (1975-1979).

The five-chapter draft law was unanimously approved by 86 lawmakers

present at the session.

Under the law, those who refuse to acknowledge, diminish, deny or challenge the existence of crimes or glorify crimes committed during the Khmer Rouge regime will be sentenced from 6 months to two years in prison and fined between 1 million Riel (Cambodian currency roughly US\$250) to 4 million Riel (US\$1,000).

H.E. Cheam Yeap, Chairman of NA's Economy, Finance, Banking and Audit Commission said the

denial of Khmer Rouge crimes was a serious insult to the souls of those who lost their lives during the genocidal regime and harmed the victims' families.

According to H.E. Cheam Yeap, the law will not go against the freedom of expression as 17 other countries have also such law.

The law was proposed and passed soon after Mr. Kem Sokha, Deputy President of the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party

(CNRP), has recently said that Tuol Sleng or S-21 prison was artificial.

Tuol Sleng was a prison during Khmer Rouge regime where over 10,000 innocent people were killed or tortured to death. Survivors of S-21 announced early this week to organize on June 9 a mass demonstration to protest against Kem Sokha's allegation and to demand him to apologize to the souls of the victims and the survivors of Tuol Sleng.

PM Underlined RGC's Efforts in Reducing Wealth and Intellectual Gap

AKP Phnom Penh, June 06, 2013 –

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia, has highlighted the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC)'s attention on reducing poverty and minimizing the intellectual gap through the efforts to develop all domains.

Addressing the inauguration ceremony of school buildings and other educational achievements in Prey Veng province's Kamchay

Mear district this morning, the Cambodian premier announced to continue the RGC's strategy to combat poverty.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen further laid stress on the RGC's endeavors to ensure peace and political stability in the country, to create laws and regulations and conduct reform programs so as to attract both local and foreign investments to create more jobs for the Cambodian people, and thus to increase their income.

To minimize the intellectual gap is easier than to reduce the wealth gap thanks to the policy of "one commune, one lower secondary school", said the prime minister, adding that the inauguration of school buildings in Kamchay Mear district is part of the effort to reduce the intellectual gap.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen also underlined the importance of human resource development, the major factor for regional competition once ASEAN became one community

by the end of December 2015.

Cambodia is now among the lower-middle-income countries and it is expected to become an upper-middle-income and a developed country by 2030 and 2050 respectively, he indicated.

Cambodia has currently 2,813 kindergartens, 6,910 primary schools, 1,214 lower secondary schools, 433 high schools, and over 100 public and private universities.

Regional Military Airlift Exercise Wrapped Up

AKP Phnom Penh, June 07, 2013 –

Pacific Airlift Rally 2013, a regional military airlift exercise jointly hosted by Cambodian and U.S. Air Forces at Pochentong Air Base, around 35 kilometers west of Phnom Penh Capital, concluded on June 07, 2013 morning.

The five-day event is a biennial, military airlift symposium involving over 100 personnel from 20 nations in the Indo-Pacific region.

H.E. William E. Todd, U.S. Ambassador to Cambodia said at the air drop event that the exercise

showcased the strengthening of the U.S.-Cambodia military relationship and demonstrated U.S. assistance to the Cambodian people in times of need.

He went on to say that the exercise reflected the U.S. commitment to developing the capacity of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces as a means to promote peace, prosperity, and security in Cambodia and throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

According to a press release from the U.S. Embassy, Pacific Airlift Rally focused on enhancing airlift coordination among regional air forces and

providing multi-lateral humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. Exercises included informational seminars, expert briefings, a military airlift support activity for natural disasters, and field training.

In addition to the air drops, there was also a “command post exercise,” a tabletop simulation for staff officers to assemble, design a plan, and execute based on a given scenario that tests the group’s skills in coordinating logistics with other organizations, it said.

Pacific Airlift Rally’s participants represented Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei,

Cambodia, Canada, India, Indonesia, Laos, Maldives, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, the United States, and Vietnam.

Pacific Airlift Rally advanced military airlift coordination and cooperation among the nations of the Indo-Pacific region, and provided a venue to exchange humanitarian airlift, air-land, and air delivery techniques, added the press release.

U.S. Ambassador Appreciates Calmette Hospital’s Works

AKP Phnom Penh, June 06, 2013 –

U.S. Ambassador to Cambodia H.E. William E. Todd highly appreciated Calmette Hospital for its hard working in health care, and considered it as a leading hospital in Cambodia.

The U.S. diplomat made the remarks here on June 5 during the hand-over ceremony of General Electric (GE) Foundation’s medi-

cal equipment donation to Calmette Hospital and the establishment of a biomedical equipment technician (BMET) training program.

H.E. William E. Todd said the medical sector in Cambodia has remarkably improved for the last recent years and these progresses are inseparable from Calmette, which is considered the best hospital for Cambodian people. He highly praised the

Cambodian Ministry of Health for its endeavors to reduce the prevalence of infectious diseases and to combat non-communicable diseases.

The donation is to support and to improve Calmette Hospital’s works, and thus to enhance Cambodian people’s health, he added. The equipment donation is the final donation to Cambodia under the GE Foundation’s “Developing Health Globally” ini-

tiative, which has provided approximately US\$8 million worth of medical equipment to hospitals across Cambodia since 2009.

RFI Launches New Khmer-language Broadcasting Program



French Ambassador to Cambodia H.E. Serge Mostura, Cambodian Information Minister H.E. Khieu Kanharith and visiting Ms. Marie-Christine Saragosse.

AKP Phnom Penh, June 20, 2013 –

The Paris-based Radio France Internationale (RFI) has just opened its office in Cambodia and increased its Khmer-language broadcast with an aim to enhance the mutual understanding between the two peoples.

The Radio France Internationale (RFI) officially launched here this morning its new Khmer-language broadcasting program under the presidency of Cambodian Information Minister H.E. Khieu Kanharith.

French Ambassador to Cambodia H.E. Serge Mostura and visiting Ms. Marie-Christine Saragosse, President of AEF (Audiovisuel Extérieur de la France), were also present at the event.

RFI has increased its Khmer-language broadcast from 1 hour to 14 hours a day, from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm since June 3, 2013, while the French-language broadcast is from 9:00 pm.

The news program of RFI has been broadcasted three times a day – 7:00 am-8:00 am, 1:00 pm-2:00 pm, and 7:00 pm-8:00 pm.



Listeners can enjoy the broadcast of RFI on FM92 MHz in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap province and on FM 94.5 MHz in Battambang, Kampong Cham, and Preah Sihanouk provinces.

The French government-owned RFI got broadcasting license from the Royal Government of Cambodia in 1992.

Photo: Hun Yuth Kun

PM Hun Sen: Cambodia's Policy for Heritage and Cultural Tourism Is Not a Passing Fancy

AKP Phnom Penh, June 17, 2013 —

“Our policy for heritage and cultural tourism is not a passing fancy,” said Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, while he was presiding over the opening ceremony of the 37th session of the World Heritage Committee (WHC) held yesterday evening at the Peace Palace, in Phnom Penh.

On the occasion, Samdech Techo Hun Sen announced Cambodia's request to list Sambo Prei Kuh, Cambodia's main pre-Angkorian site, and Koh Ker, the ephemeral capital of the Khmer empire in the 10th century, which invented the art of dynamic statuary in Asia, as new World Heritage Sites.

The prime minister further laid stress on benefits gained from inscription on the list of World Heritage that has drawn regional and global attention to the promotion, safeguarding and development of those sites to help promoting the economy and improving the living standard of people. “In economic sense, I think we should

focus on the development of both tangible and intangible cultural assets by integrating this work into development process, either within regional or global framework. This will indeed help promoting sustainable development of the tourism sector, in which cultural heritage plays an important role in job creation, a factor contributing to poverty reduction and mobilizing revenue for the management and conservation of cultural assets,” underlined Samdech Techo Hun Sen. “In this regard, the Royal Government of Cambodia has introduced ‘Conversation for Development, Development for Conservation’ policy in the tourism sector.”

According to the Cambodian premier, over the last two decades, cultural and eco-tourism have become a pillar of equitable growth and played an instrumental role in poverty reduction in Cambodia. The last two decades of sustained high growth, together with peace and macro-economic stability, has provided a new opportunity for rapid poverty reduction and enhanced living standard. In particular, poverty rate dropped from

100 percent in 1979 to 19 percent in 2011. Undoubtedly, heritage and cultural tourism are playing a substantial part in this growth. Twenty years ago, when Angkor was inscribed on the World Heritage list, the number of international visitors was just 120,000. The figure then climbed to 3.5 million in 2012, with the expectation of 4.5 million by 2015.

“However, this requires that we increase alertness. Heritage should in no way suffer from these gains. That is why our experts, together with UNESCO and Australia, have prepared a tourism management plan for Angkor and the region to ensure a balance between the imperatives of development and conservation needs in conformity with the new concept of green development,” he added.

In addition, Samdech Techo Hun Sen called for a joint conservation, stressing that heritage belongs to humanity as a whole, therefore, everyone must do his/her bit to conserve and value either tangible or intangible heritage at all places, regardless of the original nation, original race or actual location

of those heritage and culture.

During the opening ceremony, the Metropolitan Museum of New York, represented by Ms. Emily Rafferty, officially returned to Cambodia two 10th-century God Statues – Sahadeva and Nakula – of the Koh Ker style, which were stolen from Cambodia in mid-1970s.

Samdech Techo Hun Sen expressed his deep gratitude to the Metropolitan Museum of New York for returning the two statues. “This act indeed indicates a high standard of professional code of conducts adhered by the Metropolitan Museum. Moreover, I would like also to thank the U.S. Government for their effort in claiming back the statue of Duryodhana, which is now subject to a lawsuit in the New York Court,” he added.

Around 1,300 delegates from more than 120 member states to the 1972 UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage have been participating in this universal event.

H.E. Khieu Kanharith Presides Over the AQUATHLON Competition 2013 (2nd Edition)



AKP Phnom Penh, June 01, 2013

Cambodia's Minister of Information H.E. Khieu Kanharith and his spouse preside over at Cambodian Country Club in Phnom Penh on June 01 2013 the AQUATHLON Competition (2nd Edition).

Photo: Hun Yuth Kun

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