

National

Nat'l Police spokesman: Pchum Ben traffic deaths, injuries fall

Mom Kunthear

AT LEAST 16 people died and 78 were injured in road accidents over the three-day Pchum Ben holidays from September 16-18.

Government officials and traffic organisations said the numbers were an improvement on previous years.

National Police spokesman Chhay Kim Khoeun said the number of accidents decreased by 25 per cent compared to 2019. The number of deaths was 10 fewer, a decrease of 38 per cent. The number of injured victims fell by two.

In the 16 days from the first day of the Pchum Ben festival - September 3-18, there were 165 traffic accidents in which 74 people were killed and 274 injured.

"The traffic situation this year was better than in previous years. Overall, we have successfully ensured security, safety and public order in the 16 days of Pchum Ben," Kim Khoeun said.

Accidents were mainly caused by speeding, disrespecting the right of way, overtaking in dangerous situations and careless turns, he said. The highest numbers of fatalities were recorded in Phnom Penh, and Kampong



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Thom, Kandal, Pursat and Takeo provinces.

Institute for Road Safety director Kong Ratanak said many drivers still do not obey traffic laws, but the situation seems to be better than before.

Ratanak told *The Post*: "I think the situation seems a bit better than in previous years because, along the roads that I've travelled, there were not as many accidents as in previous years. It's still not as good

as we hoped for."

Ratanak said accidents couldn't be identified by a single factor alone because generally, accidents often involve several factors such as driving under the influence of alcohol, speeding, rough road conditions and weather.

He said if drivers obeyed the law, adhere to safety rules and do not drink alcohol and drive, then there would not be many accidents.

Minister of Interior and chairman of the National Road Safety Committee Sar Kheng, said last week that the number of accidents in the first eight months of the year had declined compared to the same period last year.

The 667 cases recorded in the eight months was a 24 per cent drop, while the 215 deaths marked a 16 per cent decline and the 1,010 injuries were 24 per cent fewer.

Gov't provided nearly \$20 million to working mums over two years

Mom Kunthear

A REPORT by the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) said the government has provided nearly \$20 million to working mothers who are NSSF members over the past two years.

The report said the government first started authorising additional allowances for working mothers at the start of 2018, and through August of this year, more than 78.7 billion riel (\$19.2 million) had been handed out to them. During the timeframe, 195,530 women gave birth to 196,866 children.

NSSF director Ouk Samvithyea (pictured) said working mothers are high on prime minister Hun Sen's priority list for people in need of assistance.

He said he and NSSF officials have been leading the implementation of the allowances and they have made the

service better and more efficient for its members.

Meas Sokny, an NSSF worker who recently gave birth, said her family has poor living conditions and she had to spend an excessive amount of money during delivery. But since she has an NSSF card, she received government support.

"I received 400,000 riel from the government through the NSSF. This is not a lot of money for people with better living conditions, but it's a lot for me and very valuable to help solve the difficulties with my living condition," she said.

The government initiative to assist working mothers allows workers who give birth to one child to receive 400,000 riel. Those who have twins receive 800,000 riel and mothers of triplets received a subsidy of 1.2 million riel.

In 2018, 65,054 workers nationwide gave birth to a total of 65,534 children. Of the figure, 470 women delivered twins and five to triplets. In 2019, 77,449 workers gave birth to 77,966 children. Of them, 509 women delivered twins and four to triplets.



The Kingdom of Cambodia

Ministry of Public Works and Transport

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Issuing date of the IFB : 21. 09. 2020

Name of Country: The Kingdom of Cambodia

Name of Project : Upgrading of National Road No. 48 Project

Brief Description of Works : Upgrading of NR48, 148 Km in Koh Kong Province

Loan No. : EDCF Loan No. KHM-17

- The Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia has received a Loan from the Government of the Republic of Korea executed by the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) of the Export-Import Bank of Korea in the amount of US\$67,434,000 (Sixty Seven Million Four Hundred Thirty Four Thousand US Dollars) towards the cost of Upgrading of National Road No.48 Project (Project) with the total length of 148km and additionally a Supplementary Loan in the amount of US\$20,000,000 (Twenty Million US Dollars) towards the cost of widening of the Project Road from 2-lane to 4-lane in four sections with the total length of 25.1 km.
- The Project Executing Agency (PEA), Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT), now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Civil Works for Upgrading of National Road No.48 Project from the junction of National Road No.4 at the PK141+750 up to Khmerak Phumin City, Koh Kong Province, to be completed within the duration of 973 days from the Commencement Date.
- Bidding will be conducted among Korean companies through Competitive Bidding (CB) Procedures specified in the Guideline for Procurement under EDCF Loans and is open to all the eligible bidders that also meet the following minimum qualification criteria:
 - Minimum average annual construction turnover of US\$ 60.67 million within last five (5) years.
 - Experience in at least two (2) contracts of similar size and nature as contractor within last five (5) years, each with a value of at least US\$ 54 million that have been successfully or substantially completed.

The Bidders and all parties constituting the Bidder shall have the nationality of the Republic of Korea and shall have good experiences in road and bridge construction similar to or larger than the proposed Project.
- Interested eligible Bidders may request further information, if any, to Ministry of Public Works and Transport via e-mail addresses stated in Item 7 from the next day after this issuance to 5:00 p.m. on 31. 10. 2020, Cambodia local time

- A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any interested eligible Bidders or by an agent residing in Cambodia (with a letter of authorization) on the submission of a written application to the address given in Item 7 and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of US \$ 500.00 by cash. The method of payment shall be in cash. The documents will be available to pick up only at the office stipulated in BDS during the working hours (8:00-12:00 & 14:00-17:00) from Monday to Friday except public holidays. Alternatively, any interested eligible firm with written application can purchase a complete set of bidding documents in electronic files (e.g. PDF format documents), upon payment of nonrefundable fee of US\$ 500 to the following Project Executing Agency's bank account:
 - Bank Name: National Bank of Cambodia
 - Bank address: 22-24, Preah Norodom Blvd., Phnom Penh, Cambodia
 - Account Name: MPWT: Upgrad of National Road 48
 - Account No : 000000017476
 - SWIFT Code: NCAMKHPXXX

- Bids must be delivered to the address stated in Item 7 below on or before the deadline of 19. 11. 2020 at 10:00 a.m., Cambodia local time. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of US Dollars One Million Six hundred thousand only (US\$1,600,000) as specified in the Bid Data Sheet. Late bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m., on the same day in the presence of the Bidder's representatives who choose to attend.

Bid submission can be allowed to submit the original documents by air mail/courier service delivered in time, provided the courier receipt and/or tracking number has been submitted to the Project Executing Agency (PEA) office in time before the specified deadline of bid submission.

It shall be noted that all the bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes, and any late or un-sealed bids are subject to rejection.

The bidders who sent their bids by air mail/courier service shall submit the receipt of courier and/or its tracking number to Project Executing Agency (PEA) in advance, however, PEA is not responsible for any damages or losses occurred in transit.

The bidders are not allowed to submit the Bid through the Cambodian Embassy in Seoul.

Bidder's representatives may not attend the bid opening (only for Technical Bids). However, in such case, the Bidder shall submit a letter to the Employer before the bid opening stating that it, notwithstanding the absence of its representative from the bid opening, will accept results of the bid opening.

Considering the transparency of the bid opening process, all the bidders should attend directly at the bid opening. However, if any bidders cannot attend directly, they can propose PEA to attend bid opening (only for Technical Bids) through video conference with prior confirmation at least 1 week before. In addition, PEA will not be responsible for any interruptions or any system errors during online bid opening process.

- The Ministry of Public Works and Transport will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by Bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of Bids.

The address referred above is:
 Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT)
 Attn.: H.E. HENG Rathpiseth
 Director General for Public Works,
 Project Director of NR48
 Corner Norodom Blvd. & Street 106,
 Phnom Penh, CAMBODIA
 Tel: (855) 15 888 168 or (855) 12 711 113
 Fax: (855) 23 427 829,
 Email: Attn: rathpiseth_heng@yahoo.com,
 cc:tanthira2013@gmail.com



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SAVOURY, BUT WITH A STENCH: BUN DAU LANDS IN THE CAPITAL

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Kingdom, China rebut basis for US sanctions

Niem Chheng

THE Council for the Development of Cambodia, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and Tianjin Union Investment Development Group Co Ltd (Tianjin) have responded to US sanctions on Union Development Group Co Ltd (UDG), a

Chinese-owned company currently developing the sprawling \$3.8 billion Dara Sakor Seashore Resort in Koh Kong province.

The response came after the US Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control on September 15 officially sanctioned UDG for seizing and demolishing locals' land for the project among other allegations.

US Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin alleged that after falsely registering as a Cambodian-owned entity to receive land for the Dara Sakor development project, UDG reverted to its true ownership and continued to operate without repercussions. He alleged that UDG is a Chinese State-owned en-

tity acting on behalf of a Chinese government official that was granted a 99-year lease by the government for 36,000ha in the southwestern province in 2008. The Council for the Development of Cambodia, which is in charge of promoting foreign and domestic investments, on

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US envoy concludes low-profile Taiwan visit

FOR a second day, Taiwan's air force scrambled jets after several Chinese fighters and bombers crossed the sensitive midline of the Taiwan Strait, as a top US diplomat wrapped up a whirlwind visit to the island that included a dinner with President Tsai Ing-wen.

US Undersecretary for Economic Affairs Keith Krach left Taiwan on Saturday after attending a memorial service for the late former president Lee Teng-hui.

The funeral service was held at a chapel in a Christian university in New Taipei City, and those in attendance included President Tsai and former Vice-President Lien Chan.

Krach kept a low profile at the memorial, in line with the nature of his visit to Taiwan, which had been under wraps until the last minute.

Despite the trip being relatively low key compared to last month's visit by US Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar, Krach's presence still prompted Beijing to first send 18 military jets into the Taiwan Strait on Friday, and 19 jets on Saturday.

Beijing also announced a military exercise near the Taiwan Strait.

On Thursday, the Chinese foreign ministry lambasted Krach's visit, accusing the US of severely violating the one-China principle and undermining Sino-US ties. It also vowed to retaliate.

Its spokesman Wang Wenbin on Friday called the military exercise a "justifiable and necessary action taken in response to the current situation across the Taiwan Strait and to safeguard China's sovereignty and territorial integrity". A National Defence Ministry spokesman made similar remarks.

In a strident editorial on Saturday, the Chinese State-backed tabloid *Global Times* said the latest exercise and previous drills have given the People's Liberation Army enough experience to attack Taiwan, calling them "rehearsals on taking over Taiwan".

What is missing now is a political reason for China to begin a real war to "smash

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Under the weather

Six people died in Preah Sihanouk and Koh Kong provinces and almost 500 sought safety when rain flooded their houses on September 18 and 19. PREAH SIHANOUK PROVINCIAL HALL

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Anti-money laundering work lauded

Niem Chheng

AT A virtual meeting last week, the International Co-operation Review Group (ICRG-JG) of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) noted Cambodia's efforts in implementing action plans against money laundering, which included the promulgation of an anti-money laundering law.

The virtual meeting included ICRG-JG and Cambodian

authorities, who reviewed the progress of action plans regarding anti-money laundering, anti-terrorism financing, and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, said a National Bank of Cambodia (NBC) press release.

The NBC said the meeting was the fourth of its kind with the ICRG-JG, which is a working group of FATF.

It was attended by 60 Cam-

bodian officials from relevant institutions and 32 international participants from India, China, Japan, Germany, the US, France, the UK, Australia, New Zealand, the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering and FATF.

An official report about Cambodia's progress on these matters is expected to be submitted for approval at a FATF summit in October.

"After meeting with the Cam-

bodian delegation, the evaluators of the ICRG-JG noted efforts that relevant Cambodian authorities had made in following action plans such as the promulgation of the anti-money laundering and terrorism financing law, mutual legal assistance in criminal affairs, and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction law," the NBC said.

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Major powers attempting to bully Cambodia, PM says

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