



Preface

For over 78 years, Thailand has been a democratic constitutional monarchy. All this time, the Parliament has served principally as the Legislative Branch in the Government of the Kingdom, designated by the Constitution as an elected body of representatives of the Thai population. Its tasks include the enactment and passing of laws, control of the administration of State affairs, and giving approval for important affairs of the country. The Parliament Building, considered a symbol of the democratic governance, plays a vital role as the venue for conducting assembly business and performance of duties by parliamentarians and administrative units under the National Assembly toward the fulfillment of their respective roles and tasks.

The constantly-expanding roles and tasks of the National Assembly under the Constitution in the course of time have put constraint on the space requirement for effective task performance, this despite the relocation of the Legislature and its administrative unit from the Ananta Samakhom Throne Hall to the present Parliament Building site in 1974, as well as the relocation of some units of bureaucratic personnel and staff to external rental premises to ease overcrowding. Still the problem persists, the situation therefore calls for the construction of an entirely new Parliament building in response to the Legislature's ever expanding roles and powers as the nation's law-giving and checking body.

The search for a suitable location began in 1992 and ended with National Assembly participating in a signing ceremony for a memorandum of understanding for the New Parliament Building Construction Project on August 15, 2008. The building is slated for construction on state property covering an area of 119 rai, located on Thahaan Road (Kiak Kai), Dusit District, Bangkok. All parties concerned gave their consent to the agreement.

In due time, the National Assembly issued an invitation to the community of Thai architects to tender the New Parliament Building Design Competition, which resulted in a total of 131 designs submitted. The competition vied with each other in presenting creative design

ideas rooted in the Thai identity while displaying grace and harmony with the physical environment of the site. The National Assembly takes great pride in collecting those designs for publication in this book, *New Parliament*. The submitted design contesting for the honour so that this memorable chapter shall pass into the annals of Thai history.

Commission on New Parliament Building Construction Proceeding hopes that the construction of the New Parliament Building shall proceed to completion as planned. Moreover, the anticipated New Parliament Building shall stand as a monument of glory and perfection whose image shall be a source of pride for all Thais as the enduring focus of democratic aspirations and great glory for the nation and its people.

Commission on New Parliament Building Construction Proceeding



Ananta Samakhom Throne Hall

Message from President of the National Assembly
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H.E. Mr. Chai Chidchob



Since 1932 (B.E. 2475) up to the present time, Thailand has adopted the democratic regime of government with the King as Head of State. The National Assembly is the legislative institution according to the Constitution and is the organ which directly represents the people. The National Assembly Building, as the place for the meeting and performing duties of the members of the National Assembly, is considered very important on the aspect of efficiency supporting the works of the House of Representatives and the Senate as well other organizations under the National Assembly.

The expansion of the current tasks of the House of Representatives, the Senate and various Committees has made an inadequacy for the working area of the present National Assembly Building, bringing about the inconvenience in overall working and inefficiency. The National Assembly has realized the necessity of the construction of New National Assembly Building in order to support such tasks by searching for an appropriate place since 1992. Such efforts came to conclusion as the National Assembly signed an agreement on the New Parliament Building Construction Project on August 15, 2008. A plot of 119-rai state property at Kiak Kai area, Dusit District, Bangkok, along the Chao Phraya River has been chosen as agreed by every sector.

In order to have a new and exquisite model of the National Assembly Building with Thai identity architecture and suitable scenery of the area, the Thai architects were invited to participate in contesting the model of New National Assembly Building. Many persons sent 131 models for the contest, each of which contained creative, remarkable and diverse ideas. Though the contest had already been decided, the model of So Ngo Bo 1051 belonging to Mr. Theeraphon Niyom and his party was chosen to be the winning one. All models submitted for the contest were valuable and meaningful, so the National Assembly entrusted to the Association of Siamese Architects under Royal Patronage to collect them in memorial book on the construction of the New National Assembly Building that will be an important historic document in the future.

I am very pleased with the Committees and every Sub-committee, including government officials and those who involved in constructing the New National Assembly Building and who exerted their physical and spirited efforts for this work until this project achieves tangibly and will go forward to the process of foundation stone laying ceremony of New National Assembly Building. In this occasion, I wish all of you most happiness and success in your work, having harmony and solidarity in support of constructing the New National Assembly Building until it is completely accomplished. Your efforts dedicated to this project will be forever the highest benefit for the nation and the people.

Chai Chidchob

*President of the National Assembly
Speaker of the House of
Representatives*

Message from President of the Senate

H.E. Mr. Prasobsook Boondech



The National Assembly Building is considered to be a time-honoured place as the symbol of parliamentary democracy system. It is also used as the place for performing the state opening ceremony of the first general ordinary session and holding the sittings of members of the House of Representatives and members of the Senate. Besides, the National Assembly Building is used as the location of the Parliamentary Museum as well as the reception site for distinguished guests of the National Assembly. The process of finding the area for constructing the New National Assembly Building has been carried on since 1992. Now such project has already come to the conclusion. The agreement on the New Parliament Building Construction Project has been signed on August 15, 2008. It took over 16 years to start the construction of the New National Assembly Building.

Up to the present time, the procedure for constructing the New National Assembly Building has made progress, bringing about satisfaction and pride to the Thai people who are the owners of this great and glorious National Assembly. The National Assembly Building is the place of esteem for the members of the House of Representatives and members of the Senate. It is also an immensely prominent place with Thai identities accommodating the graceful scenery of the land. Moreover, it should be noted here that the National Assembly is deemed to be the pillar of the nation in terms of ethics and democratic regime of government with the King as Head of State.

In this distinct occasion, I would like to convey my compliments to the committees, sub-committees, government officials and those involved in the construction of the New National Assembly Building who have unflinchingly dedicated their physical and spirited efforts for this project until today, the day of foundation stone laying ceremony. I would like to take this opportunity to propose the power of the Triple Gems, the virtue of all religions founders, and the benevolence of Their Majesties the King and the Queen to protect and bless all of you to be happy, prosperous, unaffected from all kinds of diseases and calamities, fulfilled with what is desired, have good physical and mental health and to pay an important role in performing duties for the benefit of the whole society and the nation.

Prasobsook Boondech

President of the Senate

Message from First Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives
H.E. Mr. Samart Kaewmeechai



The National Assembly is very important in the democratic regime in terms of being the symbol and centre of sovereign power of the people according to the provision of the Constitution.

Since 1932, Thailand has adopted the democratic regime of government with the King as Head of State. At the beginning, the Thai National Assembly was royally granted to use the Ananta Samakhom Throne Hall to be the meeting place until the year 1974 that the National Assembly Building was established on a Royal site near the Ananta Samakhom Throne Hall. At present, the building and complex are very small and narrow, unable to accommodate the expansion on various aspects. Thus, the construction of the New National Assembly Building is needed.

For this foundation stone laying in constructing the New National Assembly Building deemed that it is the history of politics and democratic regime of the Kingdom of Thailand that will be recorded since it will bring the pride to the Thai people and also to our posterity.

Samart Kaewmechai

First Deputy Speaker

of the House of Representatives

Message from Second Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives
Hon. Colonel Apiwan Wiriyachai



Nowadays, the National Assembly Building has been used for more than 35 years. The area of the building is not enough to fully support the performance of duties of members of the National Assembly. H.E. Mr. Samak Sundaravej, former Prime Minister and H.E. Mr. Chai Chidchob, President of the National Assembly, including all parliamentarians initiated the project on the construction of the New National Assembly Building and selected a plot of 199-rai state property at Kiak Kai as the area for constructing the New National Assembly Building. Now only one model has been already selected as the final one. It goes forward to have a team that is the winner of the model contest of the National Assembly Building from 131 models.

The New National Assembly Building will be a modern and perfect one with Thai identity. It can fully support the performance of duties of parliamentarians and also provide services to the elderly and the handicapped very well. It will be worth being one of the sovereignty and “the National Assembly of the People”.

I would like to thank everyone who involves in this historic project which results in completely fulfilling the New Parliament Building Construction Project.

Colonel Apiwan Wiriyachai
*Second Deputy Speaker
of the House of Representatives*

Message from First Vice-President of the Senate
Hon. Mr. Nikom Wairatpanij



In the year 2000, I was posted as Director General at the Department of City Planning, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration. I was assigned by Hon. Mr. Samak Sundaravej, the then-governor of Bangkok to study the appropriate places for constructing the New National Assembly Building. The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration agreed with the study of Chulalongkorn University that the land at the Kiak Kai is the most suitable area for constructing the New National Assembly Building. However, the proposal of Bangkok Metropolitan Administration in choosing this area was not considered because of political reasons and the policies of the President of the National Assembly in each term. Therefore, another area was chosen as a proper area instead. Until 2004, when H.E. Mr. Chai Chidchob was the President of the National Assembly and H.E. Mr. Samak Sundaravej was the Prime Minister, the land at Kiak Kai on the Chao Phraya River bank was chosen to be an area for constructing the New National Assembly Building and the memorandum of agreement has been signed by eight organizations. That makes my dream starts to form a shape and being in accordance with the will of H.E. Mr. Samak Sundaravej, the former Prime Minister.

When I was assigned by the President of the National Assembly as a Chairman of the commission and many commissioners concerning the constructing of the New National Assembly Building. I feel a great honor and very proud of being a person who has a chance to perform an important mission in national level this time. Besides, I feel that I continue to make my dream come true. So, I am very willing to dedicate my full knowledge and abilities as existing in order to accomplish the National Assembly Building under its framework and planning that have been set.

I am confident that every person involved in constructing the New National Assembly Building will have the same aim which is not only constructing of the New National Assembly Building as a workplace for legislative sector but also making history of Thailand. Thus, the spirited and physical efforts, wisdom and devoting time from all relevant parts will lead to the achievement of constructing the New National Assembly Building which will be the noble National Assembly Building for Thai people from now on.

Nikom Wairatpanij

First Vice-President of the Senate

Message from Second Vice-President of the Senate

Hon. Associate Professor Dr. Tassana Boontong



The democratic regime of government with the King as Head of State under the Constitution which is the supreme law has been introduced into Thailand since 1932. Following the first Constitution, the parliamentary system is determined as the State administrative governance model by every Constitution. Thus, the National Assembly, as the representative body of the Thai people, performs its duties in enacting laws, controlling the administration of State affairs, and giving approval to various important State issues. The National Assembly consequently is the symbol of the democratic regime of government. As the center of parliamentary affairs, the National Assembly Building is important for efficiently supporting every aspect of parliamentary functions.

At present, the National Assembly Building can accommodate only very limited space, thus resulting in very crowded working environment which is inconvenient for the National Assembly to perform all its functions competently. The National Assembly has realized that the new building needs to be constructed, so the location search has been started since 1992. It should be noted here pleasingly that such effort has been achieved when the National Assembly organized the ceremony to sign the memorandum of agreement for the New Parliament Building Construction Project on August 15, 2008 according to mutual agreements of all sectors.

The project has been carried on by the National Assembly until the final design of the New National Assembly Building has been approved to serve all of the parliamentary functions and reflect the elegance of Thai-identity architecture. The final design has been selected from many creative and outstanding designs as presented in the memorable book of the New National Assembly Building.

I would like to express my appreciation to the committees, sub-committees, government officials from many organizations and all parties concerned with the construction of the New National Assembly Building for devoting their efforts and spirits to accomplish this construction project in a concrete manner with mutual beliefs that the New National Assembly Building will symbolize the political regime of the country.

On the auspicious occasion of the foundation stone laying ceremony of the New National Assembly Building, may I propose the power of the Triple Gems, the virtue of all religious founders and the benevolence of Their Majesties the King and the Queen to project and bless all of you to be happy, prosperous, successful and filled with physical energy and enthusiasm to perform duties for the benefit of the whole society and the country.

Associate Professor Dr. Tassana Boontong
Second Vice-President of the Senate

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Background of the New Parliament Building Construction Project

The present Parliament Building is situated in the north of the Ananta Samakhom Throne Hall, which is a part of the Royal Dusit Palace Precinct. It has served as the place of work for members of the Parliament and the Secretariat of the National Assembly since 1974. The Parliament's location has further been expanded, with more buildings added in 1992. And yet, due to the enormous expansion of the tasks and workload of the House of Representatives and the Senate, including the additional parliamentary committees, Parliament sorely needed additional workspace to cope with its members' work and responsibilities and as the meeting rooms of various parliamentary committees.

The situation is further complicated by the parallel expansion of the workload of the bureaucratic units under the National Assembly, composed of two independent offices – the Secretariat of the House of Representatives and the Secretariat of the Senate. With the number of staff officers increasing in response to the work demand of members of the National Assembly, the workspace of the offices has presently been cramped severely, including shortage of parking space and limited accessibility of the site. These limitations to some extent hamper the operations and performance of the National Assembly.

The National Assembly introduced measures to solve some of the problems by outsourcing outside locations for use as offices. These rental locations include, for example, former Royal Thai Mint Building, Tipco Tower, former Thai Military Bank Headquarters Building, Dee-Prom Building, and Sukprapruet Building. The parliamentary officers therefore are necessary to work and operate in physically-separate locations, which somewhat stifles the management and the work efficiency of members of Parliament.

The above space problem has therefore been an impetus behind attempts to find a new location of the New Parliament Building, started in 1992 during the presidency of H.E. Mr. Marut Bunnag, Speaker of the House of Representatives and President of the National Assembly.

In 2008 during the presidency of H.E. Mr. Chai Chidchob, a meeting was called to discuss the search for a new location of the Parliament Building. The meeting was attended by then-

Prime Minister H.E. Mr. Samak Sundaravej, President of the National Assembly H.E. Mr. Chai



The National Assembly Meeting in the past

Chidchob, President of the Senate H.E. Mr. Prasobsook Boondech, Second Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives Hon. Col. Apiwan Wiriyachai, First Vice-President of the Senate Hon. Mr. Nikom Wairatpanij, Second Vice-President of the Senate Hon. Ms. Tassana Boontong, then-Opposition Leader Hon. Mr. Abhisit Vejjajiva, and related agencies.

During the meeting, consideration was given to the pros and cons of proposed sites together with a research result conducted by Faculty of Architecture, Chulalongkorn University. It was decided that the state property on Thahaan Road (Kiak Kai) has the suitability for constructing the New Parliament Building. It is a part of the city core with historical progression tied to the founding of the city by King Phra Buddha Yodfa Chulalok the Great in 1782 and the city expansion by King Chulalongkorn with the construction of Ratchadamnoen Avenue that ends at the Royal Plaza, where the Equestrian Statue of King Chulalongkorn is situated, and connecting to the Ananta Samakhom Throne Hall, venue of the first National Assembly Meeting.

The meeting reached a consensus that the state property on Thahaan Road (Kiak Kai), Dusit District is an ideal spot for constructing the New Parliament Building. In due time, the Commission on New Parliament Building Construction Proceeding was appointed.

On August 5, 2008 *the Commission on New Parliament Building Construction Proceeding*, chaired by President H.E. Mr. Chai Chidchob, reached a decision that the state property on Thahaan Road (Kiak Kai) on the bank of the Chao Phraya River with an area of 119 rai shall be the site for the construction of the New Parliament Building.

On August 15, 2008 the National Assembly held a signing ceremony for the MOU for the Construction of the New Parliament Building on the Thahaan Road (Kiak Kai) state property on the bank of the Chao Phraya River, with an area of 119 rai between the National Assembly and the following parties – Office of the Permanent Secretary for Defence, Royal Thai Army, Royal Aide-de-Camp Department, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, Office of the Basic Education Commission, Forest Industry Organization, and the Treasury Department, all of which are agencies with official ties to the plot. Also bearing witness to the ceremony were the Prime Minister, President of the National Assembly, President of the Senate, Deputy Speakers of the House of Representatives, and Vice-Presidents of the Senate.

Thereupon, the Parliament Order was issued to appoint the following two commissions:

1. **Commission on Negotiation on Land Cost for (Partial) New Parliament Building Construction and Compensation for People Having Effect from the Construction** chaired by First Vice-President of the Senate (Hon. Mr. Nikom Wairatpanij). Its task is to enter into negotiation to buy part of the land for construction and to pay compensation to government agencies affected by the slated construction.

2. **Commission on Public Relations on New Parliament Building Construction Project** chaired by Second Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives (Hon. Col. Apiwan Wiriyaichai). Its task is to publicize subsidiary projects conceived and executed under the New Parliament Building Construction Project, to arrange public hearing for the New Parliament Building Construction Project, and to prepare a summary report on any problems and impacts arising from the project.

The public hearing project aims at assessing the perceptions and opinions of the groups that are affected by the relocation of the Parliament to the new site at Kiak Kai. A **Sub-Commission on Public Hearing and Public Relations on New Parliament Building Construction Project** was tasked with working out the project's public hearing plan, targeted at three groups of the affected. There were altogether 4 sessions of public hearing held between December 2008 and June 2009.

The Holding of Public Hearing Sessions for the New Parliament Building Construction Project

Public hearing on the New Parliament Building Construction Project's impacts on groups was held on 4 occasions:

First Public Hearing, Friday, December 12, 2008 for Trakuldit community;

Second Public Hearing, Sunday, March 29, 2009 for Yothinburana School Group and the Textile Organization housing community;

Third Public Hearing, Monday, April 27, 2009 for the Textile Organization housing community;

Fourth Public Hearing, Saturday, June 6, 2009 for the Textile Organization housing community



Community: Results of Public Hearing

1. **Trakuldit Community:** This community located on the designated land and is directly affected by the New Parliament Building Construction Project. There is a population of 40 families living on private land (owned by Mr. Suchit Lamsam). There had been an eviction action in the court of law.

The public hearing, held on Friday, December 12, 2008, was attended by the experts giving information on the New Parliament Building Construction Project. In response to a questionnaire survey, 97.50 percent of the responses representing the majority of the Trakuldit community were in approval of the project.

Compensation: According to the MOU for the New Parliament Building Construction Project between the National Assembly and the parties, namely Office of the Permanent Secretary for Defence, Royal Thai Army, Royal Aide-de-Camp Department, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, Office of the Basic Education Commission, Forest Industry Organization and the Treasury Department, the National Assembly shall take responsibility for building accommodation for the affected. In this matter, it sought help from the Department of Public Works and Urban Planning for designing two-storey townhouses to be built on state property inside the Repair and Maintenance Section, Barge Company (next to Kaewfa Chulamanee temple) over an area of 4 rai.

2. **Yothinburana School:** This roadside school is directly affected by the project. It has an area of 8 rai, 164 teachers, and 3,630 students.

The public hearing was held on Sunday, March 29, 2009. The attendants included parents, teachers, students and staff of Yothinburana School. The majority gave their consent for the project, accounting for 70.00 percent.

Compensation: The National Assembly will cover the cost of demolition and construction of school buildings and other accessory buildings. The cost of construction materials, durables and utilities for the school amounts to 1 billion Baht. The new site is by Soi Thong temple, not very far from the old one, over an area of 16 rai. Land and water traffic accessibility to the school will also be improved. The PTT gas station will also be moved out compensated by

the National Assembly of 20 million Baht. Office of the Basic Education Commission has asked Chulalongkorn University for help with designing the new Yothinburana School buildings.

3. **The Textile Organization Community:** This community is directly affected by the New Parliament Building Construction Project. It has a population of 93 families.

The public hearing was held on 3 occasions:

First public hearing, March 29, 2009

Second public hearing, April 27, 2009

Third public hearing, June 6, 2009

The majority of the community gave approval for the project.

Compensation: The National Assembly sought help from the Department of Public Works and Urban Planning with the designing of two-storey townhouses, to be built on the land belonging to the Repair and Maintenance Section, Barge Company (next to Kaewfa Chulamane temple). Each family is assigned 12 square wah. The Treasury Department has been requested to grant dwellers the ownership right to the building. The majority of the community expressed satisfaction with the National Assembly's arrangement.



The New Parliament Building Design Competition

Operation Report by Commission on TOR Framework Setting

Reference is made to the Parliament Order 17/2551 dated July 31, B.E. 2551, the *Commission on TOR Framework Setting* was appointed. The Commission is composed of 15 members, chaired by Second Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives (Hon. Col. Apiwan Wiriyachai) and has the power and duty to lay down the TOR for bidding proposals for the New Parliament Building Design Competition, environmental impact assessment study and hiring of consultants for environmental impact assessment study.

The Commission on TOR Framework Setting has held a total of 11 meetings to discuss drafting of the bidding conditions for the New Parliament Building Design Competition, to consider workspace needs of the House of Representatives, the Senate, the Secretariat of the House of Representatives and the Secretariat of the Senate, as well as considering the internal relations obtaining between the two offices. The commission reached the following decisions:

1. Approved the TOR draft for bidding for the New Parliament Building, Phase 1 and Phase 2.
2. According to the meeting on Thursday, April 23, 2009, it deliberated on the workspace requirement revision and suggestions proposed by Department of Public Works and Urban Planning, resulting in the total workspace allocation of 307,314 square meters.

Deliberated on the timeframe for the completion of bidding for the New Parliament Building Design Competition, resulting in duration of 1,350 days.

The meeting agreed to set the date for extending a bid invitation, beginning on Thursday, June 4, 2009, extending over 81 days for Phase 1, and 99 days for Phase 2. It also ordered the preparation of a list of documents and specifications for submitting bids for the New Parliament Building, and the printing of a copy giving detailed requirements for submitting bids for the New Parliament Building. The secretary to the Commission has accordingly carried out the order.

Summary Report on the Operation of the Commission on New Parliament Building and Component Buildings Design Competition Judgment

Reference is made to the Parliament Order 32/2552 dated August 17, 2009. The *Commission on New Parliament Building and Component Buildings Design Competition Judgment* was appointed. The commission is composed of 14 members, chaired by President of the Senate H.E. Mr. Prasobsook Boondech and with Mr. Pitoon Pumhiran as its secretary.

The Secretariat of the House of Representatives set the date for picking up bidding documents between Thursday, June 4 – Sunday, June 28, 2009. The bid tendering date for Phase 1 was Friday, August 14, 2009 at the bid tendering room on the third floor of the Parliament Building, U-Thong Nai Road, Dusit District, Bangkok. There were a total of 99 companies and individuals tendering 133 bids, out of which the commission disqualified two bidders/bids, one for lack of architects' association membership, the other for having his architect license expired. There were therefore 131 bids left. The judging criteria for Phase 1 are as follows:

Concepts on master plan, site plan and landscape	10 points
Response to needs, uses and budget, as well as environmental layout conducive to greater accessibility for everybody including the disabled and senior citizens	30 points
Architectural and interior decoration concepts showing ideal identity	50 points
Energy conservation and environmental protection	10 points
Total	100 points

The commission went through three rounds of consideration and selection as follows:

Round 1: 69 selections out of 131 bids

Round 2: 35 selections out of 69 bids

Round 3: 10 selections out of 35 bids

The Commission on New Parliament Building and Component Buildings Design Competition Judgment met on Friday, August 21, 2009 for an intense consultation to whittle down bidders to the five shortlists. After the exchange of opinions, the commission selected the final five bidders to complete the Phase 1 process, basing its decision on careful weighing on the prescribed criteria as follows:

No. 010 So So Ro 7101	Mr. Tamsak Anusinha
No. 030 Ro Tho So 9898	Design 103 International Limited
No. 043 O So Ko 4903	Architect 49 Limited
No. 047 So Ngo Bo 1051	1. Mr. Theeraphon Niyom 2. Mr. Anek Charoenpiriyaves

No. 063 So Ro Ro 7959

3. Mr. Chatree Ladalalitsakul
4. Mr. Piyamate Krairiksh
1. Asst. Prof. Viched Suvisit
2. Mr. Krittanoo Petchvarapa



The five winning selections were required to further submit their plans for Phase 2, and upon receiving the approval of the judging panel received a premium incentive of 1,000,000 Baht, each for use in developing their concepts, exploration of sustainable solutions to problems, and recommendations given during Phase 1, the total of which should be incorporated into their bids for Phase 2. According to an announcement by the Secretariat of the House of Representatives dated June 4, 2009, the date was set for submitting bids for Phase 2 on Tuesday, November 24, 2009. The Phase 2 bidders were required to clarify their plans on Friday, November 27, 2009. The winner would be announced on Wednesday, December 2, 2009. The criteria and score table used in consideration of the Phase 2 bids were set by the judging panel as follows:

Concepts on master plan, site plan and landscape	10 points
Response to needs, uses and budget, as well as environmental layout conducive to greater accessibility for everybody including the disabled and senior citizens	25 points
Architectural and interior decoration concepts showing ideal identity	40 points
Energy conservation and environmental protection	15 points
Profile and works (projects) of bidding team	10 points
Total	100 points

After listening to the presentation by the final five bidders and discussing the merits and demerits of the bids, the judging panel decided that the winner of the Phase 2 is

No. 047 So Ngo Bo 1051 of the team composed of

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Theeraphon Niyom | 2. Mr. Anek Charoenpiriyaves |
| 3. Mr. Chatree Ladalalitsakul | 4. Mr. Piyamate Krairiksh |
| 5. Plan Associates Co., Ltd. by Mr. Boonrit Kordilokrat | |

The judging panel, after conferring with President of the National Assembly H.E. Mr. Chai Chidchob on Wednesday, November 2, 2009, announced their decision in a press conference to publicize the contest outcome and the transparency and fairness of the entire procedure.

To this end, the judging panel issued an announcement on *the bidding outcome of the New Parliament Building Design Competition, Phase 2* dated December 2, 2009, formally reaffirmed by an announcement of the Secretariat of the House of Representatives on *the outcome of the New Parliament Building Design Competition, Phase 2*, dated December 2, 2009.

Design Criteria

Basic Breakdown of the Project Site

The entire workspace and utility area in the New Parliament Building Construction Project, including component buildings cover an area of 307,314 square meters, divided into 4 sections:

Section 1: House of Representatives

Working area of Members of the House of Representatives

Working area of the Secretariat of the House of Representatives

Section 2: Senate

Working area of Members of the Senate

Working area of the Secretariat of the Senate

Section 3: Share Parliament Area (the House of Representatives and the Senate)

Conference rooms to be used by the House of Representatives and the Senate

Conference rooms to be used by the House of Representatives and the Senate Committees

Office space for members of the House of Representatives and members of the Senate

Seminar rooms

Parliamentary clubs

Restaurants

Library, museums and archive

External service area

The National Assembly Radio and Television Station

Parliament press

Parking building

Building and site maintenance

Security

Engine room

Section 4: Outlying Construction

Outlying support buildings

Landscape architecture and external infrastructure



Award Winning Design

1. “Only the Awareness of the Valued Goal Can Highly Benefit the Country.”

Our team, So Ngo Bo 1051 decided to join the New Parliament Building Design Competition with an awareness of repaying the Nation. As the status of the Parliament House is crucial, the design must be valuable. It will be a key factor that supports the country’s civilization development.



We fully devoted our strength and wisdom to find *the most valued goal* while creating the work, so we asked ourselves these following important questions:

1. **How can** the architecture of the New Parliament Building not only meet the utility and technology required but also act as the center of minds that help recover lost spirits of people of the Nation? – the factor that can lead Thai society through the most severe spiritual crisis, *the moral crisis*.

2. **How can** the architecture of the New Parliament Building reflect *Thai Identity* through both its design and content? Either Thais or foreigners; elites, well-educated or commoners who see it should be able to understand it without any effort to interpret the meaning. The architecture must be a valuable meaning landmark of the country, another important world destination.

3. **How can** the architecture of the New Parliament Building *create unity between the government and its people?*

4. **How can** the architecture of the New Parliament Building be a call for actions in order to gain *new learning skills* for the Thai society? The establishment of the New Parliament Building must be a widely-known national issue, a value-creating process and also raises awareness of team building of the whole nation.

We believe that the New Parliament Buildings which are able to answer the 4 questions above would be the most valuable architecture, the most beneficial, the *spirit of the nation*. If so, the New Parliament Buildings will also place a flag of *Thai architecture* and elegantly

earn a space on the world stage. In summary, our mission was to conduct researchers and studies to find the most precious knowledge of the nation that could answer the 4 questions.

Finally, we found the most precious knowledge of the nation: the Tri-Bhumi Buddhist Cosmology.

The Thai architecture rooted from the *Tri-Bhumi Buddhist Cosmology* which is partially composed of a *sacred realm – Sappayasathan*, a place that lead the nation to the situation of subduing catastrophe, opening up the new glory and reviving citizens' mind and spirit. This is the same thing our ancient kings and ancestors had done long time ago in order to establish a peaceful country. This is the most precious knowledge that can be applied to the 4 questions marvelously.

With your minds, we would like to ask you to examine our answers through the content as well as to experience our work of architecture and our precious knowledge.

We believe that if our design works, you will consequently realize that you are the key people who, as the leaders of the nation are now operating the sacred mission handed over from the past by our ancient kings and ancestors, to achieve the goal of a strong and peaceful country.

It is an essential opportunity to be part of one of *the most charitable missions* for our country, people and cultural elevation of our beloved nation.

2. Spirit Gathering for “the National Issues”

When we, So Ngo Bo 1051, tried to set up a team for the design competition in the final step, we had a clear criteria of who would be invited to join our journey to create the *sacred mission* as follows:

1. Our teammates must *understand the value and goal* as we had done in the first phase of the competition.
2. Our teammates must *have faith in the highest benefit expected to happen in our country* when this architecture emerges on the Kingdom of Thailand.
3. Our teammates must *have skills and expertise in any fields required with nationally-acknowledged works*. Also, he/she must be willing to undertake this job himself/herself from the beginning until the work is perfectly completed.

Fortunately, we have found true friends; engineers, interior designers and all experts we needed.

During the period of 3 months, we, a big team which consists of 5 friends, each one has his own office, wholeheartedly committed ourselves and our wisdom to this work with happiness. This is a piece of work that reflects the important knowledge which you can see with your own eyes in the submitted papers.

Working happily with faith and with no concern about self's benefit, can really come true with pure hearts. So we are confident that when we are entrusted to create this piece of work in the final step, we are proud to say this is truly the spirit gathering for the *national issue*.

With all respects,
Theeraphon Niyom
On behalf of So Ngo Bo 1051



There are several important places in the New Parliament Building compound:

1. Cultural Welcome Plaza

2. The Monument of King Rama VII

3. VIP Drop-off Point

4. Pavilion of Royal Ceremonies of State Ceremonies

For guests, diplomats, high-ranking civil servants who participate in the ceremonies

5. People Democracy Park

6. State Chamber/Grand Hall

This hall is a symbolic representation of Mount *Sumeru*, the earth axis, rooted from the *Tri-Bhumi Buddhist Cosmology*. It is also the place for Oath Taking Ceremony for Members of the Parliament.

7. Royal Vehicle Pick-up/Drop-off Point

8. *Dong Makok Nam* (Makok Nam Field)

Makok Nam (Elaeocarpus Hygrophilus Kurz) is a kind of tree, believed that its name referred to an origin of the name Bang-kok.

9. Senate Meeting Chamber

10. Chao Phraya Waterfront Area

An entertaining area for royal or state guests' visits as well as a view point. On special occasions, guests can also watch the Royal Barge Procession from this point. People are also allowed to float their *Krathong* on Loi Krathong Day.

11. Pier I

12. Chao Phraya Express Boat Pier

13. Press Area

14. Parliament North Gate II

15. Open Space for Democracy

A meeting point of public, politicians and press

16. Press Conference Area

A point where interviews will be taken or where a representative can file a complaint, etc.

17. Parliament North Gate I

18. Public Area

Where people can wait to see Senators, Members of the House of Representatives and the government. Restaurants and toilets are provided.

19. Metro Station

20. Underground Toilets

21. Parliament South Gate

22. Small Power Plant

23. Plant Nursery and Garbage Room

The garbage room is underground. It is a part of the plant nursery.

24. House of Representatives Meeting Chamber

25. Gas Station

26. Pier II

27. Weeping Fig

Auspicious plant of Bangkok giving the ambience of the legendary Himmaphan Forest

28. *Kam-Phaeng-Kaeo* (wall) Surrounding the Grand Hall and National Museum

A learning source of the Nation

Vision and Goal Setting

There are 9 supreme goals in the New Parliament Building Design Competition, emphasizing on 5 ideals and 4 issues of life quality and efficiency.

5 Ideals

1. Nation
2. Morality
3. Wisdom
4. Institution of Monarchy
5. People

4 Issues of Life Quality and Efficiency

1. Facility
2. Eco-Friendly and Energy-Saving Buildings
3. Internationally Accepted and Appropriated Design
4. Security System and Fire Safety



VIP Room

State Chamber/Grand Hall



Connecting Hallway

Restaurants for Representatives

Ideals

Ideal 1: Nation

Parliament building must be elegant and can express identity of Thailand distinctly; similarly to other parliaments all over the world.

The emerging architecture must sound “Yes, this is Thai” to all Thai people.

The core & the heart must sound “Yes, these are Thai”.

This is about now we carry on our arts, culture, beliefs and knowledge. It is a modern architecture originated from our root that we wish to make it as one of the nation issues and make the New Parliament Building a center of our spirits. *It is the architecture that shouts our nationhood, artistry and beauty out to the world.*

Ideal 2: Morality

People in our country do not only have different opinions but also face moral problems and decay. In people’s mind, the house of parliament stands for hope and the other worst end of it. So we expect to bridge all people’s feeling together and that the New Parliament Building would be *Sappayasathan* of the nation, be the realms of wisdom, be *the center of all spirits of the nation in terms of morality, sacredness of parliament, being the moral pillar of the country and a just government.*

Ideal 3: Wisdom

The New Parliament Building will act as an important learning source of the nation in order to express identity of Thailand to global societies. At the same time, it must guide people to the balance between outside and inside knowledge so that their mind will be elevated.

Ideal 4: Institution of Monarchy

One thing that matters in our country, making us different from people of other nation in the world is that we have the institution of Monarchy. We have the King who vowed to follow the 10 virtues of the King.

The New Parliament Building must provide appropriate special space for state ceremony that the King will proceed to open the National Assembly Session. The area at the center of the building, the heart, is an important character reflecting our identity of the country.

Ideal 5: People

The Parliament Building is a symbol of democracy. Therefore, all ideas on every architectural design from people of any levels do count. People are definitely able to benefit from the building and will all have dignity under its root.

Issues of Life Quality and Efficiency

1. Facility

The architecture is built with an idea that Members of the House of Representatives and Members of the Senate are equal. So, facilities will be located in central area connecting the 2 parts together and surrounded by supportive compounds.

2. Eco-Friendly and Energy-Saving Buildings

The complex is carefully designed and shaped by experts within related fields. It is aimed to be a gigantic complex that represents a significant symbol of the country.

3. Internationally Accepted and Appropriated Design

The Building is also designed for disabled, children and elderly people to be able to access.

4. Security System and Fire Safety

The model was designed to provide absolute safety from any circumstances and other damage. The planning system and all other systems are based on high technology following the protocol standards of the United States under supervision of professional and experienced experts.




Center Hall



Suriyan Meeting Chamber
House of Representatives

Suriyan or Surya, Sanskrit for the Sun God, is the source of all life and myriad things on Earth. Just like the Sun giving light and warmth to preserve life and sustain mankind through eons of time, National Assembly has the sacred task to perform in order to bring well-being

and peace to the people and nation. It is a sublime reminder to all Representatives that their duty is to the people and nation only.

The  symbolic gives the room artistic self-expression, thereby having varied interpretation. The powerful path of the Sun affects all within its rays. It could also mean *svasti* (well-being) and *wisdom*, an auspicious omen beneficial to the smooth performance of duty by all Representatives.

The creation of walls and roof in the shape of a vaulted chamber gives a rarefied sensation of meeting under the vast, limitless Sky above. The celestial ambience aids vision, imagination and relaxation during meeting that demands the sustained and prolonged exercise of intellectual power.



Chantra Meeting Chamber
Senate

Chantra or the Moon God, is the twin force with Suriyan. Together they give life to all things on Earth, with nocturnal existence coming under Moon God protective influence. The moonlight bathing earthlings from time immemorial sustains mankind graciously. Likewise, the sacred duty of National Assembly is to bring peace and well-being to the people and nation, the one job all senators perform to the best of ability and selflessly.

The ☐ symbolic, just like Suriyan Meeting Chamber, signifies many things. The ☐ symbolic refers to the *cool* element *water*, the opposite of the *hot* energy of the Sun. Together they balance out opposing tendencies and create uniformity of politicking between the two chambers-House of Representatives and Senate-to bring stability, prosperity and progress to the Nation.

The walls and roof are created in the shape of circular, vaulted space.

Opinion from Commission on New Parliament Building and Component Buildings Design Competition Judgment



H.E. Adjunct Professor Prasobsook Boondech
President of the Senate

“At the outset, I wish to express my sincere congratulations to “So Ngo Bo 1051” team led by Mr. Theeraphon Niyom and his colleagues whose design entitled *Sappaya Saphasathan* has been selected as the winning model for the New Parliament Building of the Kingdom of Thailand.

“I, as the Chairperson of the *Commission on New Parliament Building and Component Buildings Design competition Judgment* for the second-half sessions and the final round, must accept that all of the contesting models passed through the selection processes are outstanding, meaningful and immensely prominent. I doubtlessly have to convey my heartfelt compliments to Thai architects on their creative excellence and the great presence of these international standard pieces of art. Based on the requirements and contest criteria which I myself and the committee have set up, it takes a lot of time to screen all of the proposed entries and find the best architectural model for the New Parliament Building, which is expected by citizens of the Thai Kingdom to be the symbol of the parliamentary democratic regime, reflect prosperous

Thai identities, and serve as a learning source for people of all walks of life. In accordance with security requirements as well as eco-friendly and energy saving concepts, the New Parliament Building will accommodate all members of the House of Representatives and the Senate to perform their duties efficiently in every aspect, and become a glamorous and time-honoured parliamentary building for the country.

“As the Chairperson of *the Commission on New Parliament Building and Component Buildings Design Competition Judgment*, I have withdrawn not to vote for the winning entry, but supervising and formulating selection rules and criteria for the best result to come with this history-making moment of the legislative branch of Thailand. Having considered all of the proposed designs, I have no doubt why the one entitled *Sappaya Saphasathan*, which in my opinions meets the contest requirements at most, has received the highest scores. I wish to take this opportunity again to extend my congratulations to the winner who perfectly created such a gracefully impressive design for the New Parliament Building. I extremely hope that this glorious National Assembly, as the pillar of the nation in terms of ethics and democratic regime, will eternally bring peacefulness and wisdom to the whole kingdom”.



Hon. Mr. Samart Kaewmechai

First Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives

“Even though I am not an architect or engineer but as a member of the House of Representatives who has had the experience in using the area of the Parliament Building for a long time and as a Thai who wants to see the New Parliament Building with the Thai identities, I am satisfied and very proud to be a part in the decision of selecting the model of the Parliament Building that will be constructed very soon.”



Hon. Mr. Nikom Wairatpanij

First Vice-President of the Senate

“This is a feeling from a person who is not an architect, Mr. Nikom Wairatpanij, First Vice-President of the Senate to be a part of history of the New Parliament Building construction:

“I never expected to have a chance to participate in the project on the National Assembly relocation to Kiak Kai junction after I had proposed this idea when I was the Director of Department of City Planning under the time of Hon. Mr. Samak Sundaravej as Bangkok Governor in 2000.

“Today, I am a part of the project and able to shape the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the New Parliament Building Design Competition. I am also one of *the Commission on New Parliament Building and Component Buildings Design Competition Judgment* judging 131 designs submitted by 99 interested Thai architects.”

“After having 5 finalist, I think I would love to see any of their models to be the New Parliament Building because they all have uniqueness and appropriate designs that will become valuable architecture of Thailand and will surely make all Thai architects proud.

“Soon we will see the New Parliament Building prominently standing on the Chao Phraya River bank. It will be a new landmark for visitors to come by and appreciate the beauty of Thai architecture.”



Hon. Colonel Apiwan Wiriyachai

Second Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives

“The New Parliament Building Design Competition created a huge interest among a number of architects. There were more than 130 entrants. All of the proposal designs were outstanding in terms of Thainess reflection and utility. Therefore, *the Commission on New Parliament Building and Component Buildings Design Competition Judgment* needed to assess them discreetly until only 5 shortlists were left. These five designs shared similar standards which were all appropriate to be our New Parliament Building. After several meetings, the judges unanimously chose the design of So Ngo Bo 1051 Team by Mr. Theeraphon Niyom as the winner. I would like to thank all the participants in this project that you all helped make the *Thai Parliament History*.”



Hon. Associate Professor Dr. Tassana Boontong

Second Vice-President of the Senate

“As a member of *the Commission on New Parliament Building and Component Buildings Design Competition Judgment*, the contesting models which have met the contest criteria and qualified for passing the selection process respectively are acceptable in their outstanding and perfectly impressive designs. I personally voted for the design entitled *Sappaya Saphasathan* by Mr. Theeraphon Niyom and his team named “So Ngo Bo 1051 Team”. Considering only the meaning of the title of its design which signifies peacefulness and wisdom, it was absolutely reasonable enough to be selected in its conformity of the current situation of the country with separation and partisanship that brings about anxiety and tension. Thus, people are calling for tranquility, serenity and wisdom for reviewing proper solutions based on consciousness and morality. Besides, there were more reasons to support my voting decision as follows;

1. This design demonstrated the Thai identity and elegance in both visual prospect and decoration which reflected and conveyed the great assimilation of the nation’s art.
2. The design with the democracy park for the public, which people could conveniently access, indicated the friendship and the feeling of unity between the state and its citizens and it also symbolized the democratic regime of the government.
3. The design met the eco-friendly requirement with the green compound and standing trees resulting in a cool and pleasant environment, relaxing for the eyes, and energy saving.
4. The design shows concern for the disabled, children and the elderly providing convenient accessibility to the building, it expressed the fairness and universality.

5. It kept the noticeable concept of a suitable security system to prevent fire and served the convenient access of the outsiders without devastation of the security system.

“According to the above reasons, I consequently decided to vote for the *Sappaya Saphasathan* design and I extremely hope that the New National Assembly Building will eternally represent the parliament of wisdom and the center of people’s mind as the foundation of national morality and good governance under the democratic regime.”



Admiral Thanit Kittiampon RTN

President of the Architect Council of Thailand

“I have been in architectural profession for more than 38 years and also have been in the positions both of president of The Association of Siamese Architects Under Royal Patronage and president of the Architect Council of Thailand. I have to accept that this time, the New Parliament Building Design Competition is successfully achieved for architectural profession because we have the design team, who are Thai-born architects. We have the architectural design, which can well express the characteristic of Thai identity in a proper manner. Moreover, in the process of competition, from the criteria to the decision-making processes, we had 131 designs attended. The procedure was honest, clear and justified, which was considered as a successful competition for architectural profession in Thailand. I would like to thank the parliament and related institutes that gave me an opportunity, on behalf of the Architect Council of Thailand, to be a part of this project in which highly plays an important role for our country.”



Hon. Mr. Virah Mavichak

President of Council of Engineer, Senator

“I am very honoured and proud as being chosen to be a part of *the Commission on New Parliament Building and Component Buildings Design Competition Judgment*. I have been constantly following the New Parliament Building Construction Project at all times. Several years passed, there were various numbers of proposal for the locations of the project in which I have been worried if the construction would be succeeded. Until one day, I attended the meeting with several institutes, which was held by the President of the National Assembly, H.E. Mr. Chai Chidchob, and former Prime Minister, H.E. Mr. Samak Sundaravej. The meeting associated with related institutes such as Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, and Bureau of the Budget. By the supportive and enthusiastic presidents on that day, the arrival of the New Parliament Building became reality.

“From that day until today, we have finally made the decision for the New Parliament Building, as well as the budget control in many departments. We also prepared the foundation stone laying ceremony. It gave me a feeling like a dream which finally comes true. As being a member of the parliament, I am delighted that this project is successful during the time I am still remember of the parliament. Moreover, I was a part of many processes of the project, started from being one of the Commission for this project which was satisfied by all sides. I was also a part of *the Commission on New Parliament Building Project Administration Supervision* as well. As being a part for this project, more or less, it was a proud moment of my life that I have once worked on one of the masterpieces which would be recognized in Thai Parliament history.”



Mrs. Duankhwan Charutula

Senior Chief Architect of Department of Public Works and Town & Country Planning, Ministry of Interior

“The Parliament” architecture portrays our country’s identity. Therefore, the initial approach is the consideration of expressing Thai identity through the architecture. At the same time, it is important for the New Parliament Building to be able to significantly support the functional activities at present time. Moreover, it will be also ready to handle further expansions in appropriate scale. The representation of the New Parliament Building is blending into the context, including the physical qualities in which rests upon the law and regulation as well as environmental awareness. More importantly, the New Parliament Building is able to deliver the meaning of sentimental value in terms of people’s interaction with the place in order to be recognized as the Parliament for people.”



Professor Emeritus Decha Boonkham

National Artist in Visual Art (Landscape Architecture)

“The main distinction of *Sappaya Saphasathan* is the ability to express Thainess through the design of a huge complex which makes it stand out from the others in the world. The proposed design can create Thai uniqueness that appropriately reaches the awareness of people at all levels both nationally and internationally. The two green areas in front of the building and along the riverside, certainly emphasize the striking appearance of the complex. The building plans and structures are simple. There is an open space for democracy activity that provides facilities for public as well.

“Moreover, the design of *Sappaya Saphasathan* is able to beautifully form a link between Thai cultural and traditional evolution since the ancient times despite a staccato period in the age of imperialism that had occurred over centuries. It creates an environment of tranquility, strength, elegance and peacefulness over the grandiose complex – a significant symbol of the nation, which serves variety and complicated purposes in a way of globalization harmoniously.

“The New Parliament Building Design Competition obviously left an important footstep in the history of the architecture of Thailand. All the designs proposed by 5 finalists offer both beauty and functional quality. The world latest green technology for building systems that produces low carbon has been properly implemented in all the designs. Yet each has different weaknesses that still require more or less development.”



Mr. Thaweejit Chandrasakha

President of the Association of Siamese Architects Under Royal Patronage

“The New Parliament Building Design Competition is certainly one of the most significant competitions of the architectural field of Thailand. All of the submissions were beautifully created with determination, dedication and joint passion of all Thai architects that wanted to be part of this historic event of the nation.

“Thanks to the National Assembly who has put such a great trust in Thai architects, allowing them to serve their home country.

“All the designs presented by the finalists are differently outstanding. However, *Sappaya Saphasathan*, the chosen one, from code So Ngo Bo 1051 is distinctive and receives the most of the compliments than the others’.

“It is tremendously bold and interesting to bring an ancient belief to the present through architecture. The design uses the belief of *establishing the Sumeru Mountain* to symbolize spiritual unity of people of Thailand and applies the concept of the living together of *Mundane* and *Supramundane* to direct acts of *good thoughts* and *good deeds*. This is transformed into a contemporary architectural design of the Parliament Building that is topped by the traditional Thai architecture pyramidal roof of the royal ceremonial hall. And this kind of design development had been lost from the public for very long time.

“*Sappaya Saphasathan* now reemerges on a link of the structure of the Thai architecture on the skyline of Chao Phraya River, just like the Thai architecture in good old days. It offers broad landscape similarly to *Sanam Luang* and there is also a field of a kind of tree called *Dong Makok Nam (Elaeocarpus Hygrophilus Kurz)*, a symbol of *Bangkok*. Everything wisely harmonizes with the architecture; the environment is taken care of and the landscape of the skyline of the Chao Phraya is created and bridged.

“Interior planning and layouts are done with simplicity fulfilling the need of usage. Spacing is appropriate. Prioritization and traffics are concise and clear. A problem of a gigantic building is solved by giving an opening space for natural light to enter the center of the building. And most importantly, this design allows people to be able to experience the Parliament Building and the Chao Phraya waterfront with dignity.

“I do wish that *the New Parliament Building* will open up the new era of the fast growing National Assembly of Thailand, representing us with the good image of the country to the world and making us proud.”



Mr. Prasong Tharachai

Chairman of the Engineering Institute of Thailand Under Royal Patronage

“I am privileged and proud that the National Assembly has invited the Engineering Institute of Thailand Under Royal Patronage to join the Panel of Judges of the New Parliament Building Design Competition.

“It is an auspicious opportunity that such a professional organization like us was granted the glory. The overall working procedure was carried out systematically and with a standard which met satisfaction of the professionals and public.

“As an engineer, I would ask for permission to say a fundamental idea that designing is only the beginning. The perfect design should consider methods of construction. And the most important thing is the period of usage which is the critical period that covers the life of the buildings. Thinking about the convenient maintenance and energy and budget-saving so that the complex will be perfectly beautiful both on the image outside and the functionality inside above all.”



Hon. Professor Emeritus Dr. Trungjai Buranasomphob
Scholarly licensed architect and Chairman of the Committee on
Religions, Moral, Ethics, Arts and Culture of the Senate

“All of the finalists presented high quality designs. However, the winner got slightly higher score because of:

“**Layout:** the complex stands out among the others because of its uniqueness. It is dignified as the parliament building which we could be proud of when compared with those of other countries. The Thainess can be seen through the symmetrical design, both vertical and horizontal. The scale compression from the foundation to the top makes the building robust and solid. The interior is decorated in modern Thai style which the beauty ties with the utility.

“**Planning and Utility:** according to this design, zoning is obvious. There are separate zones for the Members of the House of Representatives, the Members of the Senate, the parliamentary officials and the public. Facilities for disabled people are provided. The safety factor is absolutely taken into consideration.

“**Energy Saving:** the parliament building is designed to have sufficient natural light, to reduce the heat of the building surface, to have plant growing on the building (plants that are easy to take care of) and energy recycling; like re-using treated wastewater from the ponds in front of the building for watering.”



Hon. Mr. Singchai Thunghong

Senator

Architecture that builds the Nation

“The New Parliament Building Design Competition is not only one of the critical steps for the architectural area of Thailand but is also important for Thai history because this is the first time in the country with the framework of a constitutional democratic monarchy which has arranged such a campaign that every Thai architect could participate in. I had witnessed efforts, perseverance, brainstorming of these Thai architects since the first round until the last.

“Regarding a view from me who have been in architectural profession for over 25 years plus an experience as a professor of the Faculty of Architecture, Rangsit University, I found that every piece of work has its own quality, especially the 10 finalists. They are certainly beautiful and have architectural value which makes the judges hard to find the winner. However, as I have now served as a member of the Senate from Uthai Thani Province, I have to consider something more than just the utility, complex innovation and beauty of the architecture which are the fundamental of this national design competition. When I have a chance to work in the politics and spend my working life in the current National Assembly, I now understand the mechanism of the parliament building. I found that besides the structural construction that serves the utility, energy saving and beautiful, the parliament building must be able to share and bridge people’s unity. It also needs to reflect *Thainess*. Our nation has history, arts and cultures, uniqueness that our ancestors had built to last long as the center, leading all men to the unity. *The architecture* will be a part of the national arts. Therefore, the New Parliament Building must respond to these requirements as much as possible. It must be accessible and understandable to people from all levels; elites, parliamentary officials, farmers or workers. It must reflect the grandeur of the Kingdom of Thailand through the architecture and makes anyone or any nations who sees it aware that this is the National Assembly of *Thailand*.

“The 5 finalists provide the qualities above with slight differences. Yet, *Sappaya Saphasathan*, the chosen one, is able to achieve all mentioned requirements. The design represents the root of the culture and civilization of Thailand, harmonizes every factor with architectural rules and becomes *the contemporary architecture* that answers to the utility, provides serenity and beauty. This design absolutely deserves to be chosen as our New Parliament Building of the Nation.”



Mr. Pitoon Pumhiran

Secretary – General of the House of Representatives

“Parliament building is a symbol of democracy and stands for political and administrative development as well as social and cultural prosperity of the country and its people. Moreover, it also plays an important role as a physical factor that serves and supports the Members of Parliament and the parliamentary officials of all offices under the National Assembly so that they can work efficiently.

“After the MOU signing between related offices, the construction of the New Parliament Building on the 119-rai designated state property along the Chao Phraya River near Thahaan Road (Kiak Kai), Dusit District, Bangkok has been started on August 15, 2008. The key step is that the design of the New Parliament Building must offer elegance and be able to blend with its landscape. Furthermore, it must be an architecture that reflects Thainess. Therefore, the National Assembly had called for participation of Thai architects in this design competition - the New Parliament Building Design Competition. There were 131 entries in total. The *Commission on New Parliament Building and Component Buildings Design Competition Judgment* needed to spend time analyzing each design carefully in every aspect because all works had presented several initiative and outstanding ideas.

“As a judge and the Secretary to the Committee, I was impressed by the ability and performance of all Thai architects who participated in the competition. They all devoted themselves to create valuable designs that will mark the history and make the country pride. I also praise all the judges for their diligence and all officers for their full working capacity to reach the appropriate design of the New Parliament Building that won fair and transparent votes upon requested criteria. Finally, the design of So Ngo Bo 1051 by Mr. Theeraphon Niyom and his team called *Sappaya Saphasathan* was chosen as the winner with the highest scores because of many prominent aspects, especially the ability to reflect the elegance, eco-friendliness, Thainess, as well as its valued utility.

“I wish that the New Parliament Building will make all of us, Thai people, proud. And it will be an honourable place that supports work efficiency of the legislative institution in order to achieve progression, modernity and glory of the national and its people for eternity.”

Photo Gallery



Center Hall



Office of the President of the House of Representatives



Reception Room



Meeting Room and Lunchroom of the President of the House of Representatives



Parliament Club



Underground Seminar Room



Hall of Fame of Democracy Museum



Library



Parliament Archives



Meeting Room for 30 Persons



Meeting Room for Budget Committee



Waiting Area



Officials' Office



Meeting Room/Seminar Room for 200 Persons



Office of Member of the House of Representatives/
the Senate