



គណបក្ស សិទ្ធិ មនុស្ស HUMAN RIGHTS PARTY

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===== បំរើ ការពារ កសាង =====

Phnom Penh, 12 October 2009

STATEMENT

Members of Parliament from HRP strictly adhere to respect and protect the rights of Cambodian people.

HRP members of parliament do not support the whole “Criminal Code”.

HRP members of parliament see that the code, which has just been enacted by the National Assembly, can be used in two different ways. First, this law can be used to prevent, crack down and punish offenders, who have committed crimes. Second, this law negatively has an impact on Cambodian peoples’ freedom of expression.

HRP members of parliament back only some articles of this law, but not those, which were not reviewed by the National Assembly and government representatives in the plenary session and which were the concern of the poor and non-governmental organizations. The points that cause concern and that we think are not clear enough and we do not support are some articles related to defamation, insult, and incitement since the loopholes in the law can lead to different interpretations, which can be a great danger for the weak or the opposition.

HRP members of parliament find that it is a vitally important need for Cambodia to have criminal law so that the principle of the rule of law can be exercised. However, the rule of law does not refer to only the number of the existing laws, but the laws must come into practice without any negative effect on the rights of people.

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