



Kingdom of Cambodia
Nation Religion King

Office of the Council of Ministers
Press and Quick Reaction Unit

Phnom Penh, 25th January 2019

To: Mr. Jaime Ho

Chief Editor Digital News

International Edition of Channel News Asia

Reference: Article entitled Hun Sen calls on military to destroy opponents

Dear Sir:

It is with utmost regret that the Channel News Asia – International Edition Website had posted on 24th January, 2019 at 06:50 pm an article entitled “ Hun Sen calls on military **to destroy opponents** ”.

In the quality of Press and Quick Reaction Unit of the Office of the Council Ministers, we wish to draw your attention to the fact that, on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the Foundation of Cambodian Army Headquarter, Samdech Prime Minister Hun Sen neither use such term “ Destroy **Opponents** ” nor refer to “ the now-dissolved opposition party...”. Therefore, the title of your article, whether intentionally or unintentionally, does give a very wrong message, making the public misunderstand about the correct wording of Cambodia’s Prime Minister.

To clarify this misquote, we would like to provide you below with the **Transcript of Samdech Prime Minister Hun Sen’s speech pronounced on 24 January 2019 on the Occasion of 20th Anniversary of the Foundation of Cambodian Army Headquarter.**

1. “..... Fight against terrorism and timely crush the manoeuvres of color revolution which aims at toppling the legitimate Government through undemocratic and unconstitutional means....”
2. “..... Must immediately destroy without waiting for Order all acts that aim at seizing power outside the democratic system, outside the election which go against the Constitution....”
3. “..... Must not allow anyone to destroy the State.....”
4. “..... If there is any activity against the law, the armed forces must take action to crack it down right away. If there were 4 or 5 dead, it would still be better than the loss of hundred thousands or millions lives as what had happened in the past”
5. I am not afraid of issuing orders to crush whatever forces which attempt to overthrow the legitimate elected Government. We cannot allow the cities’ rebels and the jungle’s rebels to topple the State....”

In this regards, we strongly urge Channel News Asia to CORRECT immediately your article with the above-mentioned transcript so as to avoid the confusion among the public opinion on Cambodia's Government position. May we take this opportunity, to emphasize that the Royal Government of Cambodia always respects the Human Rights, Multiparty system, Democracy and Rule of Law as guaranteed by our Constitution. And what Samdech Prime Minister Hun Sen had told the audience on that historic occasion is within the framework of our Constitution.

Yours Sincerely

Press and Quick Reaction Unit
Office of the Council of Ministers



Cc: H.E. Mr. MICHAEL Tan

Ambassador of Republic of Singapore to Cambodia