



**ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា
ជាតិ សាសនា ព្រះមហាក្សត្រ**

ក្រសួងប្រៃសណីយ៍និងទូរគមនាគមន៍

លេខ : **១** MPTC.....

[Unofficial Translation]

Press Release

Following the Royal Government of Cambodia's issuance of Sub-Decree No. 23 ANK/BK dated 16 February 2021 on the Establishment of National Internet Gateway, the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications (MPTC) observes that there have been reactions from a number of news outlets and non-governmental organizations who suggest that the Royal Government intends to collect data, wiretap consumers' conversations, restrict freedom of expression, and pursue the Chinese model. MPTC would like to inform the public as follows:

1. The allegations with regard to the establishment of National Internet Gateway are unfounded, politically motivated, untrue, and contradictory to the objectives stated in the Sub-Decree.
2. National Internet Gateways have been established in almost all countries and Cambodia is no exception.
3. The Sub-Decree on the National Internet Gateway has been prepared in a transparent manner, and consultations have been held with experts in the telecommunication sector, private operators, and relevant institutions on numerous occasions.
4. The purpose of National Internet Gateway is to increase the effectiveness of national revenue collection on the basis of fair and honest competition, and transparency between the state and operators, as well as to prevent illegal cross-border network connections, illegal online gambling, cyberthreats, pornography, online frauds, etc.

MPTC would like to reiterate that no provision in the Sub-Decree authorizes the collection of consumers' data and restriction on freedom of expression. Moreover, MPTC intends to draft the Personal Data Protection Law following the Cybersecurity Law which shall be adopted imminently.

Phnom Penh, 19 February 2021

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