

CFSWF

From: CFSWF [cfswf.office@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2011 5:47 PM
To: 'abhisit@abhisit.org'
Cc: Mora Sar
Subject: Our concern on re-arrested Somyot Pruksakasemsuk

Your Excellency Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva,

International Communities are shocked to hear news on re-arrest of Somyot and are very concerned about his safety in the prison.

I write to ask you for the immediate release of Somyot Pruksakasemsuk who was arrested on the 30th April 2011 and is currently being held at Klong Prem Central Prison, in Bangkok.

We know Somyot Pruksakasemsuk through his work for the international trade union movement and have been active on the campaign in 2010 to release him from Adisorn Army base in Saraburi. We have come to know him as a loyal Thai citizen who is strongly committed to Human Rights in his role as an independent journalist and academic promoting freedom of speech.

We understand that Somyot was arrested on a charge of defaming, insulting and threatening the King, Queen and heir apparent (Section 112 of the Penal Code) a charge which he fully denies. He also was not aware that any arrest warrant had previously been issued and strongly denies any claim that he resisted arrest.

We were informed by Somyot Pruksakasemsuk from the letter wrote by him from prison on the 2 May 2011. He believe that his arrest was due to his and other pro democracy activists who wish to collect the 10,000 signatures to be table in parliament for repeal the session 112 of criminal code/Lese Majeste Law. This action is done in a peace manner and also according to the procedure prescribed by the 2007 Constitution.

Therefore, we are concern the current state of human rights and democracy in Thailand, which seems that the peace and legal manner of expression is suppressed and denied.

We also believe that the country shall move toward to guinea reconciliation with a good faith and intention from all sides. Therefore any dissidents voices shall not be brutally suppress, in particular prior to the national election. This arrest of Somyot for his peaceful activity will deter this process.

We further understand that the Criminal Court agreed with the Department of Special Investigation (DSI) to extend the detention of Somyot for another twelve days, something we believe to be an unacceptable abuse of Somyot's human rights. Please urgently respond to this request for the immediate release of Somyot to allow him to organise his response to the charges against him.

Yours faithfully

Mora SAR

President

Cambodian Food and Service Workers' Federation (CFSWF)

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CAMBODIAN FOOD AND SERVICE WORKERS' FEDERATION (CFSWF)

Address:

#216AB, street 271 BIS, Sen Sok, Phnom Penh, CAMBODIA

Tel: +855(0)236906365

Mobile: +855(0)16525781

E-mail: cswf.office@gmail.com

Web: www.cswf.co.cc or www.cswf.wordpress.com

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