

**AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEPAL SECTION**

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To ,
General Prayuth Chan-ocha
Royal Thai Army Headquarters
Rachadamnoen Nok Road,
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

MEMORANDUM CALLING FOR RESPECT, PROTEC AND FULLFIL HUMAN RIGHTS IN THAILAND

Dear General,

Amnesty International is concerned over the current situation of human rights in Thailand emerged following the imposition of Martial Law on 20 May 2014, which grants the army sweeping powers and imposes tight restrictions on key human rights.

Amnesty International strongly emphasis that the declaration of Martial Law decree must not be a blueprint for human rights violations. It is crucial that the military shows the utmost restraint and fully respects Thailand's obligations under international human rights law. But the military now has powers to detain people without a warrant for up to one week, to seize property, and to search people or property without a court order.

Amnesty International is deeply concerned that the army has already used its powers under the decree to impose sweeping restrictions on freedom of expression in violation of Thailand's obligations under international human rights law. Nearly 250 individuals have been ordered to report to the Thai military since it declared martial law on 20 May and announced on 22 May that it was taking over the administration of the country. Many of those who have already reported to the military have been detained, while those who do not comply with the order face arrest and prosecution. Peaceful demonstrators calling for the resumption of civilian rule have also been detained.

Reports suggest that a number of those already in detention are being held incommunicado – with no access to lawyers, courts or relatives – in unknown locations, in violation of international human rights law. Among those summoned to appear are prominent academics, journalists and people who have publicly debated the use of legislation to restrict freedom of expression in Thailand, including provisions on lese majeste.

Amnesty International call on your authorities for

- not to detain anyone solely for peacefully exercising his or her rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly or association, including on the basis of their political affiliation;
- all those detained by the military to either be charged with a recognizably criminal offence or to be immediately and unconditionally released from detention;
- all individuals in detention are given immediate access to lawyers, to an independent, civilian court to determine the legality of their arrest, to their families and to any medical care they may need;
- to immediately make public a list of those in detention and their whereabouts.

Sincerely Yours,

Rameshwar Nepal
Director