

# *The* CAMBODIA DAILY

Monday, August 8, 2005

## **Cheam Channy Jailing 'Illegal,' Int'l Group Says**

An official with New York-based Human Rights Watch on Sunday described the detention of Cheam Channy as arbitrary and illegal, on the eve of the opposition parliamentarian's trial for allegedly plotting to establish an illegal armed force. "We fear that once again the courts will be used as a tool to silence the opposition," the Rights Watch official wrote in an e-mail. "This is yet another attempt by the government to silence the opposition by using the corrupt and politicized judiciary," the Rights Watch official said about today's scheduled trial. The representative of the New York-based agency added that there are no legal grounds for trying Cheam Channy, a civilian, in the military court.

*(William Shaw)*