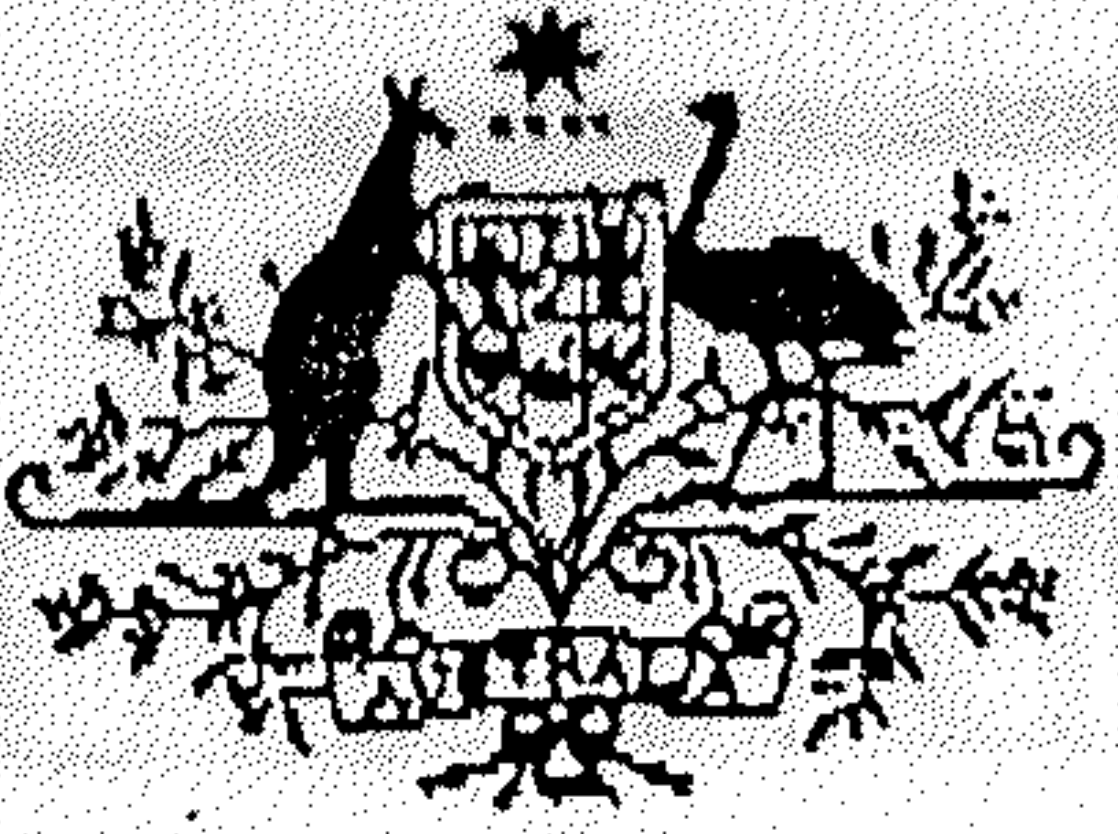


MEDIA RELEASE



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Mr Sam Rainsy

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Sam Rainsy

Dear Mr Rainsy,

I was sorry to learn of your recent experience. We are actively raising the matter both with your Government and the Cambodian Ambassador to Australia, His Excellency Chheang Vun.

My colleague, the Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs, Alexander Downer joined me in a meeting with Chheang Vun earlier this week after we had written to him. We have now issued a press release which we thought you might like to see.

Please accept my best wishes at this difficult time.

Warmest regards,

Philip Ruddock MP
Shadow Minister for Social Security
and Seniors

**ALEXANDER DOWNER MP
SHADOW MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
MEMBER FOR MAYO**



Mr Sam Rainsy, Cambodian MP

The Federal Coalition regrets the decision by the Cambodian National Assembly to expel Mr Sam Rainsy from the National Assembly.

The Coalition regards this as a setback for Cambodia's democratic institutions.

I raised this matter with the Cambodian Ambassador last Monday.

I think that it would be appropriate for Senator Evans to raise this issue with the Cambodian Government.

ENDS