



Telecommunication
Regulator of Cambodia
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PRESS RELEASE

The Telecommunication Regulator of Cambodia (TRC) would like to inform the public that on 21 October 2021, TRC in collaboration with the General Inspectorate of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications uncovered upon special audit an illegal laying of fiber-optic cable by Smart Axiata Co., Ltd. The initially estimated length of the fiber-optic cable is 16 kilometers at three separate locations, namely (1) Phum Trapiang Sap, Khum Trapiang Sap, Srok Bati, Takeo Province; (2) Phum Trapiang Lian, Khum Chambok, Srok Bati, Takeo Province; and (3) Phum Tram Knar, Khum Chun Rok, Srok Korng Pisey, Kampong Speu Province. As a result, evidence has been seized and retained for further legal procedures, which may lead to possible arrests of related individuals and action against Smart Axiata Co., Ltd. In addition to this audit, TRC will continue to inspect all fiber-optic cable network construction across the country to ensure that it complies with the legal and technical requirements. Action will be taken in respect of all non compliant installations.

TRC regularly issues announcements and instructions to all telecoms operators to strictly adhere to the laws and regulations. However, some telecom operators blatantly continue in breach of the laws, as evidenced by the recent audit on Smart Axiata Co., Ltd.

TRC would like to once again remind all telecom operators to act in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations. It is essential that they examine the terms stated in the licenses and comply with the law before undertaking installation works in respect of their operations. In the event of any doubts, telecom operators may seek clarification from TRC at any time in a joint effort to promote responsible business operations and license compliance. This will also avoid adversely affecting the licenses of other operators and ensure that the telecommunications systems work properly to service the needs of the public. *o dh*

Phnom Penh, 21 October 2021 *ks*

