



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
23 JANUARY 2020**

**MISLEADING ARTICLE PUBLISHED BY THE
SINGAPORE DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

A hearing was conducted between the Attorney-General's Chambers ("AGC") and the Singapore Democratic Party ("SDP") on 23 January 2020 before the Honourable Justice Ang Cheng Hock, in respect of the AGC's complaint about a misleading article published by the SDP titled *Whether a statement is true or false cannot be "based on the minister's interpretation"* on 18 January 2020 (the "**Article**").

2 The Article falsely suggested that it is the AGC's case that the Minister's interpretation of a subject statement is determinative of its meaning under the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act (No. 18 of 2019) ("**POFMA**"). This is incorrect. The AGC's position is that it is the Courts that ultimately determine whether a statement bears the particular meaning relied on by the Minister in issuing a Correction Direction ("**CD**").

3 Ang J again reminded the SDP to ensure that all statements it makes in relation to the ongoing proceedings under POFMA are accurate.

4 The SDP undertook to make the necessary corrections to the Article by the close of business today. The AGC expects the SDP to honour its undertaking and to refrain from further mischaracterising the Government's position in these proceedings as per the Court's reminder.

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