National League for Democracy  
No: (97/b) West Shwegondine Road  
Bahan, Rangoon

STATEMENT 128 (12/98)

1. (1) Since 27 September 1998, the National League for Democracy has been operating as a legally constituted political organisation. It's principal objectives are to
* construct a genuine democratic country,
* obtain full human rights for its citizens.

(2) Relevant documents relating to its principle objectives have been submitted to the respective authorities.

2. (1) The League has been registered in accordance with the provisions of the Political Parties Registration Law. "Political party refers to a party that genuinely acknowledges and practices the multi party democratic system" is the definition of a "political party" given in Chapter 1 Section 2(a) of the law. (Note- That the League conforms to the above definition is most transparent)

(2) Prohibitions for registration of political parties under this law as set out in Chapter 2, Section 3 are:-
   (a) Any organisation that has been declared as illegal under the laws in force .
   (b) Any organisation engaged in armed insurrection against the state.
   (c) Any organisation directly or indirectly receiving or utilising moneys, buildings, motor vehicles or other properties belonging to the state.
   (d) Any organisation directly or indirectly receiving or utilising moneys, properties, or any kind of support from a foreign government or religious body, or organisation.
   (e) any organisation utilising religion for political gain.
   (f) Members of the Military, Peoples Police Force and other Defence Services, Civil Services, Government Boards and Corporations and other State owned enterprises including all persons drawing wages or salaries from the state treasury.

3. (1) The National League for Democracy obtained registration and remains a legally constituted body because none of the above prohibitions could be applied to it. Therefore no section of the entire League, which includes its Central body, its branches in the States, Divisions, Townships, Wards, and Villages, its different classified sections created by the Central body in accordance with its activities can be dissolved or extinguished.

(2) If those in authority can break the laws they make, a very bad and dangerous precedent is being set for the country.

4. (1) Presently, the Military Intelligence authorities are applying illegal and improper methods of coercion and force on members of township organising committees and not only extinguishing the branches but applying illegal pressure to obtain the resignations of members of the NLD. In so doing they entirely disregard the Political Parties Restoration Law they have Promulgated.

(2) The information we are now receiving is that In the wards and villages, groups of civil servants led by the Military Intelligence personnel, enter every house to question the inmates
about their attitude and relationship with the NLD. Individuals who favour the NLD and members of the NLD are forced to sign prepared resignation forms to swell the numbers of resignations. The Law prohibits civil servants from participating in politics. The authorities should not be a party to activities which amount to infringement of the law. If civil servants flout the law, the country will be doomed. Provisions of law should not be flouted by the people in power. There are ample examples of country's destruction because of transgressions and violations of the law by civil servants of the country.

(3) In the townships right now, branches of the NLD are being destroyed and extinguished, and forced resignations of members are being carried out by Military Intelligence units unaccompanied by members of the of multi party elections commission branch offices, and other civil servants. Examples of such activities have been released by us in previous statements.

(4) These activities are most degrading and and should never never be indulged in. It is a conspiracy with the most evil intention of preventing Burma attain democracy.

5. In the entire country, (States, Divisions, Townships, Wards and Villages) members of the NLD are being summoned to attend at various offices and department, or are being visited in their homes and being made to resign their membership. This is entirely illegal and with criminal intimidation. There is absolutely no meaning to pronouncing that the rule of law will be achieved through the Registration of Political Parties. Those responsible for these activities have brought about shame and disgrace upon themselves.

6. The citizens of the Union and the Nationalities have expressed their great desire for a democratic system of government. We all understand and are convinced that only if and when that system can be constructed, the country will obtain freedom from the political, commercial, social welfare, education, health and other problems it now faces. Therefore, the National League for Democracy declares that it believes all of them will do its utmost with determination and persistence to overturn and overcome whatever obstructions are placed in the path of achieving democracy and human rights.

Central Executive Committee
National League for Democracy

28 December 1998