

NLD Statement 33/2000:

National League for Democracy
No: (97/B), West Shwegonedine Road
Bahan Township, Rangoon

Statement 33 (3/00) (translation)

1 According to statements made by ward and village authorities of Ye-pyu village tract (Bawle Island), Htan-ta-bin township, Rangoon Division, about a thousand acres of grazing land in Ba-le-gone-taw was given to two members of the Police force by orders from the chief Htan-ta-bin township police officer at the rate of a return of 7 baskets of paddy per acre. These two in turn have sub-let the lands at the rate of 11 baskets per acre and over 300 acres are under cultivation to this day.

2. The villagers of Aing-gyi, Aing-le, Taw-nyo, Kaw-hmu, Ta-khun-taing, Ye-phyu-kyaung-su, Ye-dwing-gone-oke-su from Ye-pyu village tract and the villagers of Ye dwin-gone, Paya-kyun and those from the Nyun-baung village tract graze their cows and buffaloes in this Bal-le-gone-taw. The authorities are aware that this has been demarcated as grazing ground, yet they have converted it into agricultural land, which is a loss to the owners of the livestock. If cattle and cows are found grazing on the crops the penalty to be imposed on the owners is 3 years imprisonment and a fine of kyats 3500.

3. The authorities should be made aware of the fact that they are violating the law in converting pastureland to agricultural land and in so doing causing such hardship to the poor farmers. This activity should be immediately stopped and grazing land restored to them.

Central Executive Committee
National League for Democracy

Rangoon
21 March 2000