

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

Statement 87 (6/00) (translation)

Contents of letter No 036/si/chan dated 12 June 2000 from the Chairman of the National League for Democracy to the Chairman of SPDC and the Chairman of the Multi-party Democratic Elections Commission are reproduced below for information.

Start " Subject - Violations of the Political Parties Registration Law and the Pyithu Hluttaw Elections Law

1. The National League for Democracy and other political parties were permitted to contest the elections under Section 4 of the Political Parties Registration Law passed on the 27 September 1988 only after they had been duly registered under the said law.
2. Candidates from the National League for Democracy and some other political parties then participated in the general elections held on the 27 May 1990 as per the Pyithu Hluttaw Elections Law passed on 31 May 89.
3. The above two laws viz The Political Parties Registration Law and the Pyithu Hluttaw Elections Law were promulgated by the then State Law and Order Restoration Council now known as the State Peace and Development Council.
4. In accordance with the democratic principle that sovereign power lies with the people, and in conformity with multi-party democratic elections procedure, the people elected their representatives freely and fairly. The military authorities published the results of the elections naming the electorates and the political parties of the successful candidates.
5. Albeit, the military dictators are now illegally and unjustifiably instigating and orchestrating non-confidence demonstrations against the NLD elected representatives. The people today are in dire straits, socially and educationally. Fear has been steeped into their minds by the military authorities and they have been compelled to assemble in violation of the laws that are in force.
6. The National League for Democracy desires to know which section of the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law provides for these assemblies and demonstrations through intimidation and coercion. There is no mention of "loss of confidence " in the said law.
7. The National League for Democracy is a validly constituted political party and remains as such to this day. Besides, the people demonstrated their overwhelming support and trust in them as seen from the results of the 1990 multi-party democratic elections.
8. The military authorities have instilled so much fear in the minds of the people and in the midst of their present problems trying to eke out a living, the people are compelled to assemble and proclaim loss of confidence in the NLD and even describe this political party which they overwhelmingly supported as "evil" and demand its demise. The NLD is not subscribing to an ideology that is evil, but is working for democracy and human rights for the people and the country.

9. The NLD wants to know which section of the Political Parties Registration Law authorizes the military authorities to willfully and illegally force the people to do their bidding. There is no such provision.

10. The Multi-party Democratic Elections Commission in its first notification declared that its members were old and had no political axe to grind and that its only concern was for the successful holding of free and fair elections.

11. It is now ten years since those elections but no final report of the commission has been given. It is now engaged in administrative tasks such as removing elected representatives, dissolving branches and party offices etc. The law does not give them the power or the jurisdiction for the performance of these tasks.

12. The National League for Democracy will under no circumstances relinquish the fruit of the 1990 multi-party democratic general elections which was gained by the sweat, tears and blood of thousands of monks, laymen, students and citizens.

13. Without any legal authority to do so, the Multi-Party Democratic General Elections Commission declared that with effect from 26 April 1991 any political party whose membership was less than five would be dissolved.

14. The Elections Commission Notification Number 245 categorically states that the internal affairs of political parties such as duties and qualifications of executive committees, policies, rules regarding numbers and procedures etc. was outside the realm of the commission and/or any other authority. The Commission is now acting in direct contravention of its declaration. There is no provision in the Political Parties Registration Law that gives the Elections Commission the power to declare that political parties whose organizing committee members have dwindled to less than five must be deemed to be dissolved.

15. The illegitimate, **as acknowledged by themselves**, military dictators have really and truly besmirched their own reputation and tarnished the country's name in blatantly breaking laws they made (example Political Parties Registration Law and Elections Commission Law) and renegeing on promises and statements they have made publicly. In addition to that they are now deliberately launching out on unjust and immoral deeds thus setting a wrong precedent and amassing an insurmountable debt of misdeeds.

16. There is truly no need for the military dictators to entertain any fears from the National League for Democracy because we are genuinely working to achieve democracy and human rights for the country for the betterment of the people in all aspects (social justice, education, health, wealth etc.) and acting and adopting democratic systems. (End)"

Central Executive Committee  
National League for Democracy

Rangoon  
12 June 2000