

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

Statement 92 (6/00) (translation)

1. Along the course of the Irrawaddy river in the Irrawaddy Division, Mau-bin and Pantanaww townships are the villages of Kywe-htone, Auk-htone , Than-ba-ya-chaung, Daung-gyi and others where cultivators make a living by cultivating crops on islands and land formed from the process of silting and from fishing and other water industries.

2. Now, the authorities have taken money from U Aye Myint of Lay-kyun village and granted him the right to these lands allegedly for transforming into "*inns*" (special fisheries created with weirs and dams) some thing which has never been done before. The villagers have been prohibited from fishing and threats have been issued warning them that if anyone is caught, he will be beaten-up and severely punished.

3 The villages that are adversely affected by such action are as follows:-

1) Kywe-htone

2) Auk-htone 3) Kywe-thaung

4) Kyun-pya

5) Thayettaw

6) Kyonekayin

7) Zaloke-ngu

8) Let-pan-kyun

9) Than-ba-ya-chaung

10) Daung-gyi

11) Kyet-thun-kyun

12) Payagyi-kone

13) Paik-tan

14) Kyun-tha-ya

15) Moe-nan-kyun

16) Ywa-thit-kone

4. This demonstrates the heartless attitude of the authorities for the welfare of the rural population. They use their authority to benefit themselves, regardless of the suffering and hardships of the village dweller who can go to no one for redress. We urge the authorities to refrain from causing further hardship to the masses in the rural districts.

Central Executive Committee  
National League for Democracy

Rangoon  
22 June 2000

