

NLD Statement 108/2000:

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

Statement 108 (7/00) (translation)

1. People living in Burma are required to carry identity cards, national registration cards, foreigner's registration cards, guest national registration cards etc. Most important for most of the residents in Burma is the identification card or the national registration card. There is no way that anyone can get by without it. To deal with any one in authority, or with the bank, or to travel, or to report for the guest list, or at death and for funeral arrangements - no transaction in life can be accomplished without production of these cards.
2. The military dictators know full well this state of affairs. Should an identity card belonging to an NLD member be lost accidentally or through theft or otherwise, no replacement is given. Someone has issued orders, whether it is in writing or oral only, no one knows. No one will disclose the identity of the issuing authority either. When a report of the loss or theft is made to the police or to the ward, village, township authorities, the usual response is that the matter will have to be placed before the higher authority. The matter does not go further. No inquiries are made. It is simply ignored.
3. When a request is made for a replacement card to the issuing authority, the same response is received - "the matter will have to go to the higher authority". When the question "What orders and by whom?" is asked, there is no response. In countries where the rule of law prevails, a duplicate card is usually issued. This is the natural and normal way to treat a citizen of one's country.
4. This treatment is given only to NLD members and should be stopped immediately. A citizen's right should not be denied in this illegal and unjust way. This is a reminder and a denunciation of the above mentioned illegal discrimination against the members of the NLD.

Central Executive Committee
National League for Democracy

Rangoon
17 July 2000