



Myanmar rejects Alternate ASEAN Chairman Thailand's statement which is not in conformity with ASEAN practice, incorrect in facts, interfering in the internal affairs of Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—Thailand, currently the alternate chairman of ASEAN, on 18 May, 2009, issued the press statement of the alternate chairman of ASEAN. In response to it, Myanmar issued a statement rejecting it. The statement says—

1. The Government of the Union of Myanmar, for ensuring stability of the State and in the interest of the people, had to issue restriction order and place Daw Aung San Suu Kyi under restriction at her house in accord with the Law to Safeguard the State Against the Dangers of Those Desiring to Cause Subversive Acts.
2. Whilst the restriction order was in effect, in May, 2009 an intruder Mr. John William Yettaw who is a United States citizen entered the house of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and she permitted him to stay, communicated, gave him food and shelter and thus there was no option but to open legal proceedings in accordance with law.
3. Basing on the action taken against her, Thailand, who is currently the alternate chairman of ASEAN, issued the Chairman's Press Statement dated 18-5-2009.
4. Action against Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is taken in accordance with the normal practice in every state and it is merely the internal affairs of Myanmar. Therefore, the statement of Thailand issued as the alternate chairman of ASEAN deviates from the principles of the ASEAN Charter and is tantamount to interfering in the internal affairs of Myanmar.
5. To issue statements including the chairman's statement, ASEAN needs to prepare a draft at the level of Senior Officials Meeting and then submit it to the Foreign Ministers level to seek approval. The statement is to be issued only after consensus. Although the issuing of the statement coincides with the Senior Officials Meeting, Thailand did not allow it to be discussed. It informed the Foreign Ministers only after the issue of the statement and thus it unilaterally deviated from

the ASEAN practice having issued not in good faith but in accord with its own wishes. Such an act may cause an undesirable tradition in ASEAN. Moreover, the statement expression of "concerned about the health of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi due to action against her" is incorrect. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is provided with adequate health care and she is in good health. Thus, it is sadly noted that the Alternate ASEAN Chairman failed to preserve the dignity of ASEAN, the dignity of Myanmar and the dignity of Thailand.

6. Whatsoever it may be, this statement issued by the Alternate ASEAN Chairman, which is not in conformity with ASEAN practice, incorrect in facts, interfering in the internal affairs of Myanmar is strongly rejected by Myanmar, it is learnt.

MNA

Preventive measures should be taken systematically against New Influenza A/H1N1, said health officials

Article: Maung Maung Myint Swe; Photos: Tin Soe (Myanma Alin)

As in other world countries, the Ministry of Health of Myanmar under the supervision of the government has been taking measures to prevent A/H1N1 from spreading to the country. A/H1N1 is a new subtype of highly-infectious influenza that is occurring in some other countries. Our media team from the Myanmar Alin daily met with officials of the

Health Ministry taking an anti-A/H1N1 campaign.

During the interview, Professor Director Dr Soe Lwin Nyein of Central Infectious Diseases Control Department of the Health Ministry told Myanmar Alin that an epidemic called SARS broke out in some Asian countries in 2003; that no one in Myanmar was

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An emergency ambulance is standing by at Yangon International Airport.

Cyclone warning

NAY PYI TAW, 24 May—The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology today announced that according to the observations at 5.30 pm MST, the cyclonic storm over the northwest part of the Bay of Bengal had moved northwards. It is now centered in the sea about 260 miles south of Kolkatta of India and 310 miles southwest of Sittway of Myanmar, and is moving northwards. It is forecasted to pass India and the west coast of Bangladesh in next 36 hours after the observation time.

The storm is now only at the yellow level, and it is forecast that it is unlikely to move towards the coastal region of Myanmar.

Due to the influence of the cyclonic storm, squalls and moderate and rough seas are likely to be widespread sometimes in the same period in the delta, along Rakhine coast, and off and along the Myanma coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 40 mph. Moreover, the tidal waves may rise by two to three feet along the northern coast of Rakhine State.

Therefore, the department warned that offshore and deep-sea trawlers, motorboats and vessels plying in the sea off Maungdaw coast leave the area in next 36 hours from the observation time.—MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall

Yangon (Central)	2.52 inches
Yangon (KabaAye)	2.16 inches
Pyapon	1.92 inches
Bhamo	1.77 inches
Mogok	1.65 inches
Yangon (Mingaladon)	1.42 inches
Nawngkhio	1.42 inches
Homalin	0.99 inch

