

EXTERNAL

AI Index: ASA 39/02/96

16 January 1996

Further information on EXTRA 155/95 (ASA 39/09/95, 5 December 1995) and follow-up (ASA 39/10/95, 20 December) - Health Concern / Legal Concern

**THAILAND**Daw Khin Hlaing (f)  
U Ye Gaung, aged 71, journalist

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In spite of reports that Thai Immigration officials had agreed to release Burmese asylum-seekers Daw Khin Hlaing and U Ye Gaung, the couple are still being held in Bangkok's Immigration Detention Centre (IDC). Amnesty International's concern is heightened by the fact that Daw Khin Hlaing is having difficulty walking and is not receiving proper medical care for her heart condition and related illnesses. The organization is renewing its calls on the Thai authorities to release the two immediately.

Apparently, the couple have paid a fee to cover the cost of their transport to Mae Sot, a town near the Thai/Myanmar border. Nevertheless they are still in detention and are not likely to be released for another two weeks.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express/airmail letters in English or in your own language:**

- urging the Thai authorities to immediately release U Ye Gaung and Daw Khin Hlaing, particularly in view of the latter's health problems;
- urging the Thai authorities to cease the practice of routinely arresting Burmese and other asylum-seekers.

**APPEALS TO:**

Banharn Silapa-archa, Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior  
Office of the Prime Minister  
Government House  
Nakhorn Pathom Road  
Bangkok 10300, Thailand

**Telegrams: Prime Minister Banharn Silapa-archa, Bangkok, Thailand**  
**Faxes: + 66 2 280 1443; + 66 2 225 6211 (if voice, ask for fax tone)**  
**Salutation: Dear Prime Minister**

**COPIES TO:** diplomatic representatives of Thailand accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 15 February 1996.