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Bad times in Burma

SIR: In the *Bangkok Post* September 6, I read of the demonetising of Kyats 75, 35 and 25 currency notes by the Rangoon government. This is at least the third time this dictatorial government has done this cruel act during its rule of Burma for over 25 years. In a statement issued by the Ne Win government they accused the Karen National Union (KNU) and other ethnic rebel groups of forging these currency notes. This is a malicious lie.

We are a simple and God-fearing people who do not believe in monkey business. We are amidst a bitter struggle against the rulers for our own freedom and rights. Also, we have neither time nor knowledge to forge these notes which have little value. We have been fighting back against the Ne Win government army aggressors with all our might; they will never be able to subdue us.

The Rangoon government has done this demonetising for reasons best known to themselves. The whole of Burma is in a terrible shambles. The people have become incredibly poor. This latest demonetising will hurt them enormously. Already riots have broken out in many parts of the country.

Thousands of students are taking hostages, and the situation is likely to follow.

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