“A Precious Ballot”

Section (1)

It’s 7:45 AM.

Oh My God!

What have you been read about?

Nothing! Just worrying about general election which will be held today throughout the whole country.

We are still trying for rehabilitation after natural disaster which affected the whole country.

That’s why praying to relieve my worries.

Mum and Dad, this matter won’t be accomplished just by worrying and praying.

The best thing we need to do is to go and vote at polling station right now.

Right! It’s better to prioritize to vote than to merely worries.

The polling station is quite far from home. Is it okay, sweet heart?

Oh Mum! It is one of our civil rights.

We have responsibility to use that right properly.

Don’t worry. I have an appointment with friends.

Just come quickly. I am leaving.

Oh go slowly, dear!

Don’t worry. As our daughter said, let’s put our worries aside and let’s go to vote.

All Right!

You are pretty late, M.s Soe Moe.

Sorry Manai. Just having chit chat with my parents.

What were you talking about?

I was explaining about to give priority to vote today.

Of course! You should explain it carefully.

I just thought that you are beautifying yourself. Ha Ha!

Oh, nonsense!

Hey! We all are here on time. How diligent!

M.s Theint, you looks unhappy. Aren’t you feel well?

I am fine. But Mr. Pyae . . . . . . .

What’s wrong with Mr. Pyae?

He said that it’s none of his business to vote.

Isn’t he free? The polling station will be open till 4:00 PM.

Didn’t you explain to him carefully?

I did. But he is too stubborn.

What can I say against him?

Well, we will go to him first.

Then, we will go to polling station together.

Mr. Pyae, what are you doing now?

Don’t beat around bush. Just get to the point.

We all are going to vote and come to you to take along.

Just leave me alone. Go and vote yourselves.

Wait Mr. Pyae. Only Myanmar citizens get the right to vote.

Some can’t get this right in spite of residing in our country.

Why don’t you want to vote? Aren’t you a Myanmar citizen?

Yes, I am .But, what difference can make just by my ballot whose is disabled.

It will be the same condition when the time comes.

I will also be just me. Isn’t it?

Mr. Pyae, give it a second thought.

How hard our leaders have tried to get the equal right to vote as non- disabled!

Now is time to start to develop the democratic nation as well as an inclusive and happy society with a ballot.

It doesn’t matter if you are the only one who thinks like that.

But, if most of us have such thoughts. . . . . . . . . Hmm!

Do go and vote if you want to show your heartfelt ballot is precious for our democratic nation in spite of having impairments.

Section (2)

Before giving vote, read and check the voter list and posters on how to vote hanging outside.

 I’d like to check whether there is any ink on your finger.

 As this voter is visually impaired, will need a personal assistant.

 This friend will help me. That’s okay.

 Show your voter registration card and get your ballot.

 First check your name in voter list of People’s Parliament.

 Then get the ballot for People’s Parliament.

 Show your voter registration card and get your ballot.

 First check your name in voter list of National Parliament.

 Then get the ballot for National Parliament.

 Show your voter registration card and get your ballot.

 First check your name in voter list of State/Regional Parliament.

 Then get the ballot for State/Regional Parliament.

 If you are in voter list of National Races, need to vote for 4th ballot.

 Show your voter registration card and get your ballot.

 First check your name in voter list of Parliament of National Races.

 Then get the ballot for Parliament of National Races.

 After voting for all Parliaments, indelible ink will mark on your left little finger.

 This will remain for the period of 2 weeks without any harm.

Then, you need to give your voter registration card back to person who mark with ink.

Encourage and support eligible voters with intellectually impaired.

One of their trustable family members or polling officer need to help them if needed.

For voters with hearing impaired, help them with text, sign language or body gesture.

Use face to face communication if lip-reading is available.

For convenience of all voters including disabled, set up slopes with 1ft height/10 feet length.

For the convenience of disabled voters, the entrance, exit and walkway of polling station need to be 3 feet wide at least.

For convenience of wheelchair users, tables in ballot booths and on which ballot boxes are placed need to not higher than 3 feet.

 “Dear persons with disabilities, let’s involved and vote by ourselves”