

LINCOLN LEGAL SERVICES (MYANMAR) LIMITED

## NEWSLETTER 71 - 29<sup>th</sup> April 2020

### Dear Readers,

Welcome to a new edition of our newsletter!

#### **1.** Emergency unemployment benefits

This is to inform you that with <u>Notification 83/2020 dated 28<sup>th</sup> April 2020</u>, the government announced to pay 40% of the January wages to workers who fulfill the following requirements:

- (a) Employment at a factory, workshop or establishment closed while waiting to be inspected for COVID-19 prevention compliance (see <u>here on pages 2 and 3</u>);
- (b) being temporarily out of work due to the closure; and
- (c) being registered and insured with the Social Security Board.

The 40% payment seems to be made for the period during which the factory, workshop or establishment is closed waiting for inspection; it is unclear (but from the wording of the Notification not very likely) whether other reasons for closure may trigger payment as well.

The Notification does not mention whether the employer is obliged to top up the wages (or, conversely, whether workers on reduced wages would disqualify); it furthermore does not mention any caps (e.g., the minimum salary) on the payment.

An **application by the employer to the Township Social Security Office** is required for affected workers to benefit.

#### 2. COVID-19 Economic Relief Plan

The government published an <u>action matrix on its planned emergency efforts</u> on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

We hope that you have enjoyed reading our newsletter and found it useful.

Sebastian Pawlita Managing Director Nyein Chan Zaw Director

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# About Lincoln Legal Services (Myanmar) Limited

Lincoln Legal Services (Myanmar) Limited provides the full range of legal and tax advisory and compliance work required by investors. We pride ourselves in offering result-oriented work, high dependability and a fast response time at very competitive prices. Please do not hesitate to contact us:

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