



Dear Readers,

1. Exporters in border trade must pay deposits to secure the repatriation of export revenue

Since July 2022, exporters in border trade were only able to obtain export clearance if they were able to show that the importer on the other side of the border had paid in advance for the goods. This was true at least for the export of pulses, corn, sesame, and peanuts; the advance payment had to be made in USD.

Starting from 1 July 2023, these restrictions have been replaced for all goods by the following new system according to Export and Import Newsletter 11 and 13/2023 ([English translation](#)):

- Exporters whose company was 3 years old or older on 1 July 2023 have to pay a deposit of 20%, and exporters whose company was younger have to pay a deposit of 35% of the export value to the Department of Trade when applying for an export license.
- They must ensure that the purchase price for the exported goods to be paid by the foreign trading partner is credited to their bank account in Myanmar within 15 days from “the receipt” (presumably by the Customs Department) of the export declaration form. Failure to do so will result in the confiscation of the deposit and the cancellation of the exporter/importer registration; otherwise, the deposit will be refunded.
- Exporters may make the deposit in MMK at the market rate in the respective border region.

2. SOP for the export and import of gold and jewellery

Export and Import Newsletter 12/2023 dated 3 July 2023 ([text in Burmese](#)) sets new standard operating procedures for obtaining permission to export and import value-added goods made of gold, jewellery, and objects of fine art and accessories made of gold.

3. When to pay and when not to pay personal income tax on housing and medical benefits

With Interpretation Statement 1/2023 dated 28 June 2023 ([English translation](#)), the Internal Revenue Department formalised its interpretation of the taxability of housing and medical benefits provided by employers. At least the treatment of housing benefits seems to have been long-standing administrative practice already.



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In a nutshell, benefits paid in cash to an employee are subject to personal income tax. In contrast, benefits provided in kind (such as, accommodation in a company-owned dormitory or in an apartment rented by the employer; medical treatment from a doctor paid by the employer) are not subject to personal income tax.

We hope that you have found this information useful.

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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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