



LINCOLN LEGAL SERVICES (MYANMAR) LIMITED

CONVENIENCE TRANSLATION - ACCURACY NOT GUARANTEED

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Supreme Court of the Union

Directive No. 1/2026

1387, 13th Waning Day of Pyatho

(15 January 2026)

Matters to be complied with in marriage ceremonies according to the Christian Marriage Act

1. The Supreme Court of the Union issues licences to Christians according to sections 6 and 9 Christian Marriage Act allowing them to perform marriage ceremonies, appoints registrars and the chief registrar according to section 7, makes announcements that must be complied with when applying for licences and solemnising marriages, and issues directives on matters to be undertaken by registrars. As of 2025, 19 licences have been issued according to section 6, 16 licences according to section 9, and 56 licences according to sections 6 and 9.
2. When examining the marriage documents sent by these licence holders to the chief registrar, it was found, among others, that marriage ceremonies were performed without a licence permitting the performance of a marriage ceremony involving a foreigner, and that marriages between foreign Christians and Myanmar citizens are becoming more frequent than before.
3. To protect Myanmar women from the danger of being taken away in incidents of human trafficking by foreigners who temporarily visit Myanmar to lure them into marriage by paying money, the particulars of the foreigner must be scrutinised in a Christian marriage ceremony in the same manner as they are scrutinised when Buddhist marriage affidavits are taken in court.
4. It is therefore directed that a Christian marriage ceremony of a foreigner and a Myanmar citizen according to the Christian Marriage Act may only be conducted as prescribed after careful scrutiny whether the following particulars are complete.

For the foreigner intending to marry:

- (1) Passport;
- (2) evidence of a visa that allows the foreigner to stay in Myanmar for more than 30 days;
- (3) submission to the Myanmar Immigration Department stating that the marriage will take place during the stay with the visa;



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- (4) certificate from the relevant embassy stating that the marriage is not prohibited under the law of the relevant country (“certificate of no impediment to marriage”)
- bachelor, unmarried or no longer married (evidence of divorce or the spouse’s death);
 - status of residence in the relevant country;
 - permanent address and occupation; income;
 - certificate of no criminal record or good character.
5. Failure to comply with this directive and the legal provisions, directives, orders and announcements in force regarding marriage ceremonies will result in action being taken according to the legal provisions.

(Thar Htay)
Chief Justice of the Union

Letter No. 18/10/Pa Ta Kha (75/2026)

Date: 15 January 2026



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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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