

LINCOLN CONSULTANCY (MYANMAR) LIMITED

NEWSLETTER 211 - 30 October 2025

Dear Readers,

Welcome to a new edition of our newsletter.

1. Township and District Administration Directives

Shortly before its dissolution, the Office of the State Administration Council on 30 July 2025 published a Township Administration Directive ([English translation](#)) and a District Administration Directive ([English translation](#)).

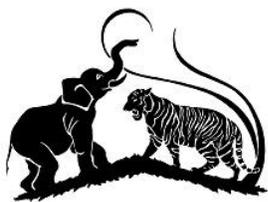
These directives order the establishment of township and of district management and administration committees (“**Township Committee**” and “**District Committee**”), composed of the township or the district administrator from the General Administration Department and a person appointed by him, a Tatmadaw representative, the township or the district heads of the Planning Department and of the Ministry of Immigration and Population, the township or the district law officer, and the township or the district police chief.

The Planning Department is part of the Ministry of National Planning, a product of the split on 1 August 2025 of the Ministry of Planning and Finance into two separate ministries, and is in particular responsible for drafting socio-economic development and public investment plans.

The Township and the District Committees are tasked with coordinating other government departments in basically all aspects of public life, such as land management, food security, natural resources, environmental conservation, development of micro, small and medium enterprises, improvement of technology-based manufacturing, investment of public funds, supervision of public and private construction projects, building public infrastructure, storage and transport of petroleum and petroleum products, explosives, and chemicals, assistance to cooperative societies, urban development, rural development, tax collection, suppression of smuggling, education, health care, natural disaster prevention and mitigation, citizenship applications, and census-taking.

There is a particular focus on what the directives term “security, rule of law, and community peace and prosperity”. Among others, the Township and the District Committees are tasked with monitoring and supervising the entry, exit, and activities of foreigners.

Furthermore, the Committees shall “coordinate and supervise matters related to the activities of domestic associations and international non-governmental organisations, and if necessary, cause the relevant government department or organisation to take action,” and “prevent, inspect, and



take necessary action against receiving donations without permission, except for matters of donating and giving alms according to religious beliefs, customs, and traditions, and against donating to illegal organisations and persons associated with them.”

The directives furthermore outline the powers and duties of the township administrator and the district administrator from the General Administration Department with an emphasis on border security.

2. **“Minimum Compliance Points for Food Businesses”**

On 22 October 2025, the Food and Drug Administration Department (“**FDA**”) under the National Defence and Security Council (“**NDSC**”) published a checklist for its inspectors on its website. For food businesses, all 72 points on this checklist must be inspected, whereas for drinking water purification businesses, only 66 points are subject to inspection. The checklist is available in [Burmese](#) and in [English](#).

Furthermore, the FDA published a bilingual [risk profiling document](#) for food businesses to ensure that the frequency of inspections is determined according to a risk score.

3. **Renewal and other fees for export and import licences increased**

On 8 October 2025, the Department of Trade under the NDSC announced an increase of the renewal and other fees for export and import licences, with effect from 15 November 2025.

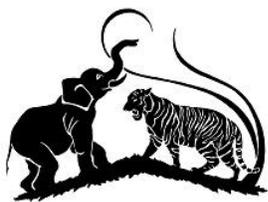
CONVENIENCE TRANSLATION - ACCURACY NOT GUARANTEED

**Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Commerce
Department of Trade**

Import and Export Newsletter 6/2025

Date: 8 October 2025

Subject: **Notice of changes in trade service rates**

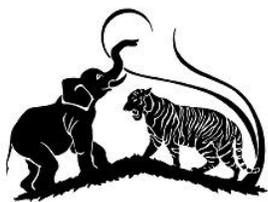


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1. The Department of Trade published the revision of the trade service rates that are collected on all online systems, including the Myanmar Tradenet 2.0 system, in Import and Export Newsletters 5/2018 and 18/2020.
2. The service rates and the rates for import and export that are currently being charged according to the aforementioned newsletters will be changed as follows:

Sr.	Heading	Rate charged
(a)	Tradenet 2.0 system annual usage fee (member fee)	MMK 50,000
(b)	Online service (online application fee)	MMK 10,000
(c)	Export licence renewal fee	
(1)	First renewal for 2 months	MMK 50,000
(2)	Second renewal for 1 month	MMK 30,000
(d)	Import licence renewal fee (including goods exempted from licence fees)	As per the prescribed import licence fee
(1)	First renewal for 2 months	
(2)	Second renewal for 1 month	
(e)	Amending particulars of the export or import licence, per amendment	MMK 10,000
(f)	Fee for returning the export or import licence	MMK 30,000
(g)	Penalty if the application for the first and second renewal of the export licence or for its amendment is made late	
(1)	Within 1 month from the expiry date	MMK 5,000
(2)	More than 1 month from the expiry date	MMK 10,000
(h)	Penalty if the application for the first and second renewal of the import licence or for its amendment is made late, or the import licence is returned late	
(1)	Within 1 month from the expiry date	MMK 5,000
(2)	More than 1 month from the expiry date	MMK 10,000



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3. For reapplications after the licence was returned, applications submitted more than 14 days after the licence expiry date will not be processed. In addition, applications for licence amendments must be submitted in advance, before the goods arrive at Myanmar ports or airports.
4. Therefore, it is hereby announced that the service rates specified in para. 2, which are to be paid to the State, must be paid from 15 November 2025.
5. Export and Import Newsletters 5/2018 and 18/2020 are repealed by this newsletter.

Department of Trade

4. Payment of patent and utility model fees

On 21 October 2025, the Intellectual Property Department under the NDSC published its terms and conditions for the payment of fees for the application for, and maintenance of, a patent or utility model. A translation of Notification 2/2024, which determines the amount of the fees, can be found in one of our [previous newsletters](#).

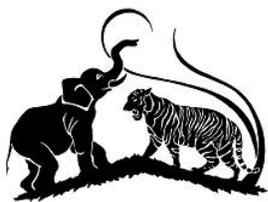
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Notification 22/2025

Date: 21 October 2025

With regard to the submission of an application for a patent/utility model or the payment of annual fees to maintain a patent/utility model, the following is hereby notified:

- (a) The prescribed annual fees shall be paid within 6 months before the due date for annual fee payment according to Notification No. 2/2024 on the determination of service fees relating to applications for patents or utility models and for registration of patent representatives.
- (b) The annual fee for a patent application or a patent shall be paid starting from the third year, counted from the application date.



- (c) The annual fee for a utility model application or a utility model shall be paid starting from the second year, counted from the application date.
- (d) If the annual fee is paid late, a late fee amounting to 50% of the annual fee for the current year shall be paid in addition.
- (e) If the annual fee is not paid, the patent/utility model application or the patent/utility model shall become void.

Intellectual Property Department

[Original published on commerce.gov.mm on 21 October 2025.]

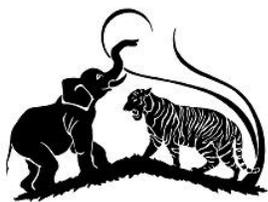
5. Soliciting the Custom Department's help with preventing the import and export of materials that infringe a copyright

The Ministry of Finance and Revenue under the NDSC issued "customs rules concerning the protection of a copyright and related rights" ("**Rules**") on 11 September 2025 ([English translation](#)). A comparable framework already exists for trademarks.

The Rules set out the procedures and forms for a copyright owner to (i) have his protected work recorded with the Customs Department to make customs officers aware of it so as to enable the officers to spot and seize infringing goods, and (ii) apply for a suspension order if he has become aware of a shipment of infringing goods taking place.

The Customs Department apparently does not charge a recordation fee. The recordation is valid for 2 years and may be renewed 30 days before expiry.

The Customs Department shall, either following its own investigation or after having been prompted by a copyright owner, temporarily seize goods if there are reasons to suspect that they infringe a copyright. This is done with a suspension order. If the copyright owner does not follow up within 15 days by requesting the Kyauktada District Court to determine whether his claim has any merit (Supreme Court Notification 964/2023), the suspension order is lifted again. Alternatively, the importer may request the High Court of Yangon Region to review the suspension order (Supreme Court Notification 961/2023).



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The [Copyright Law](#) of Myanmar, which is not a member of the Berne Convention, protects works created by Myanmar nationals and residents. Works created by non-resident foreigners are protected only if they are published in Myanmar within 30 days after their first publication abroad.

Registration with the Intellectual Property Department is possible, but as such not required for works to enjoy protection. However, judging by the forms in the Rules, the Customs Department seems to act only if a work is registered with the Intellectual Property Department.

Copyright owners applying for a suspension order must pay a security deposit which amounts, at the option of the Customs Department, to MMK 10,000,000 or 10% of the customs value of the suspended goods.

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Customs Department, Prevention Division Announcement No. 1/2025

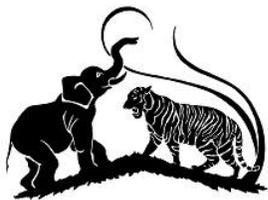
Date: 29 September 2025

For the information of applicants for suspension orders regarding a copyright or related rights:

1. Applicants for suspension orders shall, according to rules 14 (a) and 16 (c) Customs Rules Concerning the Protection of a Copyright or Related Rights, pay to the Customs Department within 7 days from the date of the notice of acceptance of the application for the issuance of a suspension order a security deposit of 10,000,000/- (exactly ten million kyats) or, at the option of the Customs Department, of 10% of the customs value of the suspended goods. If the paid security deposit is insufficient, an additional security deposit shall be paid.
2. It is hereby announced that if the security deposit is not paid within the specified time, the application for the issuance of a suspension order will be rejected according to rule 14 (b) Customs Rules Concerning the Protection of a Copyright or Related Rights.

Customs Department

[Original published on customs.gov.mm.]



6. Low interest loans for earthquake rehabilitation

On 18 October 2025, the Central Bank under the NDSC announced that low-interest loans are available for earthquake rehabilitation.

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Notice that loans for rehabilitation programmes in areas affected by the powerful Mandalay earthquake can now be applied for

Post Date: 18-10-2025

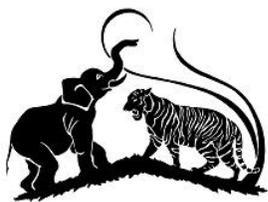
Nay Pyi Taw, 17 October 2025

The powerful Mandalay earthquake that struck on 28 March 2025 caused damage to homes, factories, and businesses of citizens, including civil servants, in the Union Territory (Nay Pyi Taw), Mandalay Region, Sagaing Region, Magway Region, Bago Region, and northeastern Shan State

Loans with a term of 3 to 5 years at a low interest rate will be provided with funds contributed by the State to help rebuild the earthquake-affected areas.

- Home and building reconstruction loan (interest rate 3%)
- Working capital, equipment, water, electricity, solar and investment loans for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) (interest rate 5%)
- Loan for the renovation and operation of large factories (interest rate 7%)
- Temporary loans for construction companies responsible for building state-owned infrastructure (interest rate 7%)

The participating banks and non-bank financial institutions in the loan programme, selected according to the standard operating procedure (SOP) for loans, are AYA Bank PCL, UAB Bank PCL, CB Bank PCL, Ayeyarwaddy Farmers Development Bank, Yoma Bank, Construction, Housing & Infrastructure Development Bank, Myanmar Citizens Bank, Kanbawza Bank,



Myawaddy Bank, Innwa Bank, Best Merchant Finance Co., Ltd. and ZEGA Finance Co., Ltd. (SOP details can be found on the CBM Website www.cbm.gov.mm.)

This is to announce that businesses and individuals in earthquake-affected areas can now apply for loans through the participating banks and non-bank financial institutions.

[Original published on cbm.gov.mm on 17 October 2025.]

7. **Central Bank increases the “interest on average excess reserve” (IOER)**

On 30 September 2025, the Central Bank under the NDSC increased the interest on MMK deposits by commercial banks that exceed their minimum deposits with the Central Bank, to incentivise them to deposit more money with the Central Bank to control inflation by reducing liquidity in the economy.

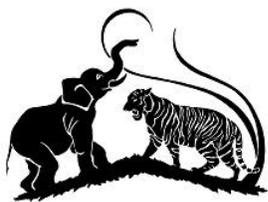
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Monetary policy approach to be undertaken by Central Bank of Myanmar to absorb excess liquidity from the economic system

Post Date: 03-10-202

There is more money circulating in the economy which led to an interest rate increase in September 2024, and there are more deposits in the banking system due to increased digital transactions, which led to an increase in the amount of money that banks deposit with the Central Bank. To prevent inflationary pressure due to excess liquidity as a result of liquidity increasing and surpassing the target, to support the State’s economic growth, to revive the economy, and to achieve the economic growth rate set by the State, the Monetary Policy Committee meeting discussed policy options to control inflation by analysing macroeconomic conditions, not raising interest rates, maintaining exchange rate stability, and stipulating minimum reserve requirements.

The Monetary Policy Committee meeting decided to absorb the excess liquidity in the economic system by increasing the interest on the deposits of banks with the Central Bank that exceeds their minimum deposit in MMK that they must maintain with the Central Bank



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for 28 days (“Interest on Average Excess Reserve (IOER)”), and by setting the IOER interest rate at the 1-month money market (average) interest rate. This will help control the moderately high inflation rate and the depreciation of the Myanmar kyat, increase the interest income of banks, and contribute significantly to banking sector stability and financial stability.

Central Bank of Myanmar
(30-9-2025)

[Original published on cbm.gov.mm on 3 October 2025.]

We hope that you have found this information useful.

Sebastian Pawlita
Managing Director

About Lincoln Legal Services (Myanmar) Limited

Lincoln Consultancy (Myanmar) Limited provides the full range of legal advisory (through our local lawyers), 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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