

Country Report (Myanmar) | COVID -19

April 27th, 2020

The British Chamber of Commerce will consolidate the various regulations into one document. We can't 100% confirm that all the reports are true and are intended as a guideline only. We will provide updates as and when new information emerges.

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

- BCCM Members can check the **Dashboard** of Ministry of Health and Sports and the **Situation Update Daily Report** <u>Here</u>.
- From 23rd March 2020 to 27th April 2020 as of 7:00 AM, there were 146 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Myanmar. There are 10 relapses and 5 cases of measles.

Government Policy Update For COVID- 19 Precautions

 On 26th April 2020, The Ministry of Foreign Affair released the Announcement on Extension of the Precautionary Restriction Measures Related to Control of COVID-19 Pandemic until 15th May 2020.

Previous Announcements

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has issued the following announcements regarding the temporary entry restrictions for visitors from all countries which are in force till 15th May 2020.

- a) Announcement dated 15th March 2020 regarding precautionary measures for all travellers visiting Myanmar;
- b) Announcement dated 20th March 2020 regarding additional precautionary measures for travellers visiting Myanmar and temporary suspension of issuance of visa on Arrival and e-visa;
- c) Announcement dated 24th March 2020 regarding additional precautionary for travellers from all countries visiting Myanmar;
- d) Announcement dated 28th March 2020 regarding temporary suspension of all types of visas (including social visit visas) and visa exemption services.

Quarantine



• In accordance with the directive of the Ministry of Health and Sports dated 11th April 2020, all incoming travellers including Myanmar nationals will be subject to 21-day facility quarantine and 7-day home quarantine on their arrival in Myanmar.

Relief Flights for Myanmar Nationals

 The aviation department said it will carry out relief flights in next month for Myanmar citizens stranded in Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Bangkok, and India. The airlines available for the mercy mission are All Nippon Airways, Myanmar National Airlines (MNA), and Myanmar Airways International (MAI).

Government Restrictions | Business Sectors

Banking Sector

• CBM announced that all banks in Myanmar will open from 10am to 2pm starting April 28 and last for the duration of COVID-19, the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) with the aim of controlling the spread of the deadly virus among bank employees and for banking operations to continue smoothly, the statement said.

Manufacturing Sector

- Confederation of the Trade Union of Myanmar Confirmed that there was confirmed COVID case for a Chinese Interpreter in Tsang Yh Company Limited in Hlaing Tharyar Township.
- The "Tsang Yih Shoe Factory" in Anawrahta Industrial Zone in Hlaing Tharyar Township has been temporarily closed. The factory employs more than 9,000 workers.
- In the current situation, people in the community have heard that the workers are not willing to accept workers from the factory. The district administration also said that it was looking for workers at the factory.
- "The government is pushing for the accommodation and food for the 9,000 workers who are in need of Quarantine," CTUM said in a statement.

Factory Closures

- There are 6,632 factories in Yangon Region alone. Factories manufacturing pharmaceuticals and food as well as those with a workforce of more than 1,000 will be prioritized.
- Factories, workshops and workplaces that meet the ministries requirements will be allowed to continue operations.





Hotel Sector

- **Pan Pacific Hotel** in Yangon made an announcement that they would put their hotel under lockdown for 21 days after confirming COVID 19 Cases.
- **Park Royal Hotel** in Yangon made an announcement that they would put their hotel under lockdown for 21 days after confirming COVID 19 Cases.
- **Inya Lake Hotel** compound in Yangon has been placed under quarantine after a staff member at a private clinic on the site tested positive for coronavirus.
- All hotels and guesthouses in Mandalay are closed starting from April 7.

Yangon Township Lock Down Summary

- 1. South Okkalapa
- 2. Pabedan
- 3. Bahan
- 4. Mayangone
- 5. Insein
- 6. Shwe Pyi Thar
- 7. Hlaing Tharyar.
- 8. Mingalardon
- 9. Tarmwe
- 10. Botahtaung
- 11. Tiddim and some villages in Chin State
- 12. Some Roads in Myitkyina

All ten townships in Yangon City now under semi-lockdown must adhere to the following measures:

- Except for government employees, corporate employees and factory workers who have to go to work, all residents are required to stay at home;
- Only one person per household is allowed to leave the house to procure essential supplies
- Only two persons per household are allowed to visit a clinic or hospital;
- All are required to wear masks upon leaving their homes;
- Only vehicles ferrying passengers to and from their workplaces will be allowed to pass through the townships;





- When leaving the house to procure essential goods within the ward, only one person is allowed in a vehicle other than the driver;
- Only two persons are allowed in each vehicle, apart from the driver, when visiting a clinic or hospital;
- Should there be a need for more than the fixed number of people or passengers to leave their homes or commute, or during emergencies, permission is first required from the ward administrator.
- The ministry also stated that except for those who are traveling to and from work, travel into and out of these townships will not be allowed.

Those who fail to comply with the order will be subject to action under the Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases Law.

Trade, Logistic and Cargo

The Ministry of Commerce Myanmar issue Notification No 21/2020, issuing order to protect goods. English Version In Here

Under the Essential Supplies and Services Law, the Ministry of Commerce has designated the following goods as important supplies in order to control the speculation in market:

- Health aid equipment for prevention, control and treatment of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
- Medicines
- Consumer goods
- Notification No 27/2020 (April 11th, 2020), exemption of import license free on pharmaceuticals and pharmaceutical materials in order that the end users can purchase the products with the fair price.
- The Ministry of Commerce Myanmar change online application for import license per MK 30,000, effective from April 1, 2020.
- Government has allowed import of essential items for COVID-19 prevention and control such as surgical masks, PPE, beds, ventilators and related equipment with the necessity to apply for import licenses, according to the Ministry of Commerce. The MOC implemented online application for import license starting from April 1.
- The border between Thailand and Myanmar still allows for cargo movement. At present, it is possible to travel freely on land across Myanmar's borders with Thailand and India. All travellers crossing from Thailand have to undergo a 14-day quarantine. The border crossing situation with Laos remains uncertain. The borders with both Bangladesh and China are closed to foreigners.
- Air and sea freight export and import operations from/to Myanmar remain normal. However, air freight is in a more difficult situation due to various flight cancellations.



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Sea Cargo Operational Status

- The port authority said incoming and outbound traffic at the country's main port remains normal. Most of Cargo ships arriving at Yangon include those from Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand and China. The port said that 172 vessels carrying 107,900 containers docked in Yangon in February, exceeding the 165 ships with 86,139 containers that arrived in the port in the same month last year.
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- Once cleared, the containers can be taken out after a permit is issued by Customs. There is no delay in the port. The port authority said that they are clearing out containers as quickly as possible.

Aviation Sector

- Starting from March 29th2020 with no confirmed end date; Myanmar prohibited all international passenger flights into its as part of the country's efforts to prevent the spread of coronavirus pandemic.
- The measure does not apply to relief, cargo, medical evacuation flights as well as specially approved flights.
- Relief, cargo, medical evacuation and special flights approved by the DCA are not affected. The main cargo are medical supplies and equipment and donation supplies from Thailand.
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Trade Gate Closure According to Ministry of Commerce

The Mant Wain trading gate in Muse has been closed since April 5 as both governments take more stringent measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, said U Khin Maung Lwin, assistant secretary of the Ministry of Commerce.

China no longer allows Myanmar truck drivers to cross into Yunan so Mant Wain, which is the main export gate for Myanmar's rice, maize, and pulses, has now closed, he said. Currently, only Chinese drivers who have passed medical tests are permitted to enter Myanmar to pick up goods. More Detail <u>Here</u>.

The government of India's Manipur State has shut down **the Tamu-Moreh border gates**, a key corridor for border trade between Myanmar and India, indefinitely over concerns about the spread of coronavirus, according to the Security and Border Affairs Ministry for Sagaing Region, where Tamu District is located.

The Tamu-Moreh borders gates are mainly used to export products from Myanmar—chiefly betel nuts, beans and other food.Myanmar businesses export over US\$30 million of products across the Tamu-Moreh border gates every four months, according to the Myanmar Ministry of Commerce. More Detail Here

• Economic Relief Plan 27 April 2020

