



**Dear Readers,**

Welcome to a new edition of our newsletter.

**1. Fuel rationing system reportedly in the works**

Local press report about plans to implement a “smart card” system for purchasing fuel as follows:

*CONVENIENCE TRANSLATION - ACCURACY NOT GUARANTEED*

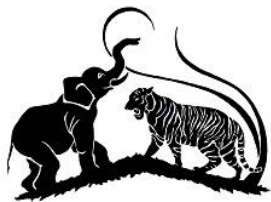
Plans to sell fuel with a smart card

An official from the Fuel Import, Storage and Distribution Supervisory Committee said that there were plans to use smart cards to sell fuel at petrol stations to prevent illegal purchases and queues. He said that plans were being made currently for sales with a smart card for the right to purchase fuel, and that this would be implemented soon.

The official from the Fuel Import, Storage and Distribution Supervisory Committee said that the intention of the plan to sell fuel with a smart card was to prevent fuel from being repeatedly diverted into and distributed in the black market and to solve the issue of people queuing up to purchase fuel due to it being in short supply, and that details would be released soon.

It has also been reported that once fuel is sold with a smart card, only one purchase may be made per day and car. The Fuel Import, Storage and Distribution Supervisory Committee announced the fuel reference prices in Yangon as of 3<sup>rd</sup> September as being MMK 3,100 per litre of octane 92, MMK 3,240 per litre of octane 95, MMK 2,655 per litre of regular diesel, and MMK 3,295 per litre of premium diesel.

[From One News Myanmar, [3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024](#).]



### 2. National Service Law (update)

From a coordination meeting of the Central Body for Drafting National Servicepersons on [3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024](#), it is learned that the drafting of National Service Rules is still ongoing (currently, the seventh version of the draft is apparently being discussed).

Furthermore, a “National Service Information Management System (NSIMS)” is apparently under implementation. We understand that this system, once implemented, is intended to serve as a centralised database for personal data of persons of military service age and may be accessed online by officers at airports, border gates and immigration and population offices.

### 3. AA, MNDAA and TNLA declared terrorist organisations

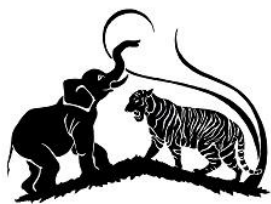
The Counter-Terrorism Central Committee under the State Administration Council (“SAC”) on [2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024](#) designated the United League of Arakan (ULA)/Arakan Army (AA), the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) and the Ta’ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) as terrorist organisations.

As of today, the following organisations have been declared “terrorists” during the term of the civilian government and by the SAC and any contact with them may, if discovered, lead to convictions under the [Counter-Terrorism Law](#) with sentences of imprisonment from 3 to 7 years (section 52 (a)).

- ARSA: Since 25<sup>th</sup> August 2017
- ULA/AA: From 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 to 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and again from 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024
- CRPH, NUG, PDF and their subordinates: Since 8<sup>th</sup> May 2021
- MNDAA and TNLA: Since 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024

Separately and unrelated to the Counter-Terrorism Law, an organisation may be declared an “unlawful association” under the [Unlawful Associations Act 1908](#). Contacts with an unlawful association may, if discovered, lead to sentences of imprisonment from 2 to 3 years (section 17 (1)).

There is no publicly accessible database that would list all organisations that were declared terrorist or an unlawful association. Whether an organisation falls under any of these two categories must be researched by consulting the Myanmar Gazette (which cannot be digitally searched) or daily news.



NGOs and INGOs in particular should follow developments in this respect as we think that their staff are particularly at risk of being investigated.

The 2023 [Counter-Terrorism Rules](#) explicitly suspect that money and assets from NGOs flow to “terrorists”, and that “terrorists” masquerade as NGOs to secure funding. Inspection teams and suppression forces that ultimately report to the Counter-Terrorism Central Committee have been established to conduct regular and random checks of the finances of NGOs (we understand also by way of covert operations), irrespective of whether the NGO is registered.

It was reported in [July this year](#) that at least 6 NGOs and INGOs had their legal status “annulled” for having been “involved in supporting terrorist activities” after the arrest of one individual who allegedly supported armed groups and collaborated with the six organisations.

#### 4. **Restrictions on travels abroad (update)**

In addition to imposing conditions on PV passport holders for travelling abroad, local press report that immigration authorities are preventing trips across the land border as follows:

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##### **Trips to Ranong with a border pass reportedly no longer allowed**

We understand from residents that starting from 2<sup>nd</sup> September, they will be allowed to go from the town of Kawthaung to the town of Ranong in Thailand only with a passport and not with a border pass [*literally, “border crossing permit book”*] anymore.

A person who wanted to go to Ranong told Popular News: “I do not know why it stopped. Yesterday, there were queues at the immigration and population to go to Ranong. They said that they would not give out border passes anymore. I do not know the reason. As they did not give, I had to go back. I will have to go again when they start again giving out border passes.”

Similarly, it has been reported that PV passport holders trying to enter Thailand via the Myawaddy-Mae Sot No. 1 Bridge were no longer allowed to do so and that there were many who were stopped by the police and had to go back.

It has been reported that at Yangon International Airport, among citizens with a PV



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passport those are allowed to leave for a visit who really travel to visit, who go abroad for medical treatment or as medical helpers, and who carry out social work abroad, after they have been checked as to whether they have the required return flight ticket, a hotel booking in the country to be visited and sufficient money to spend during the visit (show money).

It has also been reported that to obtain labour rights *[sic]* in the respective country, those who do not have a valid reason for a visit and go abroad to work are allowed to work abroad legally by applying for a passport for job (PJ) and applying for an OWIC to go abroad to work with the Ministry of Labour.

[From Popular News Journal, [3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024](#).]

We hope that you have found this information useful.

Sebastian Pawlita  
Managing Director

### About Lincoln Legal Services (Myanmar) Limited

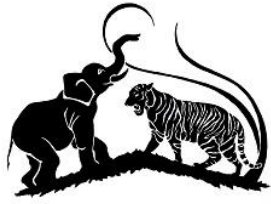
Lincoln Legal Services (Myanmar) Limited provides the full range of legal and tax advisory and compliance work required by investors. We pride ourselves in offering result-oriented work, high dependability and a fast response time at very competitive prices. Please do not hesitate to contact us:

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