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CONVENIENCE TRANSLATION - ACCURACY NOT GUARANTEED

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
State Administration Council
Law Amending the Motion Picture Law
(State Administration Council Law No. 59/2024)
1386, 5th Waning Day of Nadaw
(20 December 2024)

The State Administration Council hereby enacts this law according to article 419 of the Constitution:

1. This law shall be known as the Law Amending the Motion Picture Law.
2. In section 2 of the Motion Picture Law:
 - (a) Sub-sections (a), (b) and (h) shall be replaced as follows:
 - “(a) **‘Motion picture’** means the production and showing of a motion picture using any technology to produce and release, with any technology, still pictures, moving pictures, or pictures and sound.
 - (b) **‘Motion picture film’** means a feature film, documentary film, a film showing a drama, comedy, theatre play or musical, a plot, or a series *[produced]* for public screening, for distribution with any technology after public screening, for home use without public screening, for broadcasting on television and the internet, or for competing in a contest.
 - (h) **‘Department’** means the Department of Information and Public Relations of the Ministry of Information.”
 - (b) The following sub-section (i) shall be added after sub-section (h):
 - “(i) **‘Motion picture artists and technicians’** means directors, actors, screenwriters, music creators, editors, set designers or production managers who artistically or technically participate in the production of a motion picture film, and persons participating in the creation of a motion picture film using any technology as required.”
3. In section 3 of the Motion Picture Law:
 - (a) The expression “Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise” in sub-section (a) shall be replaced with the expression “Myanmar motion pictures”.



- (b) The expression “motion picture artists and specialists” in sub-section (d) shall be replaced with the expression “motion picture artists and technicians”.
4. The expression “Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise” in sections 4, 7, 24, 25, 26, 27, 36 and 39 Motion Picture Law shall be replaced by the expression “Department”.
5. After section 4 (h) Motion Picture Law, sub-sections (i), (j), (k), (l), (m) and (n) shall be added as follows:
- “(i) establishment of motion picture training schools;
 - (j) letting motion picture equipment;
 - (k) operating a services business for motion picture production;
 - (l) establishing and operating motion picture production studios;
 - (m) carrying out motion picture film animation, sound editing and special effects;
 - (n) establishing an online cinema, broadcasting motion picture films using applications, broadcasting motion picture films using online platforms.”
6. Section 5 Motion Picture Law shall be replaced as follows:
- “5. The Department shall examine whether the application meets the criteria and may, with the approval of the Ministry of Information, issue or reject [*the issuance of*] the motion picture business license.”
7. Section 8 Motion Picture Law shall be replaced as follows:
- “8. The Department shall determine the terms to be followed by the motion picture business license holder.”
8. The expression “Managing Director, Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise” in sections 10 (a) (1) and 19 (a) (2) Motion Picture Law shall be replaced with the expression “Director General, Department of Information and Public Relations”, and the expression “Director, Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise” in sections 10 (a) (4) and 19 (a) (5) Motion Picture Law shall be replaced with the expression “Director, Department of Information and Public Relations”.
9. Section 28 Motion Picture Law shall be replaced as follows:
- “28. The Department shall determine the terms to be followed by the cinema license holder.”



10. After chapter 6 Motion Picture Law, chapters 7 and 8 shall be replaced as follows:

“Chapter 7

Administrative action and appeal

30. The Department may impose a fine of at least MMK 50,000 and at most MMK 300,000 on a motion picture business license holder who violated any terms referred to in section 8. In addition, it may revoke the motion picture business license.
31. The Department may impose a fine of at least MMK 30,000 to at most MMK 200,000 on a cinema license holder who violated any terms referred to in section 28. In addition, it may revoke the cinema license.
32. The Department may impose one or more of the following administrative actions on any film artist or technician who incites, organises or speaks to harm the interests of the state and the people, or who acts, speaks, declares or incites to discredit the state, or who engages in any activity contrary to the laws enacted for the purpose of national security, rule of law, communal peace or public morals:
- (a) Warning;
 - (b) prohibition from participating in the production of any motion picture film for a minimum of 1 year and a maximum of 3 years.
33. Any person dissatisfied with a decision or order of the Motion Picture Censorship Board or the Department may appeal to the Ministry of Information within 30 days from the date of such decision or order.
34. The Ministry of Information may confirm, cancel, modify or re-examine the decision or order of the Motion Picture Censorship Board or the Department or direct that the decision or order be re-examined.
35. The decision of the Ministry of Information shall be final.
36. If no appeal is filed against the Department’s administrative decision, the Department’s decision shall be implemented upon the expiration of the appeal period.



Chapter 8 Offences and penalties

37. Any person who is convicted of having failed to comply with the provisions of section 14 (b) shall be punished with a fine of not less than MMK 500,000 and not more than MMK 1,000,000.
38. Any person who:
- (a) is convicted of any of the following acts shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years, or a fine of not less than MMK 1,000,000 and not more than MMK 2,000,000, or both. In addition, evidence related to the offence shall be confiscated as state property.
 - (1) Operating any type of business under section 4 without a motion picture business license;
 - (2) showing a motion picture film without a motion picture censorship certificate.
 - (b) is convicted again of an offence under sub-section (a) shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years, or a fine of not less than MMK 2,000,000 and not more than MMK 3,000,000, or both. In addition, evidence related to the offence shall be confiscated as state property.
39. Any person convicted of having exported or shown abroad a domestically produced motion picture film without a motion picture censorship certificate shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years, or a fine of not less than MMK 700,000 and not more than MMK 1,000,000, or both.
40. Any person who is convicted of having copied, distributed, let, sold or shown a film without complying with the instructions of the Motion Picture Censorship Board to cut or edit it shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than 6 months and not more than 3 years, and may also be fined not less than MMK 500,000 and not more than MMK 1,000,000.
41. Whoever:
- (a) is convicted of having shown a motion picture film without a cinema license shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years, or a fine of not less than MMK 700,000 and not more than MMK 1,000,000, or both.



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- (b) is convicted again of an offence under sub-section (a) shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years, or a fine of not less than MMK 1,000,000 and not more than MMK 2,000,000, or both.
42. Any person convicted of having failed to comply with any provision or having violated any prohibition in any rule, regulation, terms, notification, order, directive or procedure issued under this law shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding 1 year, or a fine not exceeding MMK 500,000, or both.”
11. The original sections 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41 and 42 of the Motion Picture Law shall be renumbered as sections 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49 and 50.
12. The following shall be added after section 46 of the renumbered Motion Picture Law as section 46-A:
- “46-A. Taking administrative action according to this law shall not preclude the right to take action under any other law in force.”
13. Section 49 of the renumbered Motion Picture Law shall be replaced as follows:
- “49. When implementing the provisions of this law:
- (a) The Ministry of Information may issue rules, regulations and terms as required with the approval of the Union Government.
- (b) The Ministry of Information, the Department, the Motion Picture Censorship Board or the Motion Picture Evaluation Board may issue notifications, orders, directives and procedures as required.”

I hereby sign according to section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

(Signature) Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General
Chairman
State Administration Council



LINCOLN LEGAL SERVICES (MYANMAR) LIMITED

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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