

Myanmar Announces Factory Inspections, Assembly Restrictions, and Curfew

On April 19, 2020, Myanmar's Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population announced a nationwide inspection of factories and workshops from April 20 to 30 to ensure [safety and hygiene standards specified by the Ministry of Health and Sports in their notification issued on March 19](#). Only those that meet the standards will be allowed to continue operating during the COVID-19 outbreak. The inspection will be conducted consecutively at the following categories of factories and workshops:

- ▶ Pharmaceutical factories;
- ▶ Food manufacturing factories;
- ▶ Factories and workshops with more than 1,000 workers;
- ▶ Factories, workshops and establishments that have already been found to be in compliance with the hygiene measures and are qualified to operate; and
- ▶ Other factories, workshops, and establishments that will be prescribed from time to time.

The inspections follow an announcement by the Ministry of Health and Sports (MOHS), on April 16, imposing restrictions on gatherings and movements of large numbers of people pursuant to Section 21/b of the Prevention and Control of Communicable Disease Law 1995. The announcement requires people to wear masks in public and restricts gatherings of more than five people at one place with the following exceptions:

- ▶ Visiting or returning to a government office
- ▶ Working at a company or a factory
- ▶ Shopping at a supermarket within county boundaries, limited to one person and a driver per household per visit
- ▶ Authorized transportation
- ▶ Judiciary related matters
- ▶ Activities of authorized COVID-19 prevention groups
- ▶ Emergency rescue teams
- ▶ Visiting clinic or hospital for illness, limited to two people and a driver per household per visit
- ▶ Funerals

Failure to comply with the announcement is punishable by imprisonment or a fine under the Communicable Disease Prevention Act.

On April 19, Myanmar also imposed a nighttime curfew in the Yangon, Mandalay, Ayeyarwaddy and Sagaing administrative regions. Some townships have also issued their own, stricter requirements, and companies with operations in Myanmar are advised to check whether their operations are affected by more restrictive local measures.

For more information on these developments, or on any aspect of doing business in Myanmar, please contact myanmar@tilleke.com.

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Our Commitment to Continuous Client Service

During the COVID-19 outbreak, we are focused on maintaining high-quality client services while ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our team. Over the past several weeks, Tilleke & Gibbins has implemented our Business Continuity Plan across our offices in Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. The vast majority of our team members are now working remotely, and based on our robust technology infrastructure, we are providing our full range of services as usual. We are now carrying out all client meetings through the use of technology, and, as many of you will have already experienced, this is proving to be a highly effective solution. By implementing a range of technology and agile working measures, we will ensure that you continue to receive the highest quality services with the fastest possible response times from our team. We know that you are facing complex business challenges during this crisis, and we have put together a bank of practical resources tracking the legal developments in the region as they happen—[you can access them all at this link](#). In addition, we want to assure you that our team will be continuously available to help you navigate these issues across Southeast Asia. If you have any queries about these measures, please contact your usual client service partner, or email communications@tilleke.com.

Stay well, safe, and healthy.