



NEWSLETTER

MYANMAR GARMENT MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

MGMA

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July 2018

NEWS

MGMA Press Conference



Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association - MGMA held a press conference on 2018-07-10 to respond a 7Day News Journal's translated article. 7Day News Journal published on 6th June 2018 mentioned a translated article titled as “တိုးတက်လာသော မြန်မာ့ အထည်ချုပ်လုပ်ငန်း၏နောက်တွယ်မှ ဖြစ်ရပ်များ” . The article was translated [The True Cost of Myanmar's Growing Garment Industry](#) into Myanmar. The translated article says sexual harassment and violence in the workplace is hindering women's opportunities

and the industry itself. The news medias' facts are based on research of ILO-GIP project. The research was conducted by asking workers from 16 factories. Moreover, there are some errors in translation which makes the meaning worse than origin. Therefore, MGMA sent [an opened letter](#) on 2018-06-18 to 7Day News Journal pointing out that the facts based on the research are not confirmable and translation mistakes makes the meaning worse. The journal did not reply to MGMA.

Therefore, MGMA organized the press conference. The conference was attended by Yangon Hluttaw Budget Planning and Economic Committee Chairman Daw Sandar Min, MGMA Chairman U Myint Soe, Vice-Chairmen Dr. Aung Win, U Kyaw Win, Secretary General Daw Khine Khine Nwe, members of CEC, EC, representatives from members, chairmen and members of China Textile and Garment Association in Myanmar and Korea Garment Association in Myanmar and medias.

In the conference, MGMA Chairman U Myint Soe responded that the journal should base on concrete data if it would mention that sexual harassment and violence prevail in garment factories because it makes the industry ugly on which over 500,000 workers are depending. Then Q&A session followed. Related documents can be read at below links:

<https://www.newsdeeply.com/womensadvancement/articles/2018/05/25/the-true-cost-of-myanmars-growing-garment-industry>

<http://www.7daydaily.com/story/128188>

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1J9Gw_fU3e8IWWf0hCQVza5KSY3xL5F-y

PRIORITY

Paradoxes in Business Laws Workshop

UMFCCI held a workshop to discuss impacts of paradoxes in business laws on foreign investment for the country's economic development. The workshop was held on 14th July 2018 in Mingalar Hall, UMFCCI and attended by UMFCCI Chairman U Zaw Min Win, Vice-Chairman U Wai Phyo, Joint Secretary General Daw Khine Khine Nwe, dignitaries from business associations under UMFCCI and employers' representatives. There was a panel discussion in the workshop and panelists were YGA Capital Managing Director U Thura Ko Ko, Allen and Gledhill Managing Director U Min Naing Oo, Coca-Cola Director of Public Affairs, Communication & Sustainability Mr. Alexandra Sandy Chapman, Wise Pear Bag Factory Production Manager Mr. KH Yeung and Star Tex Garment Director Ms. Xu (Celia) and moderator was



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Daw Khine Khine Nwe. During the workshop, employers' comments on "Settlement of Labour Dispute Law 2012 2nd Amendment draft" were collected.



Van Service Code before use in MACCS System

In MACCS system, the procedure of proceeding Export Pre-Declaration process only after insertion of Van Service Code delayed export processes. Therefore, The Custom Department has allowed proceeding Export Pre-Declaration process before insertion of Van Service Code in MACCS system to speed up export process and export business development. MGMA reminds member to fill up carefully data in the system.

Denying EC

Employment and Skill Development Law 2013, Section 5(a)(1) says "if the employer has appointed employee to work for employment, the employment contract shall be made within 30 days". Employer is responsible for conducting process of employment contract (EC). In practice, who deny to have employment contract are workers. Workers deny EC to coerce employer into complying with their demands. Denying EC becomes tactic of workers in more and more factories. Those behaviors put employers in difficult position.

If any employer is convicted of committing of failing to sign employment contract shall be punished with imprisonment for not more than six months or with a fine or with both, according to Section (38) of Employment and Skill Development Law 2013.

Therefore, if there are workers denying EC in factory, MGMA suggests member factories to discuss the issue in workplace coordination committee (WCC), and sent record of discussion with a letter mentioning that who deny to sign EC are workers, to Township Conciliation Body.

ACTIVITY

MOU between MGMA & Taiwan Textile Research Institute

In order to strength the cooperation of all industries and creating related business opportunities between Taiwan and Myanmar, Union Myanmar Federation Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and Chinese National Federation of Industries (CNFI) jointly hosted "Taiwan-Myanmar Industrial Collaboration Summit" on 24th July, 2018 in auditorium room of the UMFCCI. In the summit, Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) and Taiwan Textile Research Institute (TTRI) signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for industry information exchange, invitation to short term visits of members, researchers and staff for lectures, conferences and symposium or other activities, and textile technology and engineer talent development training.



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Taiwan-Myanmar Industrial Collaboration Summit



Signing MOU and meeting between MGMA & TTRI



Visits after signing MOU





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Advanced CSR Workshop

Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) and Foreign Trade Association of German Retailers (AVE) jointly organized "Advanced CSR Workshop on Social Management System & Remediation" on 3-5 July, 2018 at UMFCCI. The workshop was organized to improve social compliance standards in factories of MGMA members.





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UPCOMING

Description	Date	Place
1. HR Management Improvement In-Factory Training HR Management Improvement Training for problem solving, with focus on "Reducing Turnover and Absenteeism The course is specially designed to improve social compliance standards, as well as problem solving skills and productivity in your factory. The On-site Factory Training will be individually scheduled between the participants and MCY trainer within a period of 3 weeks after the workshops.	Aug, Oct, Sep, 2018	On-Site
2. 2nd Myanmar Textile Summit 2018 MGMA and ECV International are organizing in collaboration 2nd Myanmar Textile Summit 2018. The summit will focus on the latest government policies and international trading policies on the textile and apparel industries in Myanmar, sourcing practice and trends of international brands, the main challenges for FDI and so on.	12-13 Nov 2018	Sedona Hotel, Yangon

NEW MEMBERS IN JULY 2018

Number of New Factories in July 2018		2
Country	No. of Factories	No. of Workers
Chinese	5	3707
Korea	1	620
TOTAL	6	4327

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE AS OF 2018-07-31

Status	Country	No. of Factories	No. of Workers
Active	Myanmar	107	73251
	Chinese	194	182694
	Korea	56	55082
	Japan	19	54462
	Others	131	68345
Inactive	All	72	0
TOTAL		579	433834