



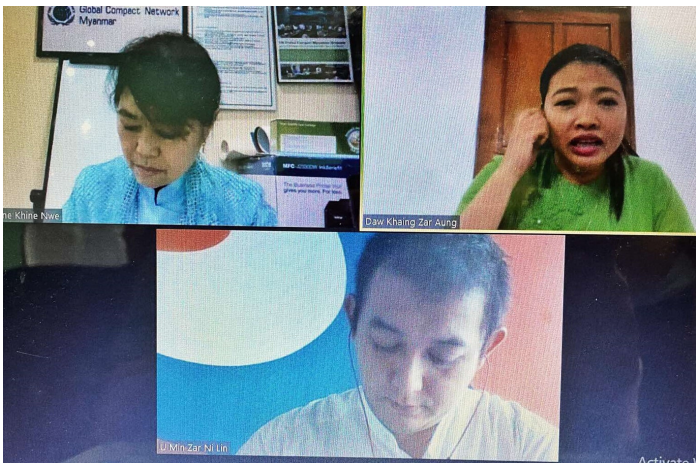
# MYANMAR GARMENT MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

## ANNOUNCEMENT TO TAKE THE MEDICAL BENEFITS 60% FOR QUARANTINED SSB REGISTERED WORKERS AND PREGNANT WOMEN FROM FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKS DURING COVID -19



THE SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD RELEASED THE NEWS IN THE JUNE 1 AND JUNE 3 NEWSPAPER ABOUT TAKING THE MEDICAL BENEFITS 60% FOR RESTRICTED SSB QUARANTINED WORKERS AND PREGNANT WOMEN FROM FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKS DURING THE PERIOD OF FOLLOWING THE PRESS RELEASE AND GUIDELINES FROM THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SPORTS.

## 'LIVE PANEL DISCUSSION ABOUT 'JOINING FORCES TO IMPROVE WORKING CONDITIONS DURING AND AFTER COVID-19'



**FUNDING SUPPORT OF OVER 1  
BILLION KYATS FROM EU MYANKU  
FUNDING PLAN TO OVER 12,900  
NUMBER OF GARMENT WORKERS**

**ANNOUNCEMENT TO CLEAR THE KG  
LISTS UNTIL 2018 DECEMBER**

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXTENDING THE  
PERIOD OF REDUCING THE SERVICES FEE  
FROM MGMA AND REQUEST TO UPDATE  
THE INFORMATION IN MGMA ONLINE  
SYSTEM**

| Content | Page No |
|---------|---------|
|---------|---------|

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Announcement to take the medical benefits<br>60% for quarantined SSB registered workers and<br>Pregnant women from factories, workshops and<br>Works during COVID -19 | 2  |
| Funding support of over 1 billion kyats from EU MyanKu<br>funding plan to over 12,900 number of garment workers   | 2  |
| Forming the Working Coordination Committee (WCC)  | 5  |
| 'Tune in Tuesday' interview to Daw Khine Khine<br>Nwe (MGMA)  | 5  |
| Notification about the extension of prevention<br>measures of controlling COVID - 19 until June 30, 2020  | 6  |
| Announcement about applying for Myanmar Tradenet<br>Member and temporarily extension of memberships<br>during the permitted timeline                                  | 6  |
| Announcement to clear the KG lists until 2018 December  | 7  |
| Announcement of extending the period of reducing<br>the services fee from MGMA and request to update the<br>information in MGMA Online System                         | 7  |
| The Industrial Engineering (IE) technology training   | 8  |
| Live panel discussion about 'Joining forces to<br>improve working conditions during and after Covid-19'   | 9  |
| Donation of masks to MGMA from MyanKu project team  | 10 |

## **Announcement to take the medical benefits 60% for quarantined SSB registered workers and pregnant women from factories, workshops and works during COVID -19**

The Social Security Board released the news in the June 1 and June 3 newspaper about taking the medical benefits 60% for restricted SSB quarantined workers and pregnant women from factories, workshops and works during the period of following the press release and guidelines from the Ministry of Health and Sports. According to the data until May 28 2020, the SSB registered restricted workers 212 from the number of 912 and pregnant women 5985 received the medical benefits. It described that the medical benefits can be claimed at the related township SSB department with the recommendation of complete watched date from related department, the medical recommendation certificate from SSB clinic.

## **Funding support of over 1 billion kyats from EU MyanKu funding plan to over 12,900 number of garment workers**

The EU MyanKu funding plan has been supporting the garment workers due to the worldwide pandemic COVID – 19. From starting May 1, the EU MyanKu funding plan has been doing the support plan to the garment sector and the funding support has been given to the over 12913 numbers of garment sector workers and over 1 billion kyats until June 2. The recipients of the MyanKu support plan are over 10,000 women garment workers from all over the Myanmar like Yangon, Patheingyi, Mandalay, Bago and Magway. (Crd – SMART Textile & Garments)

**{Detail Information can be read on the page number (3) and (4)}**

## EU Myan Ku Fund distributes first billion in payments to over 12,900 garment workers

*Garment workers who have lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic are receiving financial assistance through a €5 million [7.9 billion MMK] European Union emergency cash fund, "Myan Ku". Since 1 May, the "Myan Ku" initiative has distributed payments to a growing number of recipients, today reaching 12,913 individuals and 1,041,000,000 MMK in payments. Recipients include over 11,000 women factory workers from Yangon, Patheingyi, Mandalay, Bago, Magway Region and elsewhere across the country*

*"During this period, my factory was closed and I had no income. So, I worked in farming but it does not cover my family needs. Meanwhile, this Myan Ku support can solve my family's basic needs," said Ms. Eaindra Htet*

The Myan Ku team of phone operators currently handles calls and applications from tens of thousands of workers from across the country every week. Although a majority of workers are resident in Yangon, over three thousand have received support in Patheingyi and surroundings, and several hundred in the Mandalay and Magway Regions. Workers who have returned to home villages in Rakhine State, Kayah State, Mon State and elsewhere have also received emergency cash support.

*"The real strength of a society should be measured by how it treats the most vulnerable. Myan Ku has extended a safety net under those at risk of sliding into extreme poverty, with extra support to pregnant workers and women with young children. This success is also thanks to the strong support to Myan Ku from the social partners, including employer organizations, trade unions and the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population," said EU Ambassador Kristian Schmidt.*

In total, over 20,000 workers from 122 factories in the garment, textile and footwear industries have so far applied. Many applications have been submitted by the factories' human resources managers who are trying to coordinate support for recently terminated or suspended employees. Trade unions have also gathered applications from their members and hundreds of workers have applied directly to the hotline, which is operated from 8am to 8pm daily, Monday to Friday.

*"As I have no other sources of income during this pandemic period, the support from Myan Ku helps me to cover my family's basic needs, especially to buy basic food," said Ms. Moe Thandar Win*

### Background:

Myan Ku has been set up in April 2020 by the European Union as a rapid response measure to alleviate the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the predominantly female garment workers from all over Myanmar who lost their jobs due to the crisis.

The initiative is funded by the EU's NEXUS Response for Myanmar and implemented by the United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS) and sequa's SMART Textile & Garments project staff.

Local stakeholders and organizations supporting the successful implementation of the project include the Confederation of Trade Unions Myanmar, the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association, the Centre for Economic and Social Development, Pyi Gyi Khin, Opportunities NOW and Thone Pan Hla.

Cash transfers are remitted to workers digitally using Wave Money. To support garment workers in need, and as part of their corporate social responsibility, Wave is providing services to the Myan Ku project without their regular transaction fees.

The Myan Ku eligibility criteria are published on the SMART website here: <https://www.smartmyanmar.org/en/employer-application-for-myan-ku-support-for-workers>

**Media enquiry:**

Su Mon Thair

SMART Myanmar

+95 9970413400

[sumon@smartmyanmar.org](mailto:sumon@smartmyanmar.org)

## **Forming the Working Coordination Committee (WCC)**

U Min Soe Han (Labor Officer) from Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) explained about forming the Working Coordination Committee (WCC) with the video. The video described details about forming WCC is essential thing, the people who should include in the WCC, the easy and fast way of choosing the right person and also the obstacles and difficulty that can be faced when forming the WCC.

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5cPg0cdYeQs&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2k-59->

[Zh3Z7tUsSToCIEZnmQRXJEwESUciNcqaRapn0wtHxXUXEUUpUKtc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5cPg0cdYeQs&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2k-59-Zh3Z7tUsSToCIEZnmQRXJEwESUciNcqaRapn0wtHxXUXEUUpUKtc))

**(U Min Soe Han explains the video with Myanmar Language)**

## **‘Tune in Tuesday’ interview to Daw Khine Khine Nwe (MGMA)**

Daw Khine Khine Nwe from Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association answered the interview from Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Myanmar’s ‘Tune in Tuesday’. In the interview, Daw Khine Khine Nwe (MGMA) explained details things about Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association and its services to member factories, working with foreign organizations, things that MGMA will do in future.

(The complete interview can be watched at below link,  
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2603753016610362>)

## **Notification about the extension of prevention measures of controlling COVID - 19 until June 30, 2020**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs(MOFA) released the extension of restriction statement about the controlling and preventing COVID - 19 on June 30 2020. In the statement, it included about the restriction about the entry visa, to follow the statement and rules from the Ministry of Health and Sports.

## **Announcement about applying for Myanmar Tradenet Member and temporarily extension of memberships during the permitted timeline**

The Ministry of Commerce released the announcement about applying for Myanmar Tradenet Member and temporarily extension of memberships during the permitted timeline on May 20, 2020. In the announcement, it included about the Ministry of Commerce will accept the applying from online from (20.5.2020) to (30.7.2020) to reduce the damages of businesses and to reduce exposure at work and when the member fees are submitted again, annual fee have to be submitted from the date of sending the email.

## **Announcement to clear the KG lists until 2018 December**

Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) released the announcement to clear the KG lists until 2018 December on June 17, 2020. In this statement, it is included with remaining lists of companies to clear the KG lists and to make the clearance of KG lists with the last date of June 30 2020 and the import license recommendation will not be done from July 1 2020 to those whose have not cleared their KG lists.

## **Announcement of extending the period of reducing the services fee from MGMA and request to update the information in MGMA Online System**

Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) released the announcement about extending the period of reducing the services fees from MGMA and request to update the information in MGMA Online System on June 19, 2020. In the announcement, it is included that the reduced service fees will be extended until 31.7.2020 and as member factories, to update the new factory information instead of old data in the MGMA online system.

## The Industrial Engineering (IE) technology training

The trainers from Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) and Myanmar Garment Human Resources Development Center (MGHRDC) organized the Industrial Engineering (IE) technology training at Grand Sport International garment factory in Shwepyithar Township from June 9 to 19. The purpose of this training is to develop the productivity and know more about technology practically experience. The total 17 staffs from Grand Sport attended to the IE training.



## Live panel discussion about 'Joining forces to improve working conditions during and after Covid-19'

Daw Khine Khine Nwe (Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association), Daw Khaing Zar Aung (Industrial Workers Federation of Myanmar) and U Min Zar Ni Lin (Centre for Economic and Social Development) participated and discussed in the live panel discussion about 'Joining forces to improve working conditions during and after COVID -19 on June 24, 2020 from 10 am to 11:15 am from online. In the live panel discussion, they discussed how to negotiate each other between employee and employer when the employees from garment factories try to get better labor rights, problems faced by employers and workers during COVID -19 and also discussed about the problems that might be faced in workplace in the future.



## Donation of masks to MGMA from MyanKu project team

MyanKu project team donated the total number of 1500 masks to Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) on June 29, 2020. Managing Director and Labor Officer from MGMA received the donated masks.



### NEW MEMBERS IN JUNE 2020

| Number of New Factories in June 2020 |                  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Country                              | No. of Factories |
| China                                | 3                |
| Hong Kong                            | 1                |
| MC                                   | 1                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                         | <b>5</b>         |

### MEMBERSHIP UPDATE AS OF 2020-06-30

| Status                    | Country | No. of Factories |
|---------------------------|---------|------------------|
| Active CMP                | Myanmar | 91               |
|                           | Chinese | 287              |
|                           | Korea   | 67               |
|                           | Japan   | 21               |
|                           | Others  | 59               |
| <b>TOTAL (Active) CMP</b> |         | <b>525</b>       |

### Membership Data Update (JUNE)

|              | Investment Type | No. of Factories |
|--------------|-----------------|------------------|
| CMP          | Foreign Company | 525              |
|              | Myanmar Company |                  |
|              | JV              |                  |
| Others       |                 | 78               |
| <b>Total</b> |                 | <b>603</b>       |