

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar**  
**State Administration Council**  
**Rural Road Development Law**  
**(State Administration Council Law No. 38/ 2025)**  
**The 5<sup>th</sup> Waning Day of Kasone, 1387 M.E.**  
**(16 May 2025)**

The State Administration Council hereby enacts this Law under section 419 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

**Chapter I**

**Title and Definitions**

1. This Law shall be called the **Rural Road Development Law**.
2. The following expressions in this Law shall have the meanings given below:
  - (a) **State** means the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
  - (b) **Government** means the Union Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
  - (c) **Ministry** means the Ministry implemented the matters in this Law;
  - (d) **Department** means the Department assigned by the Ministry implemented the matters in this Law;
  - (e) **Rural Road** means the road prescribed as the rural road, by notification, by the Ministry constructed with the approval of the Government to connect with village to village, village to town or village to highways other than the farm roads and bridges constructed by the Department of Rural Development of the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development. This expression also includes road boundaries on both sides of the road and bridges on the road;

- (f) **Rural Road Work** means the work of rural road construction, expansion, upgrade, repair or maintenance;
- (g) **Rural Road Project** means the short-term or long-term project drawn up for performing the rural road works with the approval of the Government;
- (h) **Cart** means any type of wheeled cart moved by pulling, pushing, or attaching by person or animal;
- (i) **Road Boundary** means the width of the rural road prescribed by the Ministry, by notification, according to the level of the rural road.

## **Chapter II**

### **Objectives**

- 3. The objectives of this Law are as follows:
  - (a) to facilitate the road transport of rural areas and to be all-round development within the State;
  - (b) to be sustainable development of rural roads for the socio-economic development of the people in rural areas;
  - (c) to lay down and implement the strategic plan for the development of rural roads in accordance with the basic principles of rural development;
  - (d) to perform systematically the rural road works;
  - (e) to regulate the use of rural roads systematically;
  - (f) to perform not to disrupt the road transport by the natural disaster when the natural disaster strikes;
  - (g) to cooperate with the partnership organizations and private sectors for the development of rural roads.

### **Chapter III**

#### **Duties and Powers of the Ministry**

4. The duties and powers of the Ministry are as follows:
- (a) laying down the rural road development policies with the approval of the Government;
  - (b) drawing up the rural road projects with the approval of the Government;
  - (c) supervising the implementation of rural road projects within the prescribed period;
  - (d) constructing new rural roads, expanding the rural road land and road boundary, prescribing the rural roads as managed by the Ministry with the approval of the Government;
  - (e) prescribing the classification of the rural roads and road boundary;
  - (f) guiding and supervising in respect of the rural road works, and coordinating with the relevant Government departments and organizations if necessary;
  - (g) guiding and supervising not to disrupt the rural road transport by the natural disaster;
  - (h) performing the necessary land acquisition and removal of the building for the rural road works in accordance with the existing laws;
  - (i) performing the duties of the rural road works assigned by the Government from time to time.

### **Chapter IV**

#### **Duties and Powers of the Department**

5. The duties and powers of the Department are as follows:
- (a) implementing the rural road projects laid down by the Ministry in accordance with the rural road development policies;
  - (b) performing the rural road works with the permission of the Ministry and the approval of the relevant Region or State Government;

- (c) performing the rural road works with the Union fund, or the relevant Region or State fund or cooperation between the aid of individuals and the contributions of local people;
- (d) implementing, and supervising of the rural road projects and controlling of rural road quality;
- (e) managing the rural road boundary;
- (f) prescribing standards, drawing up the good design and monitoring to be sustainable the rural roads;
- (g) implementing the rural roads based on their importance, and road connection and road network in accordance with the level of the road prescribed;
- (h) constructing detour for the temporary roadblock to perform the rural road works;
- (i) prescribing vehicles, types of wheels and laden weight that are not allowed to drive on the rural roads, and inspecting, supervising and taking action whether or not in compliance with these stipulations;
- (j) prescribing terms and conditions in respect of traffic or stoppage of carts or animals on the rural roads, and inspecting, supervising and taking action whether or not in compliance with these terms and conditions;
- (k) prescribing the necessary prohibitions to prevent damage to the rural roads, and inspecting, supervising and taking action whether or not in compliance with these prohibitions;
- (l) allowing or prohibiting the constructing something or building within the rural road boundary or across the rural road after inspection;
- (m) discussing the people in the rural area relating to the rural road works and taking advice from them;
- (n) performing the rural road works submitted by the people in the rural area in accordance with the rural road development policies;

- (o) managing not to disrupt the rural road transport by the natural disaster;
  - (p) performing the rural road works assigned by the Ministry from time to time.
6. The Department may implement the rural road works with the permission of the Ministry and the approval of the relevant Region or State Government as follows:
- (a) performing itself;
  - (b) performing with the tender system in accordance with stipulations;
  - (c) assigning to the relevant Government departments and organizations in accordance with stipulations.

## **Chapter V**

### **Duties and Rights of People in Rural Areas**

7. The duties of the people in rural areas are as follows:
- (a) to maintain the rural roads;
  - (b) to cooperate and participate in technology dissemination relating to the rural road works;
  - (c) to solve with the guidance of the Department when arising the unity disrupting issues among the people in rural areas in performing the rural road works.
8. The rights of the people in rural areas are as follows:
- (a) discussing and advising in drawing up the rural road projects;
  - (b) submitting to the relevant Government departments, Government organizations to perform the rural road works;
  - (c) observing the rural road works, requesting and obtaining information and freely discussing and advising;
  - (d) studying visit to the local and international rural road development works with the arrangement of the Ministry.

## Chapter VI

### Implementation of Rural Road Works

9. The Department shall submit to the Ministry in accordance with the stipulations to obtain the land required actually for the construction of new rural roads or the expansion of rural road boundaries.
10. The Department may lay down strategies in accordance with the stipulations for repairing and maintaining for the long-term sustainability of the constructed rural roads or inspecting to ensure the quality of the constructing rural roads.
11. The Ministry may, to obtain the necessary minimum land amount for constructing the new rural roads or expansion of the rural road, perform as follows:
  - (a) receiving the land for the rural road donated by the land owner or authorized person;
  - (b) coordination with the relevant Ministries for land acquisition and removal of the building in accordance with the existing laws.

## Chapter VII

### Offences and Penalties

12. Whoever commits any of the following acts without the permission of the Department shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine from a minimum of fifty thousand kyats to a maximum of one hundred thousand kyats, or with both, and be compensated the value for the damage and loss if the rural road is damaged:
  - (a) constructing or building something across the rural road;
  - (b) doing some-way to damage the rural road.
13. Whoever:
  - (a) constructs the building within the road boundary without the permission of the Department shall, on conviction, be fined with a minimum of one hundred thousand kyats to a maximum of five hundred thousand kyats, and remove the building immediately with the constructor's expense;

- (b) commits again the offence under subsection (a) shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend from a minimum of six months to a maximum of one year, and with fine from a minimum of one hundred thousand kyats to a maximum of ten hundred thousand kyats.

14. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine from a minimum of fifty thousand kyats to a maximum of five hundred thousand kyats, or with both, and be compensated the value for the damage and loss if the rural road is damaged:

- (a) disturbing or obstructing the rural road work;
- (b) driving the vehicle that has a type of vehicle, wheel or a vehicle with load weight prohibited to drive by the Department on the rural road;
- (c) cutting down or destroying the tree within the road boundary without the permission of the Department;
- (d) making to alter or damage the condition of road, bridge and ground level within the road boundary;
- (e) erecting the advertisement signboard within the road boundary.

15. Whoever commits any of the following acts shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months or with fine from a minimum of ten thousand kyats to a maximum of one hundred thousand kyats, or with both, and be compensated the value for the damage and loss if the rural road is damaged:

- (a) violating any of the prohibition issued to prevent damage of rural roads;
- (b) violating any of the terms and conditions prescribed in respect of passing or stopping carts or animals on the rural roads;
- (c) intentionally placing the object that may cause hindrance or danger to traffic on the rural road.

16. Whoever fails to pay the compensation determined by the court to the Department, or restore the rural road originally shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend from a minimum of six months to a maximum of one year.

**Chapter VIII**  
**Miscellaneous**

17. Any Government department or Government organization desirous of performing work across the rural road in accordance with its requirements shall coordinate with the Ministry in advance and obtain the permission of the Ministry.
18. The Ministry shall, in designating the rural roads boundary, coordinate and designate with the relevant Ministry after considering the existence of residential building within the village, the period which they were constructed, regional development, urban and rural development which may occur in the future, and the impacts of other existing urban and rural laws.
19. The Ministry shall collect the tolls for traffic on the rural road and bridge in accordance with the Use of Road and Bridge Law.
20. The offences in this Law are considered as the cognizable offences.
21. When implementing the provisions of this Law:
- (a) the Ministry may issue rules, regulations and by-laws with the approval of the Government;
  - (b) the Ministry and the Department may issue notifications, orders, directives and procedures.

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

(Sd.) Min Aung Hlaing  
Senior General  
Chairman  
State Administration Council