U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Office of the Director (MS 2000) Camp Springs, MD 20588-0009



April 2, 2024

Kalyani Menon TPS-DED AAC Campaign Coordinator kalyanim@masadc.com

Dear Ms. Menon:

Thank you for your March 15, 2024 letter to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) requesting an extension of Burma's Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designation and redesignation of Burma for TPS. I am responding on behalf of the Department.

I appreciate the concerns you outlined regarding the situation in Burma. On March 25, 2024, DHS published a Federal Register Notice (FRN) extending and redesignating Burma for TPS for an additional 18 months, from May 26, 2024, through November 25, 2025. The redesignation of Burma for TPS enables nationals of Burma, and individuals without nationality who last habitually resided in Burma, who have been continuously residing in the United States since March 21, 2024, to file applications to register for TPS.

Pending applications that are approved after publication of the March 25 FRN will be approved through November 25, 2025. Those who have initial applications pending with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) as of the date of publication of the FRN do not need to file a new application under the redesignation.

I also acknowledge your requests to provide a 180-day registration period for both current TPS holders and new beneficiaries under the redesignation and to engage with the impacted community about the availability of TPS. Please note that the FRN provides a 60-day re-registration period for current TPS beneficiaries and the full designation period for initial applicants. USCIS plans to organize a national stakeholder engagement to provide an overview and answer questions on the extension and redesignation of Burma for TPS.

In addition to TPS, USCIS may, upon request, grant immigration relief to eligible noncitizens affected by emergencies or unforeseen circumstances. Such relief may include:

 $^{^1\} https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/03/25/2024-06104/extension-and-redesignation-of-burma-myanmar-for-temporary-protected-status.$

- Change or extension of nonimmigrant status if eligible noncitizens are currently in the United States, even if the request is filed after the authorized period of admission has expired;
- Expedited processing of requests for advance parole documents;
- Expedited adjudication of requests for off-campus employment authorization for F-1 students experiencing severe economic hardship;
- Expedited adjudication of employment authorization applications, where appropriate;
- Assistance if applicants received a Request for Evidence or a Notice of Intent to Deny and were unable to appear for an interview, submit evidence, or respond in a timely manner due to the circumstances; and
- Replacement of lost or damaged immigration or travel documents issued by USCIS, such as a Permanent Resident Card (Green Card).

More information is available at uscis.gov/newsroom/immigration-relief-in-emergencies-or-unforeseen-circumstances.

Thank you again for your letter and interest in this important issue. Please share this response with the other organizations that cosigned your letter. Should you require any additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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