

Thura NewsViews

Politics

Parliament shelves plans to accept USD 79M French loan

The Union Parliament voted down the Yangon Region Government’s proposal to receive loans worth 70 million euros from the French Development Agency. Regional government officials attempted to convince lawmakers that the project would ultimately benefit Yangon residents. The regional government has spent almost two years preparing the project. The voting took place on Thursday with 34 votes in favor of the proposal and 497 against, with six absentees. With the interest rate being low and the country getting 32 years grace period, the loan seems to be attractive. Lawmakers have opposed the proposal because the Yangon Region Government could not clarify details of how funds from the loan would be used, said Lower House lawmaker Daw Khin San Hlaing.

Economy

OCBC expects recovery as China executes BRI

Myanmar economy is expected to recover as execution of projects related to China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) commences, according to OCBC Bank reports. “Myanmar is still struggling to resolve fundamental concerns relating

Thura Swiss Ltd.
Economic Research
Shwe Hinthar B 307
6 1/2 Miles Pyay Road
11 Qtr. Hlaing Tsp.
Yangon, Myanmar

Phone +95 (0)1 654 730
Fax +95 (0)1 654 733
info@thuraswiss.com
www.thuraswiss.com

January Highlights

The Ministry of Electricity and Energy has announced that the Neo Energy Oasis Co., Ltd signed a PPA as a builder for the upper Baluchaung hydropower project.

Property transactions are likely to see a pickup in 2019 with better laws and payment options to help buyers afford homes now available, property agents said.

Construction of the Dala Bridge aka the Myanmar – Korea Friendship Bridge has finally been given the green light, with expected completion in 2021. to be completed in 2020.

We are online and post our articles throughout the week. Visit us on:

newsviews.thuraswiss.com




Thura NewsViews
Myanmar's most widely read newsletter on the country's politics, economy and businesses brought to you by Thura Swiss

[Visit Thura Swiss Homepage](#)

Companies & Investments
Economy
Politics
Legal Box

We send Thura NewsViews as free weekly newsletter
* indicates required

Email Address *

[Subscribe](#)

[Download latest PDF Newsletter](#)






Companies & Investments

Hot news regarding investments in Myanmar




Yangon to receive much needed new bus stops

Jul 12, 2018
U Maung Aung, secretary of the Yangon Region Transport Authority, stated this week that FMIDecaux ha

Hello Communications to build train station along Yangon Circular Railway

Jul 12, 2018
Through a joint venture with a local firm, Hello Communications will commence its work at Thamine st

Upcoming Events

Myanmar Blockchain Forum 2018
July 14, 2018

Myanmar Supply Chain Summit
August 29, 2018

Health & Humanitarian Supply Chain Forum
August 30, 2018

Myanmar Global Investment Forum
September 11, 2018 - September 12, 2018

Myanmar Connect 2018
September 18, 2018 - September 19, 2018

[More Events](#) [Submit Event](#)

Highlights

Trade with the Netherlands exceeds USD 61 million
July 12, 2018
Bilateral trade with the Netherlands reached USD 61.98 million in two months according to the ...

to basic human rights as well as the repatriation and recovery of refugees who fled to Bangladesh. Global economic prospects are increasingly gloomy as uncertainty over trade rises. However, not all hope is lost. With the recent policy changes and investments in infrastructure from BRI, Myanmar is forecast to enjoy a robust economic growth from a regional and global standpoint,” the analysts said. Some of the BRI projects are already starting including the construction of a deep-sea port in Kyaukphyu, Rakhine State. The original estimated cost of development for the entire project had been US\$ 7.2 billion, with the first phase expected to cost US\$ 1.6 billion. The second BRI project includes the construction of the Muse-Mandalay railway line. A feasibility study for the project is expected to be completed this year.

■ **Rakhine State Gov’t offers assistance to attract investors**

Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu has offered the regional government’s assistance to potential investors to promote investments, according to an article in state-owned the Global New Light of Myanmar. The regional government is inviting investment for the development of the State. U Nyi Pu, in his capacity as the Chairman of the Investment Committee, (RSIC), said the Rakhine State Government is inviting investments for the development of the state. RSIC will have oversight on the operations and developments of the companies in accord with the agreements that are applicable to the State. He also stressed the importance of granting permits to further companies which are in accordance with the rules and regulations. U Nyi Pu and committee members gave investment permits to three local companies. Su Htoo San Co.,Ltd, U Soe Khant and Family Co.,Ltd, and Shwe Hlyan Phyto Co.,Ltd received endorsement from RSIC.

■ **Govt counting on more Asian tourists to boost tourism**

Myanmar’s tourism sector has suffered as growth of tourist arrivals dropped to 1 percent in 2018 compared with 7.1 percent in 2017, according to the Myanmar Times, which cites a World Bank report. The number of western tourist arrivals fell the most, more than offsetting arrivals from Asia according to reports of booking and tour cancellations by western tourists since late 2017. This happened after the news of violence in Rakhine was reported on a global scale, the World Bank said. Tourism accounts for 2.7 percent of the country’s GDP. Officials reckon the tourism industry will continue to come under pressure this year and for as long as the Rakhine crisis remains an issue. To offset the west’s impact on tourism, Myanmar has doubled up its efforts to capture tourists from Asia. Last year, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population relaxed visa requirements for travelers from Japan, Macau, Hong Kong and South Korea. It now also offers visas on arrival to mainland Chinese and Indian tourists. The tourism businesses are hoping to see a 50 percent rise in visitors from eastern countries this year.

Companies and Investments

■ **MAPCO to develop three major projects with Chinese SOE**

In collaboration with China’s state-owned enterprise CITIC Group, Myanmar Agribusiness Public Corporation (MAPCO) is expected to start three business projects this year, said MAPCO Chair U Chit Khine. “Negotiations for the businesses are currently underway between MAPCO and China’s CITIC Group con-

Myanmar in Figures

GDP (PPP): \$330.88bn (2017)
GDP (official ex.rate): \$59.5bn (Jan 2018)
GDP growth rate: 7.23% (2017)
Population: 52.92 mn people (Oct 2017)
Inflation: 6.5% (2017)
Foreign trade: \$29.2bn (2016-2017)
FDI: \$75bn (31/12/2017)
International reserves: \$5.2bn (Jan 2018)
CBM rate Kyat/\$ = 1,542K/1\$ (03/01/19)

For advertising with Thura Swiss please contact us by email

info@thuraswiss.com

or by phone

+95 (0)1-654 730

Please note that our advertisement contracts are based on a subscription of a minimum of 4 weeks.

glomerate. CITIC Group has also agreed to provide US\$ 17million as an initial guarantee for the projects,” according to U Chit Khine. An in-principal agreement has been reached between the two companies to cooperate on three projects. An agribusiness services centre project, an engineering and contracting business and a rice industry project. The rice project is expected to result in joint investments in Kyaiklat, Nay Pyi Taw, Myaungmya, and Kyauktaw in Rakhine State and a rice mill project in Twante Township. The engineering and contracting project is expected to provide construction jobs to CP Group, a CITIC group subsidiary, and other local companies. The agribusiness services center project will involve opening service centers in 33 townships across the country. Developing the service centers would cost about US\$ 400million. Discussions about the financing and government approvals are being held. MAPCO is a private company established in 2012 to be the largest agriculture-based company in Myanmar.

■ **MAB launches wealth banking service as competition rises**

Myanmar Apex Bank (MAB) has launched a special wealth banking and rewards programme for high net worth individuals, according to a report in the Myanmar Times. MAB Gold Wealth Banking is targeting those who can place a minimum fixed deposit of K300 million. Interest rates for fixed deposits are 8.5% for one and two months deposits, 9% for three-months, 9.5% for six to 12 months, 9.75% for 13-months, 10.15% for 18-months and 10.25% for deposits of two to three years, said Mr Gary Voon, executive vice president and head of consumer banking at MAB. The clients will enjoy privileges ranging from free meals at premium restaurants and hotels, to Mingalar Sky Airport Lounge access. The clients will also be eligible for a lucky draw to win a high-end condominium with their chances increasing the longer their fixed deposits are committed. MAB’s efforts to secure fixed deposits come at a time of rising competition and stricter regulations for banks in Myanmar.

Events

Name	Details	Organizer/Ministries	Contact Information
Invest Myanmar Summit 2019	Venue: MICC-II, Nay Pyi Taw Date: 08-09 Jan 2019	Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI)	umfcci@mptmail.net.mm +95-1-231 4344 ~ 49
Electric Power Exhibition & Conference	Venue: MICC-II, Nay Pyi Taw Date: 17-18 Jan 2019	BUIM Group	info@buimgroup.org +0086-21-3650 9276
Myanmar Offshore Summit, Conference and Exhibition	Venue: TBC Date: 24-25 Jan 2019	Organizing Committee of MOSCE	http://www.myanmaroffshore.org/en/Event_Agenda.aspx
Mobile Money & Financial Inclusion Summit	Venue: Park Royal, Yangon Date: 26-27 Feb 2019	Magenta Global Pte Ltd	enquiry@magenta-global.com.sg +65-6846 2360
Emerging Asia E-Commerce Summit	Venue: Park Royal, Yangon Date: 26-27 Feb 2019	Magenta Global Pte Ltd	enquiry@magenta-global.com.sg +65-6846 2360
International Conference on Future Computer & Communication	Venue: Yangon Date: 27 Feb - 1 Mar 2019	Science and Engineering Institute (SCIEI)	info@sciei.org
International Conference on Computer Applications	Venue: Novotel Hotel, Yangon Date: 27 Feb - 1 Mar 2019	University of Computer Studies	ucsy.admin@ucsy.edu.mm +95-1-610 889
AVPN Myanmar Social Investment Forum	Venue: Pan Pacific Hotel, Yangon Date: 28 Feb 2019	Asian Venture Philanthropy Network Limited	marketing@avpn.asia +65-6536 1824
LPG Myanmar Summit	Venue: LOTTE Hotels & Serviced Apartments, Yangon Date: 3 Apr - 4 Apr 2019	East Africa Institute	eai@aku.edu +25-4203 661200
Myanmar Coffee Teas & Sweets Festival	Venue: Myanmar Convention Center, Yangon Date: 1-4 May 2019	ALT Exhibitions SDN BHD	support@altexpo.my +60-1233 45696

Tenders

■ Ministry of Construction: Invitation for Prequalification

1. The government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received a loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency toward the cost of the East-West Economic Corridor Improvement Project. It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract resulting from the bidding for which this prequalification is conducted.
2. The Department of Bridge under the Ministry of Construction intends to prequalify contractors and/or firms for MYA/MOC/EWEC/PACKAGE2/PQ, **Package 2, Construction of Gyaing Zathapyin & Atran Bridges.**
3. It is expected that invitation for Bids will be made in **the end of March 2019.**
4. Prequalification will be conducted through procedures in accordance with the applicable Guidelines for Procurement under Japanese ODA Loans, and is open to all applicants from eligible source countries, as defined in the loan agreement.
5. Interested eligible applicants may obtain further information from and inspect the prequalification documents at the office of Director General, Department of Bridge, Ministry of Construction from **10:00 a.m. to 02:00 p.m. on working days till 21st January, 2019.**
6. A complete set of prequalification documents may be purchased by interested applicant (s) on the submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a non-refundable **fee of USD 500.**
7. Applications for prequalification should be submitted in sealed envelopes, delivered to the address above by **21st February, 2019**, and be clearly marked "Application to Prequalify for East West Economic Corridor Improvement Project (EWEC) for Package-2, Construction of Gyaing Zathapyin and Atran Bridges.

Attention: U Shwe Lay, Director General

Office: Ministry of Construction, Department of Bridge, Building No. 11, Nay Pyi Taw.

Telephone: +95-67-407069, +95-67-407514, +95-9-448541027

Email: mrshwelay@gmail.com, irsection.dob.moc@gmail.com

■ Mandalay City Development Committee: Open Tender

1. Open tenders are invited local and international companies for long term rental of Mandalay Convention Centre located on Theik Pan Road, between 69th and 70th Street, managed by the Mandalay City Development Committee (MCDC) under Mandalay Region Government.
2. Tenders will be proceed as follow:
 - (a) Date of sale of tender forms (7th January, 2019)
 - (b) Closing date and time for submission of tenders (**25th January, 2019 at 12:00 p.m.**)
 - (c) Venue of opening tender (Meeting Hall, MCDC)
 - (d) Date and time of opening tender (**28th January, 2019 at 09:00 a.m.**)
3. Tender forms will cost kyats (50,000) and detailed information are available at the Administration Department of MCDC under the phone number: +95-2-4064750.

■ Mandalay City Development Committee: Invitation of Expression of Interest (EOI)

1. The buildings on the 3.1672 acre land owned by Mandalay City Development Committee (MCDC) (Former Nadi Myanmar Hotel, 62nd Street, Between 36th Street and 37th Street, Maha Aung Myay Township, Mandalay Region) are to be upgraded. Call for tender with PPP will be made for the implementation of Mix-used Development Project including business infrastructure, investment and services. Therefore, those who are interested, local companies or consortium cooperating with foreign entrepreneurs are invited to submit EOI.
2. The entrepreneurs who are interested will be charged 500,000 kyats for EOI application form to credit account number D-2 (3.5.2) Yandanarpon Bank Limited. Then forms for EOI are available at cleansing depart-

ment-

- (i) EOI forms can be taken from 26th December, 2018 to 20th January, 2019;
- (ii) Last date for the submission of EOI form is **21st February, 2019 at 04:30 p.m.** during office hour;
- (iii) Address - Cleansing Department, Mandalay City Development Committee, 19th Street, 63th Street, Second floor of Nanshae Market
- (iv) Phone number: +95-2-4072003.

■ **Mandalay City Development Committee: Open Tender**

1. The Motor Transport and Workshop Department under the Mandalay City Development Committee invites open tender for procurement of the following respective items in the FY 2018-2019.

Sr No.	Description	Quantity	Fee (per form)
1	Car Crane (10 Tons)	3	10,000 MMK
2	Container Box (2.7 - 3.5 Tons)	3	10,000 MMK
3	Dozer (20 Tons)	1	10,000 MMK
4	Mechanical Road Sweeper	1	10,000 MMK
5	Track Paver	1	10,000 MMK
6	Pu Zin Gaung	2	2,000 MMK
7	Emulsion Asphalt Machine	1	10,000 MMK
8	Road Sweeper (Small)	1	10,000 MMK
9	Fuel Bower (4200 Gallons)	1	5,000 MMK
10	Backhoe (20 Tons)	1	10,000 MMK
11	Excavator Backhoe (Wheel) (8 - 15 Tons)	2	10,000 MMK
12	Excavator Backhoe (Chain) (6 Tons)	2	10,000 MMK
13	Chain Backhoe (3.5 Tons)	2	10,000 MMK
14	Mixer 6m ³ (Hino-Japan)	1	10,000 MMK
15	Fork Lift (5 Tons) (Japan)	1	5,000 MMK
16	Loader (3 Tons)	1	5,000 MMK

2. Date of sale of tender forms: 15th January, 2019
3. Tender closing date: **22nd January, 2019**
4. Place of sale of tender forms: 62th Street, Motor Transport and Workshop Department
5. Date and time of opening tender: **30th January, 2019 at 09:00 a.m.**
6. Place of opening tender: 26th Street, Between 71th Street and 72th Street, Six Storey Building, Meeting Hall, Mandalay City Development Committee
7. Tender winner must pay for all the taxes described in the existing law. Further detailed information are available at the Motor Transport and Workshop Department contacting the Head of Department under the phone numbers +95-2-80157 and +95-2-81316 within office hours.