

Thura NewsViews

Politics

- Mandalay-Muse railway work to begin next year**
 Preliminary work on a railway project connecting Muse, near the China border, with Mandalay is due to begin next year. U Myat Thu, Mandalay Minister for Planning and Finance, told a daily that the line is among nine "essential projects" that form part of the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor (CMEC). The CMEC is part of Beijing's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which it hopes will shake up global trade. Myat Thu said that a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Muse-Mandalay railway is expected to be signed "soon". The report said that a feasibility study by state-run Myanma Railway and China Railway Ervuan Engineering has already begun. Consultations are expected to continue once construction starts. The track will be reportedly 431 kilometres long, with electric trains running at up to 160 kilometres per hour. Earlier reports have said, the railway will run from Mandalay to Kyaukphyu, in Rakhine State, as well as a separate line to Yangon, although this has not been confirmed.
- Arakan Army releases captured officers and civilian detainees**
 The Arakan Army (AA), an armed resistance group, has said that it has released the detained 14 Border Police officers and four civilian women. They were captured during attacks on four border outposts in northern Rakhine

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January Highlights

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation has processed a total of 40 proposals for mineral exploration at large and medium sized mining blocks.

Six to eight foreign insurance providers are expected to enter into Myanmar market this fiscal year.

The oil and gas sector is seeing new opportunities emerging from an international tender scheduled to take place early this year.

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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

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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 ...

State. The AA is not to be confused with any Muslim insurgency in Rakhine State. The attack coincided with Myanmar's Independence Day on January 4. According to an article in The Irrawaddy, the group said it had released the captives "in line with international rules on the treatment of prisoners of war". The Ministry of Information (MOI) stated that 14 policemen were killed and 9 wounded and ammunition was seized. The attacks took place in Buthidaung Township. "The AA's actions tend to complicate and destabilize the situation in Rakhine. Members of the security forces will take effective action against the AA," the MOI statement said. It is estimated that about 4,500 people have been displaced by renewed fighting between the AA and the Myanmar Army in recent months.

Economy

■ Myanmar Fisheries Department aims to increase fishery exports

The Myanmar Fisheries Department, under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, has said that it plans to increase fishery exports after two fish processing plants were granted permits to send their products to the European Union. According to an article in the Myanmar Times, TT Cold Store Factory and A&N Foods (Myanmar) have acquired licences to export wild fish to the EU market. Now there are 21 total licensees for wild fish export. However, Myanmar companies cannot currently export farmed fish to the EU because of a lack of guarantees regarding contamination. The Saudi Arabia's Food and Drug Authority is planning to send a delegation to Myanmar to check storage facilities. "The Saudi product quality standards are not as strict as those for the EU, so there won't be any difficulty," U Tun Lwin, deputy permanent secretary of the ministry, was quoted as saying.

■ Shan State drug trade dominates economy

The production of illegal drugs in Shan State has become such an issue that it now dominates Myanmar's economy, according to a report. The report *Fire and Ice: Conflict and Drugs in Myanmar's Shan State*, was published by the International Crisis Group. It says that the drugs trade in the state is a hindrance to the country's peace process. In particular, it was referring to the conflict in northern Myanmar. Although opium production has traditionally been a major issue in Myanmar (it remains the second largest producer in the world. Just behind Afghanistan) there has been a rapid rise in the production and use of methamphetamines in the country. In particular yabba, which tends to be cheaper and consumed domestically, and the more expensive crystal meth (or ice), which is typically exported abroad. Drug production in Myanmar is produced in safe havens "provided by pro-government militias and in rebel-held enclaves". In its recommendations, the report urges Myanmar to increase its drug control and anti-corruption efforts, as well as focus on the major players in the drugs trade.

Companies and Investments

■ First solar-operated yacht launched in Myeik

Luxury cruise company Burma Boating has announced that the first solar-operated yacht in Asia will begin sailing later this month in the Myeik Archipela-

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/\$ = 1,534K/1\$ (10/01/19)

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go. Burma Boating, which is part of the Singapore-listed Memories Group, said that the new boat is a 16.7 meter, solar-powered catamaran. The boat can accommodate up to six guests and three crew members. The boat can reach a maximum speed of 12 knots, according to its designer Silent-Yachts. Private cruises on the boat are available, at a starting cost of US\$3,200 per day, according to the company. Memories Group, which is affiliated with Yoma Strategic Holdings and First Myanmar Investment, also has operations in hotels and tourism-related services around Myanmar.

■ **Vietnamese company FastGo launches in Myanmar**

Vietnamese company FastGo has become the latest ride-hailing app to launch in Myanmar, according to a the Myanmar Times article. As part of expansion plans into foreign markets, FastGo has partnered with local firm Asia Sun Group. The large conglomerate has operations in industries including e-commerce, tourism and retail. “We expect to become a part of Myanmar and a trusted partner,” Nguyen Huu Tuat, FastGo’s general director said at the launch ceremony. FastGo was launched in June 2018, and claims to be the second largest operator in Vietnam with 40,000 driver partners and operations in 10 cities. The company does not only offer ride-hailing services but also operations in catering and personal finance. There are also plans to expand to Indonesia, the Philippines, Cambodia and Thailand. In the Myanmar market, FastGo will compete against Singapore-based Grab, and local operators including Oway Ride and Hello Cabs.

Events

Name	Details	Organizer/Ministries	Contact Information
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 - 01 Mar 2019	Science and Engineering Institute (SCIEI)	info@sciei.org
International Conference on Computer Applications	Venue: Novotel Hotel, Yangon Date: 27 Feb - 01 Mar 2019	University of Computer Studies	ucsy.admin@ucsy.edu.mm +95-(0)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: 03 Apr - 04 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
International Food & Drink Carnival	Venue: Fortune Plaza Information Centre and Sale Gallery, Yangon Date: 09-12 May 2019	ALT Exhibitions SDN BHD	support@altexpo.my +60-1233 45696

Tenders

■ Ministry of Planning and Finance: Invitation for Bids

1. The government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the World Bank and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments under the agreement (s) resulting from this Invitation for Quotation: **Supply of Computers**, Ref No: **MPFMp-C1-GS541**.
2. The Ministry of Planning and Finance now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of computers - (1) Desktop computer, and (2) Laptop Computer for the Treasury Department.
3. Bidders are required to meet the following minimum key qualification criteria and shall furnish documentary evidence that it meets the following requirement (s):
 - (a) Have completed within the last 3 years at least one contract of a similar nature of at least 50% of the value of the bid or have sold similar goods of at least twice the volume/ quantity required;
 - (b) Have authorization or dealership from the manufacturer to sell the goods;
 - (c) Have shops or offices in Myanmar to provide after sales services;
 - (d) Demonstrate that they are paying taxes to the government; and
 - (e) Not be under any notice of suspension or debarment issued by the government, or the World Bank.
4. Bids must be delivered to the address given below at or before **2 p.m. of 5th February, 2019**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in public immediately there after at the address given below in the presence of the Bidders' representatives and the project's beneficiaries who choose to attend shall be allowed to be present in person.
5. The purchaser shall award the contract to the bidder whose offer has been determined to be the lowest evaluated bid and is substantially responsive to the bidding documents, provided further that the bidder is determined to be qualified to perform the contract satisfactorily.
6. All bids must be accompanied by a bid securing declaration as described in the bidding documents, any bid not accompanied by one will be rejected as non-complaint.
7. The address where the document may be inspected and obtained is:

Modernization of Public Finance Management Project
Ministry of Planning and Finance
Project Office, Building NO. 26, Nay Pyi Taw

Email: mmt.budget@gmail.com, zawnaing652011@gmail.com, sukumarshep@gmail.com, phyuphyu-soe2007@gmail.com, aungminoo151@gmail.com, sansankyu872@gmail.com

Telephone: +95-67-410575, +95-67-410162, +95-67-410161

Fax: +95-67-410575

■ Ministry of Electricity and Energy: Invitation for Open Tender

1. Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Electricity and Energy invites open tender for supply of the following respective items in USD.

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description	Remarks
(a)	IFB-039 (18-19)	10" ERW API 5L Grade X-42 MS 3 LPE Coated Steel Line Pipes	USD
(b)	IFB-040 (18-19)	4" ERW API 5L Grade X-42 MS 3 LPE Coated Steel Line Pipes	USD

2. The open tender forms including Description of Materials / Qty with detailed specifications and tender terms and conditions are available free download at the Ministry of Electricity and Energy website - www.moee.gov.mm as from 7th January, 2019. Tenders forms will not be sold.
3. The interested bidders should submit the Technical Specifications with Original Bid Bond and Commercial Quotation in each separate sealed envelopes on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in tender box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than **02:00 p.m.** on **4th February, 2019**.
4. Tender closing date and time is on **4th February, 2019** at **02:00 p.m.**
5. Further information can be obtained under the phone number +95-67-411206 within office hours at Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise.

■ **Ministry of Construction: Invitation for Price Quotations**

1. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of the Flood and Landslide Emergency Recovery Project (FLERP). The IDA number of the financing agreement is **NO5889-MM**.
2. The Department of Rural Road Development (DRRD) of the Ministry of Construction, in its role as implementing agency of the FLERP, intends to supply a portion of the proceeds of this financing towards eligible payments under the Purchase Order/ Contract C2-DRRD-G10 for the supply of Tipplers, Plate Compactors and Bitumen Hand-sprayers. DRRD now invites eligible suppliers to express their interest in supplying the following items:

Procurement Package C2-DRRD-G10: Tipplers, Plate Compactors and Bitumen Hand-sprayers

Lot No.	Item No.	Description	Quantity
1	1	Tipper 10 Tons	18
2	1	Plate Compactor 4 Tons	6
3	1	Bitumen Handspray	6

Supply to	<u>1st partial delivery within 45 days to:</u> Department of Rural Road Department, Ministry of Construction, Lower Myanmar Based Office, Pale Myothit, New Khway Compound, Yangon
	<u>2nd partial delivery on 1st October, 2019 to:</u> Department of Rural Road Department, Ministry of Construction, Union Territory, Zabu Thiri Township, Dekkhina Thiri District, Nay Pyi Taw

3. Expressions of Interest must be submitted in a written form to the email address below and clearly indicate the reference number above. Eligible supplier having expressed interest will receive an Invitation to Quote (ITQ).
4. Sealed quotations will be submitted to the address below at the latest at the dead line of **7th February, 2019** at **10:00 a.m.**, after which no quotation will be accepted.
5. The goods will be contracted in three contracts. Suppliers will be selected following Shopping Methods per the "Guidelines for Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers" dated January 2011 and revised July 2014.
6. Please submit your Expression of Interest for receiving the Invitation to Quote (ITQ) to :

Daw Tin Moe Myint, Deputy Director General, Department of Rural Road Development

Office: Ministry of Construction, Department of Rural Road Development, Yanaung (2) quarter, North of (200) Bedded Hospital, Pyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw.

Telephone: +95-67-24821

Email: flercproject.dn-d@gmail.com and/or ruralroad.drrd@gmail.com