

Thura NewsViews

Politics

■ Myanmar Army claims 13 Arakan Army fighters killed

The Myanmar Army, known as Tatmadaw, claims to have killed 13 fighters from the insurgent Arakan Army (AA), during continued violence in Rakhine State. In a rare press conference, Major General Tun Tun Nyi said that the fighting had taken place between January 5 and 16. The fight involved eight clashes and five landmine explosions. "Thirteen enemy bodies and three weapons were seized and some soldiers died and were injured on our side," Tun Tun Nyi was quoted as saying by Reuters. However, he refused to elaborate on how many Tatmadaw soldiers were killed. The military said that State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi had called on the military to "crush" the AA fighters. Ms Yanghee Lee, UN special rapporteur for human rights in Myanmar, has expressed concern about the violence in Rakhine. "I am seriously concerned about the dangerous rhetoric being used by the government," she said in a statement. "The ethnic Rakhine population must not be demonized and targeted by the military on suspicion of being associated with the AA," she was quoted as saying by Reuters. Meanwhile, the military also said that fighters from the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) injured six police officers during an attempted ambush. The attack in northern Rakhine State on January 16, heightened fears of renewed fighting in the region.

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January Highlights

Power transmission lines measuring 104 kilometres (60 miles) and a substation in Rakhine State have been officially launched.

Cycle & Carriage, a leading regional automotive group in Southeast Asia, is launching a new brand promise of "Exceptional Journeys" in Myanmar.

PTT Exploration and Production (PTTEP) is expecting to spend a total of US\$ 3.3 billion in 2019 to continue its activities in at the Zawtika gas field in the Gulf of Moattama, Myanmar.

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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 ...

Myanmar Economics and Politics Weekly Newsletter

■ **United Nations envoy visits Rakhine**

The United Nations special envoy for Myanmar, Christine Schraner Burgener, has travelled to Rakhine State this week. She was not able to visit some conflict areas in the state because of “security concerns”. U Mya Than, deputy speaker of the Rakhine parliament was quoted as saying that Burgener could not visit Maungdaw Township and refugee camps in Buthidaung Township. The reason for the block is because of safety concerns. “She told me that she wanted to go to the camps and give aid to the refugees, but the government would not allow it”. “I explained to her about the security risk of going to these areas”. Parts of northern Rakhine State have seen an outbreak of fighting in recent weeks. The fighting were between the Myanmar army, called Tatmadaw, and the Arakan Army, an insurgent group. Thousands are displaced and many without access to humanitarian aid. As a result, international aid agencies released a statement calling for the government to allow full humanitarian access. “Without effective and ongoing access, the ability of local and international organisations to provide life-saving assistance to all conflict-affected communities in central and northern Rakhine is seriously compromised,” said the statement. It was signed by organisations including the Danish Refugee Council, Malteser, Oxfam and Save the Children.

Economy

■ **Motor show aims to boost Myanmar car industry**

The Yangon International Motor Show has opened in the commercial capital, aimed at boosting the automotive industry in the country. The exhibition opened from January for five days at the Yangon Convention Centre. It will feature international brands including BMW, Toyota, Ford, Scania and Suzuki. “Our event showcases the latest vehicles from top automotive brands currently available in Myanmar along with the latest design concepts, technologies, and innovations currently shaping automotive markets across the world,” according to Anothai Eamlumnow, president of the Yangon International Motor Show. Myanmar’s automotive industry has seen significant growth in recent years. However, a lack of clear policy has stifled expansion more recently. The government’s most recent program, the Yangon Vehicle Quota Certificate (YVQC), allows buyers to bid for a certificate. It means that they can apply for a licence to import their own vehicle into Yangon.

■ **Rakhine government aims to boost investment**

Rakhine State government will hold an investment fair at Ngapali Beach, in the south of the state, in February. It is aimed at promoting trade mainly in the areas of tourism, fisheries and agriculture. “Our aim is to generate investor interest in Rakhine State and draw more funds for development,” U Nyi Pu, Rakhine State Chief Minister, was quoted as saying. “We are trying to solve the conflict through economic development and new investments,” he said. The Rakhine State Investment Fair will take place from February 21 to 23. It is being organised by the state government, with support from Japan. Officials hope to attract investment in tourism at Ngapali Beach, in Thandwe Township, as well as at Mrauk-U, famed for its ancient temples, and the beach destinations of Gwa and

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/\$ = 1,537K/1\$ (24/1/19)

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Kyeintali. Meanwhile, in the area of fisheries, capital is required to build, upgrade and expand fish farms and processing factories. A boost in the agricultural sector requires investment in technology and converting existing farmland. The farmland can then be used as agri- and aquaculture zones. Other industries that offer potential in the state include garment manufacturing, power generation and distribution, education, healthcare and infrastructure, the article said. Nyi Pu wanted to point out to potential investors that only some parts of Rakhine State are impacted by violence.

Companies and Investments

■ Yoma Land begins sale of City Loft apartments

Yoma Land has announced that units of its City Loft apartments have opened for sale at Star City. The housing project aimed at middle-class buyers, is in Thanlyin Township, on the outskirts of Yangon. Phase one of the project is expected to be completed early next year. The units will start at MMK 42 million (US\$27,000). In the Myanmar Times article, Serge Pun said that a jetty will soon open at Star City. It will provide a ferry service to and from downtown Yangon. Pun was also quoted as saying that the Thanlyin area will likely see rapid transformation in the coming years. "The northern area of Yangon expanded in the past but now Thanlyin and Thilawa in the west will undergo rapid development," he said.

■ CITIC and MAPCO form agri-business centres and rice mills

China's CITIC Construction, a subsidiary of the state-owned CITIC Group, has partnered with the Myanmar Agribusiness Public Corporation (MAPCO). The project is worth US\$ 500 million, involving high-end rice mills and agri-business service centers across the country, according to an article in DealstreetAsia. The rice mills will be located in Twante Township, Nay Pyi Taw, Kyauktaw, Rakhine State and Myaung Mya Township. "The establishment of the high-end rice mills will boost both the local and export market," said Ye Min Aung, managing director of MAPCO. He added that the project is expected to begin this year. The agri-business service centers will also be constructed in 33 townships across the country. He also said that the company welcomed.

Legal Box by Duane Morris & Selvam LLP**Central Bank of Myanmar revisits the lending rates**

Pursuant to the terms of the Central Bank of Myanmar law, on 15 January, 2019, Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) issued a Directive no. 1/2019 ("Directive") in respect of the amendment of lending rates. The amendment as set out in the Directive shall be effective from 1 February, 2019.

In terms of the Directive, the lending rates on properties such as land, building, gold, diamond and precious gems, saving certificate, government treasury bonds, security and transferable contracts, pledge, loan with credit guarantee, loan based on pledge has been prescribed not to be more than 3% over the interest rate of the Central Bank (i.e. 10 +3=13%).

As per the Directive, the prescribed interest rate on saving bank deposit and saving certificate shall remain unchanged as 2% less than the interest rate of the Central Bank (i.e. 10-2=8%).

CBM has been focusing on liberalizing the banking and finance sector, and this instant Directive is an evident case highlighting the efforts towards promoting the sector.

Through our office in Yangon, Duane Morris & Selvam advises corporations on investment, business and regulatory processes in Myanmar. For further information, please contact Mr. Krishna Ramachandra (kramachandra@duanemorrisselvam.com), Mr. Priyank Srivastava (psrivastava@duanemorrisselvam.com), or Mr. CN Beilo (CBL@selvamandpartners.com) or visit www.duanemorrisselvam.com. Duane Morris & Selvam is recognized as a leading law firm for Myanmar related Corporate, M&A and Projects (including Energy) work – The Legal 500 (2017 & 2018).

Events

Name	Details	Organizer/Ministries	Contact Information
Invest Myanmar Summit 2019	Venue: MICC-II, Nay Pyi Taw Date: 28-29 Jan 2019	Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI)	umfcc@mpmail.net.mm +95 1 231 4344 ~ 49
Mobile Money & Financial Inclusion Summit	Venue: Park Royal Hotel, 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 Hotel, 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
International Food & Drink Carnival	Venue: Fortune Plaza Information Centre and Sale Gallery, Yangon Date: 9-12 May 2019	ALT Exhibitions SDN BHD	support@altexpo.my +60-1233 45696
Food & Hotel Myanmar	Venue: Yangon Convention Centre (YCC), Yangon Date: 5-7 June 2019	UBM Myanmar	info-hk@ubm.com +95-1-378 975

Tenders

- **Ministry of Construction: Request for Expressions of Interest**
 1. The government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the World Bank and a grant from UK and Australian governments towards the cost of **Modernization of Public Finance Management Project (MPFMp)** and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments under the agreement (s) resulting from this Invitation for Quotation: **Supply of Copier, Printer and Fax machine** with reference number: MPFMp-B2-GS525.
 2. The Ministry of Planning and Finance invites bids for supply of Copier, Printer and Fax machine for the Planning Department. The Ministry of Planning and Finance serves as the implementing agency for the project now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for all the supply as indicated above.
 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
 - (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 **02:00 p.m. of 22nd February, 2019**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in public immediately thereafter 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-compliant.
 7. The address where the document must be inspected and obtained for the Modernization of Public Finance Management Project is the Project Office, Building No.26, Nay Pyi Yaw, Ministry of Planning and Finance through email addresses: gmt.budget@gmail.com, zawnaing652011@gmail.com, sukumarshep@gmail.com, susuhtunthein@gmail.com, maj.thanhtunaung@gmail.com and nyuntshwe7@gmail.com under phone numbers: +95-67-410575, +95-67-407020, +95-67-407105, +95-67-407099, +95-67-407480 and fax number: +95-67-410575.
- **Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation: Request for Expression of Interest**
 1. The government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received a financing from the French Development Agency (AFD) for the **Irrigated Agriculture Inclusive Development Project (IAIDP)**, and intends to use part of the funds thereof for payments under the following contract package: **Consulting Services for the Agricultural Development Unit (ADU)**.
 2. The consultant services of the Agricultural Development Unit (ADU) will be responsible for providing technical assistance to the Department of Agriculture (DOA) at the Union, regional, district and township levels. The consultancy service is divided into two stages.
 3. The first stage is the preparation of the Agricultural Support Assessment and Delivery Strategy and preparation of 5 Front line centers (FCs)' construction. Stage 1 will be under a lump sum type of contract with an implementation period of 8 months.

4. Stage 2 services will commence after successful completion of Stage 1 and will be implemented under a time-based contract with implementation period 60 months.
5. The ADU consultant will preferably be a consortium that may involve a combination of consulting firms, international and/ or local NGOs, and possibly are search organization.
6. For more detailed information, any interested firm can refer to the terms of reference, which may be obtained upon request to iaidp.mm@gmail.com.
7. Expressions of interest must be submitted to the address below no later than **20th February, 2019 at 04:30 p.m.**
8. Hard copy should be delivered to Office No. 43, Nay Pyi Taw with an attention to U Tint Lwin, Director (Procurement Branch), Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Soft copy should be delivered to tlwin4.irr@gmail.com, and cc to iaidp.mm@gmail.com, zarkyaw@gmail.com and ukhinzaw1984@gmail.com

■ **Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise: Open Tender**

1. Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Electricity and Energy invites open tenders for supply of the following items in USD and MMK.
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.moe.gov.mm as from 17th January, 2019. Tender forms will not be sold.
3. The interested bidders should submit the technical specifications with original bid bond and commercial quota-

Sr No.	Item No.	Description	Remarks
(a)	IFB-041 (18-19)	Rock Bits & PDC Bits (14) Items	USD
(b)	DMP/L-164 (18-19)	Skid Mounted Water Transfer Pump with Motor (700 igpm × 700 ft head), 185 KW (2) Sets	MMK
(c)	DMP/L-165 (18-19)	Spares for 12 VAT 27 Waukesha Engine & MH 64 Compressor (24) Items	MMK
(d)	DMP/L-166 (18-19)	Spares for P 9390 GSI Waukesha Engine and Gemini E 604 Compressor (6) Items	MMK
(e)	DMP/L-167 (18-19)	Spares for F 2895 GSI Waukesha Engine and Ariel JGE 2 Compressor (9) Items	MMK
(f)	DMP/L-168(18-19)	Spares for H 2475 G Waukesha Engine and KB-2 Compressor (19) Items	MMK
(g)	DMP/L-169 (18-19)	AJAX DPC 600 Engine and Compressor Spares (11) Items	MMK
(h)	DMP/L-170 (18-19)	Spares for P 9390 GL Waukesha Engine, MH 64 Cooper and JGK-4 Ariel Compressor (8) Items	MMK
(i)	DMP/L-171 (18-19)	Data Acquisition, Interpretation Workstation and Data Processing Center (4) Items	MMK

tion 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 13th February, 2019.**

4. Tender closing date and time are **13th February, 2019 at 02:00 p.m.**
5. Further information can be obtained at the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise under the phone number: +95-67-411206 within office hours.