

Thura NewsViews

Politics

■ **Chief of Arakan Army plans to establish HQ in Rakhine**

The Chief of the Arakan Army (AA) has said that the armed resistance group plans to establish temporary headquarters in Rakhine State “very soon”, according to a report in The Irrawaddy. The article cited a video message headed by Major-General Tun Myat Naing, issued on February 10, calling on Rakhine people who live abroad to return to the state, and join the AA. “I absolutely believe that the Arakanese public and the AA stand side by side,” he was quoted as saying, using an alternative name for Rakhine. “We have also frequently said that the government military is fighting against the whole Arakanese public.” The AA was established in 2009 in Kachin State, with assistance from the Kachin Independence Army (KIA). Its early troops were largely made up of ethnic Rakhine migrants who were working at the jade mines in Hpakant, Kachin State. However, in recent years the group has established a stronger presence in Rakhine, and has been heavily involved in fighting the Myanmar Army in recent months.

■ **Kayah protesters over statue gets arrested**

Dozens of protesters were arrested in Loikaw, Kayah State, late last week, after holding demonstrations against a planned statue of General Aung San in the town, according to a Reuters report. The article said that 36 people were

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February Highlights

The import of frozen meat at the Myanmar border will be prohibited from March 1 onwards, says Ministry of Commerce (MOC).

Oshimanoki, a 100-year-old Japanese producer of rice processing machinery, has officially opened its first factory to produce such machinery in the Thilawa SEZ.

Myanmar’s parliament has passed a controversial bill governing the gemstone sector, paving the way to restart the licensing of mining companies after a two-year moratorium.

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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 ...

arrested on February 7, with a further 10 detained a day later, following protests outside the National League for Democracy's headquarters in Loikaw. The protests began last year after the Kayah State government announced plans to build a statue of Aung San in the town. Aung San is regarded as the country's independence hero, and is also the father of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. While he is generally popular throughout the country, ethnic minority groups often argue that Aung San's promise of a federal country has never been delivered. Others believe the funds should instead be used for development projects throughout the country.

Economy

■ City development project announced invitation for EOI

The company behind the planned Yangon New City project has invited interested parties to submit their expressions of interest (EOI) before the end of this month, according to an article in the Myanmar Times. The New Yangon Development Co (NYDC) was launched by the Yangon Region government in March last year. It plans to construct a new city twice the size of Singapore in the west of Yangon with a USD1.5 billion of investment targeted in the first phase. The project will include infrastructure development, such as new bridges, power supplies and waste disposal. In May 2018, the state-owned China Communications Construction Co (CCCC) signed a deal with NYDC to prepare an infrastructure proposal. The move came in for criticism because no tender was called. NYDC said the decision was taken in order to avoid "time wasting". The NYDC is overseen by prominent businessman Serge Pun and chaired by Yangon Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein.

Companies and Investments

■ Hyundai establishes Yangon factory

Hyundai has established a plant in Yangon and will assemble vehicles in the country for the first time. The South Korean car manufacturer's local partner is Shwe Daehan Motorcar Assembly Co, according to a report in the Myanmar Times. The factory is located in the Tardukan industrial zone of Shwe Pyi Thar Township. It will employ almost 200 local workers, the article said. The first model to be established at the plant is the Accent sedan, which has a 1.4 liter four-cylinder engine. It will assemble about 40 units per month. "Now, we are currently studying the market sentiment, so we do not have an exact target for production numbers yet as this depends on market demand," said U Myo Win, sales and marketing manager of KLM. KLM is the authorised importer and dealer of Hyundai vehicles in Myanmar. The opening ceremony of the factory was attended by Yangon Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein. He said he hoped to see the company scale up its operations in Myanmar in the future.

■ Hayman Capital raises USD 2 million debt investment

Hayman Capital, a Yangon-based microfinance company, has finalised a USD 2 million debt investment from Swiss investor Symbiotics SA. According to an article in Dealstreet Asia, the funds will be used to support the company's operations in the country. Also it aims to reach a further 15,000 new clients in the trading, production, agriculture and service sectors. "We are committed to continuing our expansion in order to reach the unbanked population in this country

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/\$ = 1,533K/1\$ (14/02/19)

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and provide competitive financial services to them," said Sultan Marenov, managing director and CEO of Hayman Capital. The company was established in 2014 and operates out of 14 branches in Yangon, Bago, Mandalay and Ayeyarwady regions. Total assets of the company are worth USD 18.05 million. According to its website, Symbiotics aims to positively impact low- and middle-income in emerging and frontier economies.

■ **YKKO restaurant chain to be acquired by Yoma**

Singapore-listed conglomerate Yoma Strategic Holdings (YSH) is to acquire a 65 percent stake in local restaurant chain YKKO. The deal is reportedly worth an estimated USD 12.6 million, according to an article in the Myanmar Times. The article quoted YSH chief executive Melvun Pun as saying that YKKO is a household name in Myanmar. The purchase doubles the number of Food and Beverage (F&B) outlets that Yoma owns. The company's other operations in F&B are mainly focused on international brands, including KFC and Auntie Anne's. The group plans to have six international and local brands in 125 outlets by the 2023-24 financial year, the article said. YKKO stands for the Yankin Kyay Oh Group of Companies and began as a family-run restaurant in Yankin Township in 1988. Today it has 37 stores across the country.

Events

Name	Details	Organizer/Ministries	Contact Information
Mobile Money & Agent Banking Summit	Venue: Park Royal Yangon, Yangon Date: 26-27 Feb 2019	Magenta Global Pte Ltd	enquiry@magenta-global.com.sg +65 6846 2360
AVPN Myanmar Social Investment Forum	Venue: Pan Pacific Hotel, Yangon Date: 26 Feb 2019	Asian Venture Philanthropy Network Limited	marketing@avpn.asia +65-6536 1824
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 - 01 Mar 2019	Science and Engineering Institute (SCIEI)	info@sciei.org
ANDE & Nexus for Development Workshop & launch of Myanmar Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Snapshot	Venue: Sule Shangri-la, Yangon Date: 27 Feb 2019	Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs (ANDE)	sarita.worravitodomsuk@aspeninstitute.org +66 9 009 1590
International Conference on Computer Applications	Venue: Novotel Hotel, Yangon Date: 27 Feb - 01 Mar 2019	University of Computer Studies	ucsy.admin@ucsy.edu.mm +95-1-610 889
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: 01- 04 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
Food & Hotel Myanmar	Venue: Yangon Convention Centre (YCC), Yangon Date: 05 - 07 June 2019	UBM Myanmar	info-hk@ubm.com +95-1-378 975

Tenders

■ Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise: Open Tender

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

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description	Remarks
(a)	DMP/L-178 (18-19)	Applied Research Centre (8) Items	MMK
(b)	DMP/L-179 (18-19)	Liquid Spere (200) Can	MMK
(c)	IFB-043 (18-19)	Applied Research Centre (5) Items	USD

2. The open tender forms including description of materials/ Qty with detailed specifications and tender terms and conditions can be available free download at the Ministry of Electricity and Energy website - www.moee.gov.mm as from 8th February, 2019. Tender 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, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in tender box of the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than **02:00 p.m.** on **8th March, 2019**.
4. Tender closing date and time are **8th March, 2019** at **02:00 p.m.**
5. Further information can be obtained at the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise within office hours under the telephone number: +95-67-411206.

■ Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation: Call for Proposal

1. The Project Coordination Unit (PCU) of Fostering Agricultural Revitalization in Myanmar (FARM) project with financial assistance of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has the pleasure to announce its interest to procure technical services of organizations, NGOs or private firms, registered in Myanmar.
2. The services are to be provided on the project "**Fostering Agricultural Revitalization in Myanmar (FARM)**" for the specific purpose of Building Capacity of Rural Producers at Five Townships in the Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory to access financial services and to develop their enterprises including access to markets.
3. The objectives of the project is to increase the incomes of the smallholder farmers and landless households in the rural area of five townships - Lewe, Ottrathiri, Pyinmana, Tatkon, Zeyathiri.
4. Interested organizations can obtain details of the Call for Proposal documentation and also FARM project document from the Project Manager of FARM project at Office 43, First Floor Extension Building, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Nay Pyi Taw under the telephone number: +95-67-410538 or through email addresses - tun.u.win@gmail.com and myokt96@gmail.com.
5. Interested offerors must send **both technical and financial proposals** in one consolidated document by email or by hand-delivery (in one sealed envelope) to the above address and email by **04:00 p.m.** on **22nd February, 2019**.

■ Ministry of Planning and Finance: Sealed Bids

1. This invitation for bids is for ICT equipment and software licenses - a total of four packages - for upgrading the Data Center of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office.
2. 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 intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments under the agreement (s) resulting from this Invitation for Quotation:

Firewall - Ref no.: MPFMp-JPAC-D1-GS580;

Network equipment - Ref no.: MPFMp-JPAC-D1-GS587;

Servers and Storage - Ref no.: MPFMp-JPAC-D1-GS588;

Microsoft Software Licenses - Ref no.: MPFMp-JPAC-D1-GS589.

3. The Ministry of Planning and Finance now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the four packages of ICT equipment and software licenses.
4. 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 company registration in Myanmar
 - (c) Have authorization of dealership from the manufacturer to sell the goods
 - (d) Have shops or offices in Myanmar to provide after sales services
 - (e) Demonstrate that they are paying taxes to the government
 - (f) Not be under any notice of suspension or debarment issued by the government, or the World Bank
5. (a) Bids for **Firewall - Ref no.: MPFMp-JPAC-D1-GS580** and **Network equipment - Ref no.: MPFMp-JPAC-D1-GS587** must be delivered to the address given below at or before **03:00 p.m. on 11th March, 2019**.
 (b) Bids for **Servers and Storage - Ref no.: MPFMp-JPAC-D1-GS588** and **Microsoft Software Licenses - Ref no.: MPFMp-JPAC-D1-GS589** must be delivered to the address given below at or before **03:00 p.m. on 12th March, 2019**. Late bids will be rejected.
6. 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.
7. All bids must be accompanied by a bid securing declaration as described in the bidding documents, any bid not accompanied by a bid securing declaration will be rejected as non-complaint.
8. Firms interested in bidding for the packages may write quoting the package reference number and requesting the bidding document. The address where bidding documents may be obtained is:

Project Office, Modernization of Public Finance Management Project

Ministry of Planning and Finance

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