

Thura NewsViews

Politics

- Explosion kills 16 in remote Wa Region**
 A gas explosion in the remote Wa Region has killed 16 people and injured dozens. A video circulated on social media appeared to show emergency workers sifting through debris in Mongmao. The city is part of the Wa Self-Administered Division in Shan State, close to the border with China. The area is under the control of the United Wa State Army (UWSA). It is estimated to have about 30,000 troops. "Sixteen people were killed and 48 others injured in a gas explosion accident," Nyi Rang, UWSA spokesperson wrote on his Facebook page. It's incredibly rare for outsiders to be able to visit the region. In April, the UWSA will welcome outsiders to commemorate a 30-year anniversary since it signed a ceasefire agreement. Although the UWSA is not one of the signatories to the government's Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), an earlier ceasefire the UWSA signed with the military has generally held strong, although the group is believed to have strong links to China.
- New Tanintharyi Chief Minister promises to tackle concerns**
 U Myint Maung, the new Tanintharyi Region chief minister, has said he will make power shortages and land concerns a priority during his tenure, according to a report in The Irrawaddy. Myint Maung was announced as the south-

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March Highlights

Myanmar added 5 additional sector including gems and jewelry, the digital economy, agricultural food products and industrial art products to its National Export Strategy (NES) 2020-2025.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will approve a real estate service law by Transport, Communication and Construction Committee within three months.

Sea Lion opened a Distribution Solutions Centre worth USD 10 million to improve supply chain efficiency in Kyan Sitt Thar Industrial Zone.

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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

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 ...

ern region's new chief minister last week. He replaced Daw Lei Lei Maw, who was arrested on corruption charges earlier this month. During his oath of office, Myint Maung promised "to return to local farmers the farmland that private companies have left idle, for the development of the entire region". He also said he would ensure that local people have reasonably priced power. "I will build a clean, transparent, responsible and accountable government," he said. Myint Maung is a regional parliamentarian in Kawthaung Township. He was the National League for Democracy's secretary for Tanintharyi Region.

Economy

■ DCA continues with Hantharwaddy plans

The Department of Civil Aviation (DCA) is planning to conduct a field study for construction of the controversial Hantharwaddy Airport. According to a report in the Myanmar Times, the USD 1.5 billion project is being funded with help from Japan. Myanmar officials are expected to meet with their Japanese counterparts next month, the article said. "After the meeting, we expect to start conducting preliminary ground studies at the site of the airport," U Zaw Min, deputy director of the Department of Civil Aviation (DCA), was quoted as saying in the story. The parties will also discuss compensation for farmers and other issues around land acquisition, Zaw Min said. The project has faced many controversies since it was first announced when the country was under military junta rule. Critics of the project point to the recent increase in capacity at Yangon International Airport. Another issue raised is that Hantharwaddy Airport is planned 80 kilometers north of Yangon.

■ FDI increases for first time in two years

Figures revealed by the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) show a rise in foreign direct investment (FDI) for the first time in two years. Singapore was revealed as the biggest backer, according to an article in the Myanmar Times. The figures show that between October 1, 2018 and March 15, 2019, Myanmar saw USD 1.9 billion in approved FDI. This is an increase from USD 1.3 billion a year earlier. "In regard to FDI, we hope that ASEAN nations, Japan, China, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan and also India will put out more investment into our country," U Aung Naing Oo, secretary of the MIC and director general of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) was quoted as saying. He added that garments, electric assembly and food processing were attracting particular interest from foreign companies. The article also said that Singapore had overtaken China as the biggest foreign investor in Myanmar. This was aided by the opening of a USD 310 million power plant in Myingyan by Singapore-based Sembcorp Industries.

Companies and Investments

■ Kargo and Yoma Bank agree unsecured loan

Local online logistics firm Kargo has signed an SME loan agreement with Yoma Bank worth USD 130,000 (MMK 200 million). A press release said that the loan is aimed at resolving cash flow issues among small and medium enterprises (SMEs). The business model will be based on Kargo's accounts receivable. "With

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/\$ = 1,520K/1\$ (28/03/19)

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Yoma Bank's support, we will be able to fuel our growth, business growth and driver's income," Alex Wicks, founder and CEO of Kargo said in the release. The move is also part of Yoma's aim to support SMEs in the country, said Hal Boshier, the lender's CEO. "Unsecured financing is solely based on cash flow of the business and is a progressive way of supporting smaller enterprises," Boshier said. Kargo was established in 2016, and has received funding from angel investors and SEED Myanmar, a Singapore-based venture capital company.

■ **FMI to sell stake in airline to SPA Aviation**

First Myanmar Investment (FMI) has sold its 10 percent stake in FMI Air Limited to SPA Aviation Holdings for MMK 7.9 billion. According to an article in Dealstreet Asia, the move comes about 10 months after the airline halted its domestic operations. It's not immediately clear what the plans are for the future of the carrier. In an announcement, FMI said it will use the funds to reinvest in the company's core business sectors. The key sectors include tourism, healthcare, real estate and financial services. "In view of the challenging economic environment in the Myanmar aviation industry, it is the best interest of the company to move away from the aviation business and reinvest the funds in the group's core business sectors," FMI said in its filing. In Myanmar's saturated domestic aviation market, two other airlines – Air Bagan and Apex Airlines – have halted operations in recent years. Analysts say the industry needs to consolidate further in order for it to be profitable.

Events

Name	Details	Organizer/Ministries	Contact Information
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
BuildTech Yangon	Venue: Myanmar Expo Hall Date: 17-18 May 2019	Sphere Exhibitions Pte Ltd	sphere@sph.com.sg +65-6319 4020
Mandalay International Livestock and Agriculture Show	Venue: Mandalay Convention Centre Date: 28-30 May 2019	Silver Sea Media	info@mmlfin.com +95-9431 25185
Food & Hotel Myanmar	Venue: Yangon Convention Centre (YCC), Yangon Date: 05-07 June 2019	UBM Myanmar	info-hk@ubm.com +95-1-378 975
Beauty Connect Expo Myanmar	Venue: Rose Garden Hotel Date: 06-08 June 2019	Minh Vi Exhibition & Advertisement Services Co., Ltd (Veas Co., Ltd)	info@veas.com.vn +95-9420 025684
Complast Myanmar	Venue: Tatmadaw Hall Date: 14-16 June 2019	Smart Expos & Fairs (India) Pvt. Ltd	office@smartexpos.in +91-44-2250 1986/ 87
Myanmar International Job Fair	Venue: Fortune Plaza Information Centre and Sale Gallery Date: 15-16 June 2019	ALT Exhibitions SDN BHD	support@altexpo.my +60-1233 45696
Emerging Asia Banking & Fintech Summit	Venue: Park Royal Yangon Date: 25-26 June 2019	Magenta Global Pte Ltd	enquiry@magenta-global.com.sg +65-6846 2360

Tenders

■ Ministry of Education: Invitation for bids

Date:	27th March, 2019
Loan/Grant No: and Title:	MYA 3472– Equipping Youth for Employment
Contract No: and Title:	MYA3472/EYE/NCB/Goods/CBMSC/Equip/01-03
Deadline for Submission of Bids:	13 May 2019

1. The **Government of Myanmar** has received financing from the Asian Development Bank(ADB) towards the cost of **Equipping Youth for Employment Project (EYE) Project**. Part of this financing will be used for payments under the Contract named above. Bidding is open to Bidders from eligible source countries of ADB.
2. The Ministry of Education (represented by the Department of Education, Research, Planning & Training)(“the Purchaser”) invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders for **the Supply of CBMSC Workshop Training Equipment and Tools for the following Courses at 7 GTHS/4 ITC Locations**.
 - **Lot 1—Motorcycle Repair and Maintenance Training Equipment & Tools**
 - **Lot 2—Small Farm Machinery Repair and Maintenance Training Equipment & Tools**

Bidders may submit bids for any of the Lots or for all the Lots. Bid Evaluation will be carried out separately for each Lot and contract will be awarded separately each Lot.
3. National competitive bidding will be conducted in accordance with ADB’s NVB procedure and is open to all Bidders from eligible countries as described in the Bidding Document.
4. To obtain further information and inspect the Bidding Documents, bidders should contact:

EYE Project Management Unit (PMU)
 Department of Education Research, Planning and Training,
 Ministry of Education, Bldg No 13,
 Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
 Telephone: +95 67407261/67407273
 Fax: +95 67407406
 Email Address: projectmanager.EYEPMU@gmail.com
 With copy to: procurement.EYEPMU@gmail.com
5. To Purchase the Bidding Documents in English, eligible bidders should:
 - Write to the address above requesting the Bidding Documents for MYA3472/EYE/NCB/Goods/CBMSC/Equip/01-03
 - Pay a non-refundable Bidding Document Fee of MMK 10,000 either by cash payment or through bank transfer to:

Bank A/C No: MD-012898
 Bank Name: Myanmar Economic Bank
 Bank Address: Thiri Kyaw Swa Street, New Bank Zone, Zabu Thiri Township, Naypyitaw
 Account Name: Department of Education Research, Planning & Training, Ministry of Education

6. Deliver your bid to the address above

- On or before the deadline: **13 May 2019 (13:00 Hours MST)**
- Together with a Bid Security as described in the Bidding Document

Bids will be opened immediately after the deadline for bid submission in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend. Late Bids will be rejected. Electronic Bid submission is not permitted.

7. The Ministry of Education will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids.

■ **Ministry of Construction, Department of Rural and Housing Development: Open Tender**

1. The Department of Rural and Housing Development invites open tender in Myanmar Kyat to construct Social Infrastructure including construction of one R.C.C building for two-storey clinic, one R.C.C building for one-storey library and related landscaping works.

2. Tender form sales date: 28th March 2019 Thursday

3. Tender Closing Date: 26th April 2019 Friday

4. Tender Closing Time: 16:30

5. Tender form sales location: Ministry of Construction
Department of Rural and Housing Development
Housing Development Department
Office (40), Nay Pyi Taw
Phone: +95-67-3407527