

Thura NewsViews

Politics

■ Commander-in-chief visits China

Commander-in-chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing has begun a goodwill visit to China, according to reports. A statement from the Myanmar military said that Min Aung Hlaing was visiting at the invitation of General Li Zuocheng, a member of China's Central Military Commission and chief of the Joint Staff Department of China. "The goodwill treatment is aimed at strengthening friendship between the two countries and their armies," the statement said. The Senior General also said that the two countries' strategic locations mean that good relations are crucial. The move comes ahead of a Belt and Road Initiative forum planned later this month. It is expected that the forum will be attended by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. China has several projects planned in Myanmar, one of the most notable of which is the Myitsone Dam in Kachin State. The project was suspended by former President U Thein Sein. The current government has still not announced whether or not the controversial project will go ahead.

■ Karen National Union to restart peace talks

Officials from the Karen National Union (KNU) are set to meet with the government's National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC). The meeting agenda is to potentially re-start peace negotiations after the group suspended

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

April Highlights



A new education life insurance aimed at ensuring future education of the children in case of the death or injury of the parent or a caretaker has been launched.

The Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) is looking for financing opportunities in the energy and infrastructure sectors in Myanmar.

An MOU between the UMFCI and Mercosur-ASEAN Chamber of Commerce (MACC), which is based in Argentina and Indonesia, was signed.

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](#)

Search ... 


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 ...

participation last year. In October, the KNU, the largest group to have signed the government's Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), announced it was suspending talks with the government due to the slow pace of talks. However, an article in the Myanmar Times said that KNU officials will meet the NRPC on April 11, and the military the following day, quoting U Hla Maung Shwe, an advisor to the government peace commission. According to a senior official from the KNU, KNU General Secretary Padoh Saw Ta Doh Moo will lead negotiations.

■ **New curfew imposed in Rakhine State**

The government has imposed a new curfew from 9pm to 5am in five townships in Rakhine State, amid continued fighting between the Myanmar Army and the AA, an ethnic armed insurgency group. According to a statement signed by Colonel Phone Tint, Minister for Security and Border Affairs, the curfew would come into effect in the townships of Kyauktaw, Ponnagyun, Rathedaung, Minbya and Mrauk-U in response to the fighting. U Tun Aung Kyaw, secretary of the Arakan National Party (ANP), told the Myanmar Times that the curfew "holds unpleasant potential" for the state. An estimated 17,000 civilians have been displaced by the fighting between the two groups. The fighting spiked in January after the AA launched attacks on police outposts on January 4, Myanmar's Independence Day.

Economy

■ **Five foreign insurers to be allowed to operate in Myanmar**

The Ministry of Planning and Finance has announced the names of the five foreign insurance companies that will be allowed to operate in the Myanmar market. Analysts hope the entry of foreign insurers will bring a much-needed boost to the country's economy. The ministry announced that it has awarded Preferred Applicants Foreign Life Insurance Licences to Dai-ichi Life Insurance Company Limited from Japan, Manufacturers Life Insurance Company Canada, AIA Company Limited, Chubb Tempest Reinsurance Limited from Bermuda, and Prudential Hong Kong Limited. The foreign insurers will be allowed to operate 100 percent wholly-owned subsidiaries of their parent companies. According to an article in DealstreetAsia, the licensees will be required to comply with pre-licensing conditions established by the ministry. The international firms are expected to take about six months before they formally enter the market, U Thaug Han, secretary of the Myanmar Insurance Association, was quoted as saying.

Myanmar in Figures

GDP (PPP): \$330.88bn (2017)
GDP (official ex.rate): \$59.5bn (Jan 2018)
GDP growth rate: 7.23% (2017)
Population: 54.22 mn people (Apr 2019)
Inflation: 6.5% (2017)
Foreign trade: \$29.2bn (2016-2017)
FDI: \$75bn (31/12/2017)
International reserves: \$5.2bn (Jan 2018)
CBM rate Kyat/\$ = 1,513K/1\$ (11/04/19)

**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 advertise-
ment contracts are based on a
subscription of a minimum of 4
weeks.**

Companies and Investments

■ **Golden Myanmar begins jet fuel business**

Golden Myanmar Airlines (GMA) has received permission to begin operating an aviation fuel business in the country, according to reports. An article in Frontier said that approval for the venture had been granted by the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC). It is the first sign of competition of the state-backed monopoly that airlines say has contributed to the financial difficulties they face. GMA has received permission for the importation, storage, distribution, transportation and plane fueling of jet fuel. It was also added that the company will be located at Mandalay International Airport, as well as domestic airports at Tachileik, Kawthaung, Nyaung Oo, Heho, Sittwe, and Myitkyina. There will be a jetty terminal at Thilawa, the site of the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) on the outskirts of Yangon. In 2015, the state-owned Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise formed a joint venture with Singapore's Puma Energy, to establish National Energy Puma Aviation Services, which is currently the main provider of aviation fuel in Myanmar.

■ **IFC grants USD 3 million loan to agri-logistic firm SLCM**

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) has provided a USD 3 million loan to SLCM Limited, a Yangon-based agri-logistics firm. According to a report in Dealstreet Asia, IFC said that the loan will be part of its Global Agriculture and Food Security Program. It will be used to expand the company's warehousing facilities and services in Myanmar. "We have replicated our best practices and expertise in agriculture warehousing domain in Myanmar," Sandeep Saharwal, SLCM's CEO was quoted as saying. "In the past five years we have been able to reduce post-harvest losses to 0.5 percent in the country, thus helping every player in the farm-to-market chain". Since 2013, IFC has invested USD 1.3 billion in companies in Myanmar, with one of its key areas being agribusinesses.

Events

Name	Details	Organizer/Ministries	Contact Information
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
Myanmar Gar Tex Expo	Venue: Rose Garden Hotel, Yangon Date: 28-30 June 2019	Minh Vi Exhibition & Advertisement Services Co., Ltd (Veas Co., Ltd)	info@veas.com.vn +95-9420 025684

Tenders

■ Ministry of Electricity and Energy: Invitation for Bids

1. The Ministry of Electricity and Energy has received financing from the World Bank towards the cost of the **National Electrification Project**, and intends to apply part of the proceeds towards payments under the contract for Concrete Poles for National Electrification Project.
2. The Ministry of Electricity and Energy now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for **supply of concrete pole 10 meter and 12 meter, for the total quantities of 24,737 Poles to be delivered in 2019 to multiple destinations in Bago (East) and Yangon Region of Myanmar**. The goods will be grouped into 2 lots and bidders may submit bid for any one or more lots. Evaluation and award of contract will be on a lot-wise basis.
3. For quick reference, some of the key qualification requirements include:
 - (a) Minimum average annual turnover (or annual sales volume) shall be 75% of the bid price in over the last two years per each lot. In case of a bidder bidding for multiple lots, the minimum average annual turnover requirement of those multiple lots will be cumulatively applicable.
 - (b) The bidder should have past experience of having satisfactorily completed during the last 5 years, at least one contract for supply of similar goods; with the value of such contract not less than 50% of the bid price for the offered goods.
 - (c) More information is included in the bidding documents.
4. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank's Procurement Guidelines, and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the procurement guidelines.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Project Manager, Office No. 27, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, email: nep.pmomoep@gmail.com, telephone: +95-67-3431175, fax: +95-67-3431176 and inspect the bidding documents during office hours at the address given below.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **2nd May, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.** Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidders' designated representatives at the Yadanar Hall, Ground Floor of Office Building No. 27, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Nay Pyi Taw at **2nd May, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.**
7. All bids must be accompanied by a bid securing declaration as described in the bidding document.
8. The address referred to above is
 Attention: Project Manager
 Project Management Office (National Electrification Project)
 Office: Building No. 27, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Nay Pyi Taw
 Telephone: +95-67-3431175
 Fax: +95-67-3431176
 Email: nep.pmomoep@gmail.com

■ Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation: Invitation for Application of Type Approval

1. The Department of Fisheries under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation will issue **Type Approval for Marine Transmission Unit/ Transponder** to be installed in establishing **Vessel Monitoring System-VMS** in accord with the specific rules and regulations. The Department invites the entrepreneurs and companies who want to apply Type Approval.
2. The application shall be submitted as following in accord with the relevant regulations:-
 - (a) Date of application: **3rd April, 2019**
 - (b) Date of closure: **30th April, 2019**
 - (c) Time for application: from **09:30 a.m. to 04:30 p.m.**

(d) Estimated Announcement Date for Type Approval: **9th May, 2019**

3. The application form for type approval and conditions for application is available at the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation website, the Department of Fisheries website, MIMU website and application is submitted to the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Office Building No. 36 in Nay Pyi Taw.
4. The detailed information can be obtained at the Department of Fisheries (Head Office) under the telephone numbers: +95-67-3418530 and +95-67-3408477.

■ **Ministry of Electricity and Energy: Open Tender**

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

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description	Remark
(a)	DMP/L-200 (18-19)	Hydraulic Oil Light (H.O.L) (800) Drums	Ks
(b)	DMP/L-201 (18-19)	Chrome Lignite (XP-20) (200) MT	Ks
(c)	DMP/L-202 (18-19)	Spares For NAT-55 Drawwork (2) Groups	Ks

2. The open tender forms including description of materials/ Qty with detailed specifications and tender terms & conditions can be available free download at the Ministry of Electricity and Energy website - www.moe.gov.mm as from **11th April, 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 **13th May, 2019**.
4. Tender closing date and time is **13th May, 2019** at **02:00 p.m.**
5. Further information can be obtained at Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise within office hours under the telephone number: +95-67-411206.

■ **Ministry of Health and Sports: Sealed Tender**

1. The Department of Medical Services under the Ministry of Health and Sports invites sealed tenders for the supply of medical equipment in the fiscal year 2018-2019.
2. Tender documents are available during office hours at the Procurement and Supplying Division, Department of Medical Services office No. 4, Ministry of Health and Sports Commencing from **11th April, 2019**. Sealed bids are to be submitted to the office not later than **16th May, 2019** at **03:00 p.m.** Late bid will be rejected. No telegraph/ telex proposal will be accepted.
3. Detailed information can be obtained at the Procurement and Supplying Division, Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Sports under the telephone numbers: +95-67-3411510 and +95-67-3411544.