

# Thura NewsViews

## Politics

■ **Supreme Court rejects final Reuters appeal**

The Myanmar's Supreme Court this week rejected an appeal of two Reuters journalists who last year were sentenced to seven years in jail for breaking the Official Secrets Act. The decision was announced at the Supreme Court building in Nay Pyi Taw on April 23. It means that without a presidential pardon Ko Wa Lone and Ko Kyaw Soe Oo, will serve their seven year sentence at Insein Prison, north of Yangon. At the time of their arrest, the pair were investigating the military-led crackdown in northern Rakhine State in late 2017. Their trial and detention have attracted widespread condemnation. Their wives, who traveled from Yangon to the capital for the hearing, said they were disappointed by the decision. "Our husbands are good people," Ma Panei Mon, Wa Lone's wife, told Reuters. "We want them to be released as soon as possible". After the sentence, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said that the pair's prosecution was "unacceptable".

■ **Groups call for release of satirical performers**

A human rights groups have called on the Myanmar government to drop charges against satirical performers for allegedly criticizing the military. Last week, four members of the Peacock Generation "thangyat" group were arrest-

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](mailto:info@thuraswiss.com)  
[www.thuraswiss.com](http://www.thuraswiss.com)

### April Highlights

A tender will be held this year for the construction of an airport in Muse, which is a major hub for trade at the Myanmar-China border.

China has agreed to import 400,000 tonnes of rice from Myanmar via sea, increasing its import quota for Myanmar rice from 100,000 tonnes.

The subsidiary of an Indian agri--logistics group, Sohan Lal Commodity Management, has secured a USD 3 million loan from IFC.

We are online and post our articles throughout the week. Visit us on:

[newsviews.thuraswiss.com](http://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](#)

[f](#) [t](#)

## 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 ...

ed after they broadcast a play to commemorate Myanmar's New Years' holiday. Apparently, they were critical of the military's role in politics. Thangyat is a traditional performance that typically makes fun of ruling powers and dates back several centuries. "Myanmar's authorities are demonstrating once again their intolerance of criticism, even in satirical form," Linda Lakhdhir, Asia legal adviser for Human Rights Watch said in a statement. The group faces charges under Section 66(d), a notorious clause of the 2013 Telecommunications Act, which punishes online defamation. The Reuters article said that the military also plans to bring further charges under Section 505 of the Penal Code. It covers public statements and carries a maximum of two years in prison.

## Economy

### ■ More than 50 missing in latest Hpakant landslide

More than 50 people are feared dead following a landslide in Kachin State's Hpakant Township, an area that is renowned for its jade deposits and safety issues related to the industry, according to reports. An article in Frontier said that the landslide occurred on the evening of April 22, and that employees from two companies, Myanmar Thura Gems Company and Shwe Nagar Koe Kaung, were buried. Local parliamentarian U Tin Soe told Reuters that 54 workers were trapped when the earth collapsed. "They won't survive. It is not possible because they are buried under mud," he said. Paul Donowitz, campaign leader for Myanmar for Global Witness, called on the government to hold companies operating in Hpakant to account. "Mining companies are placing profit before people and causing needless deaths as a result," he told Frontier. Landslides in Hpakant happen on a fairly regular basis, and are often the result of waste from the mines being dumped on mountainsides.

### ■ Farmed fish to be exported to EU

Myanmar will begin exporting farmed marine products to the European Union market beginning in May, according to a Fisheries Department official. According to the report by the Myanmar Times, the breeds to be exported include Rohu, Mrigal, Katla and Carfu fish species, as well as river catfish, barbun fish, spotted prawn, white prawn and soft shell crab. "We have been trying to export farmed fisheries to the EU since 2014," said U Thet Naing, from the Fisheries Department. "It is a difficult process and only a few countries in Asia have permission to do so". The move comes after inspections were conducted at 27 fish breeding farms that supply fish to factories. The farms are located in Yangon, Ayeyarwady and Tanintharyi regions.

## Companies and Investments

### ■ Tokyo Century takes 20 percent stake in Yoma Fleet

Japanese financial services firm Tokyo Century has taken a 20 percent stake in auto leasing firm Yoma Fleet in a deal worth USD 26.6 million, according to an article in Dealstreet Asia. The Japanese firm said that the move will expand Yoma Fleet's current operations. Also, they will "explore opportunities to expand into further business lines". Yoma Fleet is part of the Singapore-listed

### 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/\$ = 1,524K/1\$ (25/04/19)

**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 advertisement contracts are based on a subscription of a minimum of 4 weeks.**

Yoma Strategic Holdings, with operations in real estate, consumer goods and financial services. Tokyo Century has made significant investments in Southeast Asia in recent years. Most notable investments include Singapore-based hail riding app Grab and Nobu Bank. The latter is an Indonesian lender which is part of the Lippo conglomerate.

■ **PetroChina opens first Myanmar fuel station**

Chinese state-run PetroChina International has opened a service station in Myanmar, its first operations in the country. According to a Myanmar Times article, the operation is a joint venture between Singapore Petroleum Co (SPC), which is PetroChina's Singaporean arm, and local company Shwe Taung Energy Co, part of the Shwe Taung group. Shwe Taung is expected to upgrade all 18 of its outlets in Myanmar to the SPC brand. The first such station in Myanmar is to be located in Yangon's Sanchaung Township. "We are seeing considerable growth opportunities in the oil and gas retail market," Xia Hongwei, SPC managing director was quoted as saying. SPC is the first international company to enter Myanmar's fuel sector since the industry was liberalized in 2017. Local company Max Energy is expected to begin operating Shell-branded petrol stations in the future. Singapore's Puma Energy also plans to establish about 50 centers in the country within the next 10 years.

## Events

Name	Details	Organizer/Ministries	Contact Information
Myanmar Coffee Teas & Sweets Festival	<b>Venue:</b> Myanmar Convention Center, Yangon <b>Date:</b> 01-04 May 2019	ALT Exhibitions SDN BHD	support@altexpo.my +60-1233 45696
International Food & Drink Carnival	<b>Venue:</b> Fortune Plaza Information Centre and Sale Gallery, Yangon <b>Date:</b> 09-12 May 2019	ALT Exhibitions SDN BHD	support@altexpo.my +60-1233 45696
BuildTech Yangon	<b>Venue:</b> Myanmar Expo Hall <b>Date:</b> 17-18 May 2019	Sphere Exhibitions Pte Ltd	sphere@sph.com.sg +65-6319 4020
Mandalay International Livestock and Agriculture Show	<b>Venue:</b> Mandalay Convention Centre <b>Date:</b> 28-30 May 2019	Silver Sea Media	info@mmlfin.com +95-9431 25185
Food & Hotel Myanmar	<b>Venue:</b> Yangon Convention Centre (YCC), Yangon <b>Date:</b> 05-07 June 2019	UBM Myanmar	info-hk@ubm.com +95-1-378 975
Beauty Connect Expo Myanmar	<b>Venue:</b> Rose Garden Hotel <b>Date:</b> 06-08 June 2019	Minh Vi Exhibition & Advertisement Services Co., Ltd (Veas Co., Ltd)	info@veas.com.vn +95-9420 025684
Complast Myanmar	<b>Venue:</b> Tatmadaw Hall <b>Date:</b> 14-16 June 2019	Smart Expos & Fairs (India) Pvt. Ltd	office@smartexpos.in +91-44-2250 1986/ 87
Myanmar International Job Fair	<b>Venue:</b> Fortune Plaza Information Centre and Sale Gallery <b>Date:</b> 15-16 June 2019	ALT Exhibitions SDN BHD	support@altexpo.my +60-1233 45696
Emerging Asia Banking & Fintech Summit	<b>Venue:</b> Park Royal Yangon <b>Date:</b> 25-26 June 2019	Magenta Global Pte Ltd	enquiry@magenta-global.com.sg +65-6846 2360
Myanmar Gar Tex Expo	<b>Venue:</b> Rose Garden Hotel, Yangon <b>Date:</b> 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 Distribution Transformer for National Electrification Project.
2. The Ministry of Electricity and Energy now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for supply of 11/0.4 kV—**50 kVA** and **100 kVA**, distribution transformer, for the total quantities of 4,900 transformers to be delivered in **2019** and **2020** to multiple destinations in all Regions and States of Myanmar. Domestic preference with the margin of 15% will apply. The goods will be grouped into **4 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. Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank's Procurement Guidelines, and is open to all eligible bidders.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Project Manager, Office No. 27, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, [nep.pmomoep@gmail.com](mailto:nep.pmomoep@gmail.com) and inspect the bidding documents during office hours at the address given below.
5. Bidders can request complete set of bidding document from the purchaser through email address mentioned below or at the address given below.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **10:00 a.m. on 4th June, 2019**. 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 address below at **10:00 a.m. on 4th June, 2019**.
7. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security as described in the bidding document.
8. The address (es) referred to above are

Attention: Project Manager, Project Management Office (National Electrification Project)

Office: Building No. 27, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Nay Pyi Taw

ZIP Code: 15011

Telephone: +95-67-3431175

Fax: +95-67-3431176

Email: [nep.pmomoep@gmail.com](mailto:nep.pmomoep@gmail.com)

### ■ Central Bank of Myanmar: Invitation for Bids

1. The government of Myanmar has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank Group toward the cost of the **Myanmar Financial Sector Development Project**, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for Procurement of Banknote Processing Machines, reference no. G5.
2. Central Bank of Myanmar now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of Banknote Processing Machines.
3. Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank's Procurement Guidelines, and is open to all eligible bidders.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the address below and inspect the bidding documents during office hours at the address given below.
5. A complete set of bidding documents in English can be obtained by interested eligible bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below. The bidding documents will be issued through email only.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **7th June, 2019 at 01:30 p.m.**

7. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bid will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidders' designated representatives and anyone who choose to attend at the address below.
8. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in amount of one percent of the bid price in a Bank Guarantee format.
9. The address referred to above is

Attention: Mr. San Myint Lwin, Staff Officer, Central Bank of Myanmar

Address: Office No. 55, Yaza Thingaha Road, Oattara Thiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw

Telephone: +95-67-418223, +95-9-454930676

Email: [sanmyintlwincbm@gmail.com](mailto:sanmyintlwincbm@gmail.com)

■ **Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation: 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 National Community Driven Development Project (NCDDP). The IDA number of the financing agreement is No. H814MM.
2. The Department of Rural Development (DRD) under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, in its role as implementing agency of the NCDDP, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing towards eligible payments under the Purchase Order/ Contract for the following packages.
3. The DRD now invites eligible suppliers to express their interest in supplying the following items:

Ref No.	Lot No.	Description	Quantity
G 136	1	Project Information Board with NCDDP Logo	10,500 Sheets
G 137	1	Backpacks	2,000 Sheets
G 142	1	Grievance Suggestion Box Stickers	23,000 Nos
	2	Motorcycle Stickers	7,800 Nos
	3	File Cover Stickers	78,000 Nos

4. Expressions of Interest on Quotation must be submitted in a written form to the email address below and clearly indicate the reference number above. The invitation to quote will be distribute on the needs of the DRD. Eligible suppliers having expressed interest will be submitted to the address by corresponding **date and time stated in respective ITQ**, after which no quotations will be accepted.
5. The goods will be contracted in lot-by-lot basis. Suppliers will be selected following the Shopping Method as per the "Guidelines for Procurement of Goods, Works and non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers" dated January, 2011.
6. The Expression of Interest for receiving the Invitation to Quote (ITQ) must be submitted to Project Director Mrs. Nyo Nyo Win, NCDD Project Secretariat, Department of Rural Development at Office No. 36, Nay Pyi Taw under the telephone number: +95-67-418604.
7. Further detailed information can be obtained from U Kyaw Swa Aung, Director, Procurement and Logistic Section under the telephone number: +95-9-43434333, +95-67-418637 or through email: [unioncddprocurement@gmail.com](mailto:unioncddprocurement@gmail.com).
8. Please indicate your email address as only electronic copies of the ITQ will be send as well as introduce your company name and contact number to communicate with you. More information on the NCDDP can be obtained by visiting the website - [www.cdd.drdmyanmar.org](http://www.cdd.drdmyanmar.org).