

Thura NewsViews

Politics

■ Outcry regarding deaths in custody in Rakhine

The deaths of three Rakhine men while being held in military custody and the secret cremation has led to widespread outcry among local communities in the restive state. According to reports, the three men were arrested during a raid conducted in Mrauk-U Township two weeks ago. It was reported that two of the men died from "heart failure", according to the military-run Myawady. A third man was confirmed killed by local authorities, an AFP report said, but no reason was given. "We were told by police they had already been cremated," said Maung Nyan Thar, the nephew of one of the deceased, Thein Htun Sein, adding that the families wanted to take "legal action" against anyone found responsible for the deaths. The Myanmar army has been involved in heavy fighting with the Arakan Army in northern Rakhine State in recent months. There are concerns that the killings will further heighten much of the anger many Rakhine people have towards the government and the military.

■ Tatmadaw promises stronger penalties for 'libelous' stories

A spokesperson for the Myanmar's armed forces, also called Tatmadaw, has said that the institution is willing to take stronger action against libelous act towards the army. At a press conference in Nay Pyi Taw, Brigadier General

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May Highlights

Myanmar is set to receive a € 35.7 million loan from the French Development Agency (AFD) to upgrade to five hydropower plants.

Golden Myanmar Investment Consortium is planning to set up a new industrial zone in Htantabin township, Yangon.

The Ministry of Planning and Finance and the DaNa Facility to introduce customs officers and other stakeholder to the potential of bonded warehouses.

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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 ...

Zaw Min Tun, made the remarks while answering a question related to the recent decision to sue The Irrawaddy for an article about fighting close to Mrauk U in Rakhine State. “If they cursed you, your father, your mother and all generations of your family, and would compensate you only K300,000, would that be OK with you?” he was quoted as saying in the Myanmar Times. The Tatmadaw recently opened a case against The Irrawaddy under section 66(d) of the Telecommunications Law for an article about fighting with the Arakan Army (AA). It heightened concerns about a further backwards step for press freedom in Myanmar. “I don’t say reporters have to write what we say, but it needs to be fair,” Zaw Min Tun said. U Myint Kyaw, a member of the Myanmar Press Council, criticized the announcement, saying it would make members of the media “more afraid” in their reporting.

■ **Northern Alliance submits ceasefire plan to government**

Members of the Northern Alliance, a group of ethnic armed groups that have not signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), have submitted their own proposal for a ceasefire to the government. According to a report in the Myanmar Times, the submission was made during a meeting with government negotiators that related to bilateral ceasefire agreements. The group also proposed discussions of the NCA and the return of refugees, according to Lieutenant Colonel Naw Bu, spokesman of the Kachin Independence Army (KIA). As well as the KIA, the meeting was also attended by representatives from the Ta’ang National Liberation Army (TNLA), The Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNSA), and the Arakan Army (AA). “Even though there is fighting in Shan, we are ready to sign a bilateral ceasefire agreement if the government and Tatmadaw agree,” said Naw Bu. Government spokesman U Zaw Htay told reporters after the meeting that the government and the military would consider the proposal. He also added that another meeting was scheduled to take place in May.

Economy

■ **Nine coffee plantations granted GAP certificates**

A total of nine coffee plantations have been granted Good Agriculture Practice (GAP) certificates, according to an article in the Myanmar Times. The certificates were issued as part of aims to bring a significant boost to the sector. The GAP system was introduced by the Myanmar government in 2016. It is accepted as a sign of quality by some other countries. The nine plantations granted certificates are Si Thar, Green Land 1 and 2, Mya Myanmar and Creation Myanmar. The plantations are located in Mandalay Region and Shan State. “GAP holders provide consumers with reassurance that their products are made without harmful chemicals. This gives consumers more confidence” said U Myint Swe, director from the Department of Agriculture under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation. According to an article in the Myanmar Times, Myanmar coffee ranked second out of 48 countries in a coffee exhibition in China in 2017.

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/\$ = 1,523K/1\$ (02/05/19)

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Companies and Investments

■ Rent 2 Own raises funds for expansion

Rent 2 Own, which offers motorbike renting solutions, has raised USD 3 million in debt financing from Belgian company Incofin. Established in Myanmar in 2016, Rent 2 Own aims to help entrepreneurs, particularly farmers, to use improved transportation to generate income and improve their business operations. According to a report in Dealstreet Asia, Rent 2 Own CFO Olivier Bertrand said “The new funding will enable Rent 2 Own Myanmar to continue providing economic opportunities to families of the low income and rural population in Myanmar”. Under the program, customers make an upfront payment, and then pay the rest of the cost of the motorbike using a payment plan. The company said it has established 39 branches across the country and has almost 100,000 clients.

■ Memories Group acquires stake in three Yangon hotels

Prominent local tourism company Memories Group has acquired a 15.28 percent stake in Strand Hotel International Limited (SHIL), in a deal worth USD 3.19 million. The deal involved interests in three Yangon based hotels, as well as a well-known cruise, according to a report in Dealstreet Asia. SHIL controls three hotels in Yangon, namely Strand Hotel, Inya Lake Hotel and Hotel G Yangon, as well as The Strand Cruise. According to the article, Memories Group has entered into an agreement to purchase 1,969,636 shares in SHIL, accounting for 15.28 percent of the company. “The acquisition is in line with our plans to own, develop and/or operate more hotels and lodges so as to expand our hotel business segment,” Cyrus Pun, CEO of Memories Group was quoted as saying. He also added that he remained convinced of “the enormous tourism potential of Myanmar”. Memories Group, which is affiliated to Yoma Strategic Holdings, has several other business interests in Myanmar’s tourism sector, including Balloons over Bagan, Bagan Land and Hpa-An Lodge, a hotel in Kayin State.

Events

Name	Details	Organizer/Ministries	Contact Information
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
GMS Rail Expansion Summit	Venue: Summit Parkview Hotel, Yangon Date: 17-18 June 2019	UMS Institute	info@umsinstitute.org +86-21-6101 4318
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: 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.

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description	Remarks
(a)	DMP/L-205 (18-19)	Spares for SJS Serva (TPB600) Cementing Unit (7) Groups	Ks
(b)	DMP/L-206 (18-19)	Spares for SK200-8 Kobelco Excavator (46) Items	Ks
(c)	DMP/L-207 (18-19)	Spares for Cooper Well Servicing Unit (35) Items	Ks
(d)	DMP/L-208 (18-19)	Spares for Cat G 3412 Gas Engine (5) Items	Ks
(e)	DMP/L-209 (18-19)	Radial Bearing for N-69 Swivel (3) Nos	Ks
(f)	DMP/L-210 (18-19)	3¾" Tri Cone Rock Bits (3) Items	Ks
(g)	DMP/L-211 (18-19)	Mechanical Accessories (3) Groups	Ks

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.moeee.gov.mm as from **2nd May, 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 3rd June, 2019**.
4. Tender closing date and time is **3rd June, 2019 at 02:00 p.m.** Further information can be obtained at the 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 2018-2019 budget year.
2. Tender documents are available during office hours at the office of Procurement and Supply Division, Department of Medical Services, No. (4), Ministry of Health and Sports as from **11th April, 2019**.
3. Sealed bids must be submitted to the office, not later than **03:00 p.m. on 16th May, 2019**, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraph/ telex proposal will be accepted.
4. Further information can be obtained at the office of Procurement and Supply Division, Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Sports within office hours under the telephone numbers: +95-67-3411510 and +95-67-3411544.

■ 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. The Department of Rural Development (DRD) of 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. DRD now invites eligible suppliers to express their interest in supplying the following items:
2. 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 DRD. Eligible suppliers having expressed interest will receive an Invitation To Quote (ITQ). Sealed quotations will be

submitted to the address by corresponding date and time stated in respective ITQ, after which no Quotations will be accepted.

Reference No.	Lot No.	Description	Quantity
G 117	1	Supply of Medical Kits (Small size)	3,478 sets
	2	Supply of Medical Kits (Larger size)	2,523 sets
G 127	1	Supply of Project with Screen	25 sets

3. 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 and Grants by World Bank Borrowers" dated January, 2011.
4. Please submit the Expression of Interest for receiving the Invitation to Quote (ITQ) to: Project Director, Mrs. Nyo Nyo Win, NCDD Project Secretariat, Department of Rural Development, Office No. 36, Nay Pyi Taw under the telephone number: +95-67-418604. Detailed information can be obtained from U Kyaw Swa Aung, Director, Procurement and Logistic Section under the telephone number: +95-9-43434333 or office telephone number: +95-67-418637 or through email: unioncddprocurement@gmail.com.
5. 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. Further information about the NCDD Project can be obtained by visiting the Department of Rural Development (DRD) website: www.cdd.drdmyanmar.org.

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Reference No.	Lot No.	Description	Quantity
G 126	1	Photo Copiers for replacement and additional needs in existing townships	70

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