

Thura NewsViews

Politics

■ Flooding left 45,000 displaced across Myanmar

An estimated 45,000 people have been displaced by flooding across Myanmar in recent weeks, according to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. The areas most heavily affected by the flooding are Kachin, Rakhine, Mon and Chin states. Mandalay, Sagaing, Bago and Magwe regions were also affected, according to an article in the Myanmar Times. The vast majority of those displaced are in Kachin State, where 22,000 people have been forced to flee their homes. There are 79 sites opened to accommodate displaced people, mainly in areas close to Myitkyina, Tanai and Waingmaw. In Rakhine State, almost 10,000 people have been displaced, mainly in Minbya, Mrauk-U and Kyauktaw.

■ NLD among parties calling for new national flag

The ruling National League for Democracy (NLD) is one of four political parties that has called for a new national flag. This is proposed as part of suggested changes to the 2008 Constitution, according to an article in Frontier. Separate proposals for a new flag were made by the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy (SNLD), the Chin State-based Zomi Congress for Democracy (ZCD) and the National Unity Party (NUP), the report said. Changes to the national flag were among more than 3,700 submissions made to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's

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July Highlights

Myanmar, Japan and Thailand will be meeting over the Dawei SEZ project, which was stalled for lack of funding in 2013.

Myanmar's insurance industry has potential to grow to MMK 1.75 trillion in next 12 months according to a survey of IKBZ.

The location for Myanmar's first deep-sea port will be decided next years, according to the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

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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 ...

Constitutional Amendment Committee. The current flag was adopted in October 2010. It began its work in February, as part of efforts to make changes to the controversial charter. The flag proposed has a red field with a blue canton that features one five-pointed star, representing the union. It is surrounded by 14 smaller stars, which represent the country's states and regions, the Frontier article said. U Aung Kyi Nyunt, an Upper House MP for the NLD, was quoted as saying that although the party's proposal has been submitted, "all members of parliament need firstly to discuss the suggestions for constitutional amendments and then draft the necessary legislation".

Economy

■ MyTel fined for violating trading rules

MyTel has been fined MMK 300 million (USD 197,800) by the Posts and Telecommunications Department for violating the regulatory framework. According to an article in The Irrawaddy, the fourth operator to join Myanmar's telecom field, was fined and later warned, under Article 57(a) of the Telecommunications Law for breaching regulations in the Pricing and Tariff Regulatory Framework and for failing to follow licensing agreement rules. U Zaw Min Oo, Chief External Relations Officer of Mytel, was quoted as saying that the fine was imposed in March, after the company provided free SIM cards to customers shortly after entering the market. "They [salespersons] offered free SIM cards as they were so eager for sales," Zaw Min Oo said of traders based outside Yangon. "People already have SIM cards, and they wouldn't buy them if we sold them, and thus we offered them [for free]." MyTel is a joint-venture between Vietnam's military-linked Viettel, a subsidiary of the Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited (UMEHL), and a consortium of local companies.

■ YCDC to take action against 'illegal livestock breeders'

The Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) is to take action against those involved in the breeding of livestock in "restricted areas". The move will be starting in March next year, according to an article in Myanmar Business Today. Livestock breeding is currently banned in 19 townships of Yangon. The committee will conduct educational campaigns aimed at helping breeders in the restricted areas beforehand. U Than, the Joint Secretary of YCDC, was quoted as saying that local officials are currently implementing a livestock breeding zone at Nyaung Na Pin, in northern Yangon, "for the sake of our city's people". The move is part of the Development Strategy for Yangon 2040. It aims to improve the standards of living for Yangon residents.

Companies and Investments

■ Myanmar Airways (MAI) opens Hangzhou routes

Myanmar Airways International (MAI) has opened separate routes from Yangon and Mandalay to Hangzhou, in China's Zhejiang Province. According to an article in the Myanmar Times, it is the latest in a long list of expanded connections between the two countries. In a statement, the airline said that the introduction of two new routes will allow it to play an important role in expanding tourism and

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\$ (25/07/19)

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trade between the two countries. “China will be a key market to us in 2019 as we tap into the ever-growing Chinese outbound market,” U Kyaw Han, Chief Operating Officer of MAI, was quoted as saying. MAI, which is part of the Kanbawza Group conglomerate, already operates flights to Bangkok and Singapore, as well as Kolkata in India, and China’s Guangzhou. Myanmar has recently relaxed visa rules for visitors carrying Chinese passports, leading to a rapid expansion in the number of visitors.

■ **Proximity Finance signs loan agreement with Yoma Bank**

Yangon-based Proximity Finance has signed a USD 3.28 million back-to-back funding agreement with Yoma Bank to support micro-lending for smallholder farmers, according to an article in Dealstreet Asia. “This back-to-back structure of funding will allow more investors into Myanmar in hard currency while allowing MFIs [micro-finance institutions] to repay in local currency,” Proximity Finance chief executive Hedvig Sundberg said in a statement, adding that the deal should “continue to be an example for other local banks”. The article said that the financing will go towards offering low-interest loans to more than 12,000 families. Proximity Finance is reportedly one of the largest MFIs in Myanmar. The organization claims to have more than 100,000 customers and a portfolio of over USD 20 million.

Legal Box by Duane Morris & Selvam LLP

Foreign investors allowed to trade on Yangon Stock Exchange

In exercise of the power conferred under Section 71 (b) of Securities Exchange Law 2013, Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar (the “**Commission**”) issued the Notification No.1/2019 (the “**Notification**”) on 12 of July 2019. This Notification now allows foreign investors to trade shares of listed companies on the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX).

The Notification has two parts: the first one concerns further implementation and the second part is about the prerequisites for companies to be listed on the YSX.

The second paragraph of the Notification sets out the following conditions, which need to be implemented by the YSX:

1. The date when the foreign investors can purchase shares of listed companies shall be announced by the YSX.
2. The YSX shall announce all regulations related to foreign investments with the prior approval of the Securities and Exchange Commission .
3. Only one type of shares shall be exchanged on the YSX.
4. Trading activities shall be carried out within the legally authorised percentage of foreign ownership for listed company.
5. Upon the completion of the trading activities, changes in the ownership structure need to be registered to the relevant securities companies. For foreign companies, the attribution of foreign ownership shall be calculated solely based on the directly owned local listed stocks.

The Notification's third paragraph states that, with regards to the foreigner involvement in daily shares trading, the listed company of YSX must comply the following conditions:

1. The listed company shall specify in advance to the YSX the maximum percentage of foreign ownership of the company.
2. The listed company should have obtained the authorisation of the relevant regulatory authority prior to submitting a request to the YSX.

With respect to foreigners involvement in share trading, Securities and Exchange Companies must also comply with the instructions issued by the Commission related to the opening of securities and exchange account and shares trading. The instructions shall be issued on a non-regular basis based upon market activity and trading condition.

Through our office in Yangon, Duane Morris & Selvam advises corporations on investment, business and regulatory processes in Myanmar. For further information, please contact Mr Krishna Ramachandra (kramachandra@duanemorrisselvam.com), Mr Priyank Srivastava (psrivastava@duanemorrisselvam.com), or Mr CN Beilo (CBLo@selvamandpartners.com) or visit www.duanemorrisselvam.com. Duane Morris & Selvam is recognized as a leading law firm for Myanmar related Corporate, M&A and Projects (including Energy) work – The Legal 500 (2017 & 2018).

Events

Name	Details	Organizer/Ministries	Contact Information
Builders Myanmar	Venue: Novotel Yangon Max Hotel, Yangon Date: 1-3 Aug 2019	Fireworks Myanmar	myanmar@asiafireworks.com +95-1-377381
Powerex Myanmar and Electric Expo Myanmar	Venue: Novotel Yangon Max Hotel, Yangon Date: 1-3 Aug 2019	Fireworks Trade Media Pte Ltd	sg@asiafireworks.com +65-6100 9101
Myanmar FoodBev	Venue: Tatmadaw Exhibition Hall, Yangon Date: 15-17 Aug 2019	Icvex	info@icvex.com +66-2713 3033
Myanmar Retail Sourcing Expo	Venue: Tatmadaw Exhibition Hall, Yangon Date: 15-17 Aug 2019	Icvex	info@icvex.com +66-2713 3033
Arena Convention & Exhibition	Venue: Novotel Yangon Max Hotel, Yangon Date: 23-24 Aug 2019	Malaysian Institute of Estate Agents	secretariat@miea.com.my +603-7960 2577
Myanmar Phar-Med Expo	Venue: Rose Garden Hotel, Yangon Date: 5-7 Sept 2019	Minh Vi Exhibition & Advertisement Services Co., Ltd (VEAS)	info@veas.com.vn +95-9-4200 25684
Myanauto	Venue: Rose Garden Hotel, Yangon Date: 6-8 Sept 2019	AMB Tarsus Exhibitions Sdn Bhd	darren@ambtarsus.com +95-9-3149 6493
Pintech Myanmar	Venue: MEP at Mindama, Yangon Date: 12-14 Sept 2019	UBM Allworld Exhibitions	yeemon.chen@ubm.com +95-1-378957
International Processing & Packaging Exhibition	Venue: Myanmar Expo Hall, Yangon Date: 12-14 Sept 2019	UBM Myanmar	yeemon.chen@ubm.com +95-1-378957
Myanmar Connect	Venue: Pan Pacific Hotel, Yangon Date: 17-19 Sept 2019	TelCap/ Capacity Media	info@capacitymedia.com +44-020-7779-7227
Agri Myanmar	Venue: Rose Garden Hotel, Yangon Date: 26-28 Sept 2019	Minh Vi Exhibition & Advertisement Services Co., Ltd (VEAS)	info@veas.com.vn +95-9-4200 25684

Tenders

■ Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation: Invitation for Sealed Bids

1. The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank Group toward the cost of the National Electrification Project (NEP), and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contracts for **Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Solar PV Systems for Households and Public Facilities**. These contracts will jointly finance by the government of Myanmar.
2. The Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for supply, installation and maintenance of solar PV systems for households and public facilities in the following States and Regions:

Lot 1 - NEP Solar PV Packages in Kayin (4), Ayeyarwaddy (8) and Tanintharyi (5)

Lot 2 - NEP Solar PV Packages in Sagaing (5)

Lot 3 - NEP Solar PV Packages in Shan North (5) and Shan East (4)

Bidders may bid for one or several contracts, as further defined in the bidding document. Bidders wishing to offer discounts in case they are awarded more than one contract will be allowed to do so, provided those discounts are included in the letter of bid.

3. For quick reference, some key qualification requirements include:
 - The average annual turnover (or annual sales volume) of the last three years should be a minimum of USD 3,000,000 and accumulative if bidding for multiple lots.
 - The bidder has successfully completed at least two contracts in supplying, installing, supervising, commissioning and/ or maintaining off-grid solar PV systems with batteries, in any year over the last five years, and at least one of the two contracts had a value equivalent to or greater than 50% of the corrected Bid Price. The details of the qualification requirements are in the bidding document.
4. Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants by World Bank Borrowers dated January 2011 (revised July 2014) ("Procurement Guidelines"), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Guidelines.
5. Clarification of the bidding document will be conducted through email or letter to the Purchaser as stated in ITB 7.1 of the bidding document.
6. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the address given below and inspect the bidding document during office hours at the address given below.
7. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be obtained free of charge by interested eligible bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below. The bidding documents will be issued through email only. In case of any difficulty in obtaining the bidding documents, interested parties may contact in writing to the address given below.
8. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **3rd September, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.** Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bid will be rejected. The outer bid envelopes marked "**ORIGINAL BID**", and the inner envelopes marked "**TECHNICAL PART**" will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who choose to attend, at the address below on or before 2nd September, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. All envelopes marked "**SECOND EVELOPE: FINANCIAL PART**" shall remain unopened and will be held in safe custody of the purchaser until the second public opening.
9. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security as stated in ITB 19.1 - Bid Data Sheet of the Bidding Document.
10. The address (es) referred to above is (are):

Attention: Dr. Soe Soe Ohn, Director, Project Manager of National Electrification Project

National Electrification Project

Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation

Office: Building No. 36, Nay Pyi Taw

Telephone: +95-67-3418635

Fax: +95-67-3418636

Email: ksaung@gmail.com, dr.soesomehn@gmail.com, neppmo.drd@gmail.com,
drdnep.procurement@gmail.com

■ **Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation: Invitation for Price Quotations**

1. The Government of 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 part 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:

Reference No.	Lot No.	Description	Unit	Quantity
G 130	1	Maintenance and Repair Service for the NCDDP Fleet of HONDA 125 cc, total number 412 motorcycles in use over the country	Service Point	50
	2	Maintenance and Repair Service for the NCDDP Fleet of TVS NEO 110 cc, total number 2661 motorcycles in use over the country	Service Point	75
G 123	1	Supply and Installation of a CCTV Security System in the project office and related area of DRD	Pack	1

2. Expression of interest for one or both quotation must be submitted in a written form to the email address given below and clearly indicate the reference number above. Eligible bidders having expressed interest will receive an Invitation To Quote (ITQ) by return email procurement@ncddpmyanmar.org. They will be invited to a pre-bid meeting at the address by corresponding date and time stated in respective ITQ. Sealed quotations will be submitted to the address by corresponding date and time stated in respective ITQ too, after which no Quotations will be accepted.
3. The goods will be contracted on 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.
4. Expression of Interest for receiving the Invitation To Quote (ITQ) will be submitted to the address given below.
National Community Driven Development Project, Procurement Unit
Attention: U Kyaw Swa Aung, Director, Procurement and Logistic Section, Department of Rural Development
Office: Building No. 36, Nay Pyi Taw
Telephone: +95-67-418637, +95-9-43434333
Email: procurement@ncddpmyanmar.org
Website: www.cdd.drdmyanmar.org