

### **1/ GEP seeks solar partners**

The Myanmar Times, 6-12 May 2013

Green Energy Power (GEP) of Thailand is seeking partners for joint development of its 210 megawatt solar power plant in Myanmar, the third largest of its kinds in the world. Construction of the power plant will start as soon as the agreement is signed. Construction period is expected to take about 18 months.

### **2/ Trade envoys sent to major markets**

The Myanmar Times, 6-12 May 2013

High-ranking officials from four ministries will be assigned to embassies in eight major foreign markets, namely Belgium, China, Honk Kong, Thailand, India, Japan, Singapore and South Korea, at the end of May 2013 to promote trade and investment.

### **3/ Myanmar targets 3 million tourists by 2015**

<http://www.burmanet.org/news/2013/05/01/xinhua-myanmar-targets-3-million-tourists-by-2015/>

Myanmar is drafting its tourism master plan with assistance from Norwegian Government and ADB. The plan will be presented at the WEF on East Asia, to be held in Nay Pyi Taw in June 2013. Myanmar attracted over 1 million tourists in 2012 and is aiming to target 3 million visitors by 2013.

### **4/ Ford to enter Myanmar with showroom by August**

<http://www.burmanet.org/news/2013/04/30/associated-press-ford-to-enter-myanmar-with-showroom-by-august/>

Ford announced its entry in Myanmar. It plans to open the nation's first sales and service showroom by August 2013. The initial demand will be mainly for commercial vehicles, but the company plans to introduce a full range of cars, trucks and SUVs by the end of 2013.

### **5/ Xpress enters the remittances market**

The Myanmar Times, 6-12 May 2013

Xpress Money announced link with two domestic banks, namely Myanmar Citizen Bank (MCB) and Small and Medium Industrial Development Bank (SMIDB) to offer money remittances into Myanmar.

### **6/ Fourth Korean bank arrives**

The Myanmar Times, 6-12 May 2013

The Industrial Bank of Korea has opened the representative office in Myanmar. The Bank joins three other South Korean banks, namely the Hana, Shinhan and Woori. The banks will help South Korean companies remit money and provide other services.

### **7/ German firms on move**

The Myanmar Times, 6-12 May 2013

The German Chambers of Industry and Commerce will be opened in Yangon, expectedly by August 2013. It will be the first business representative office from Europe to open in Myanmar.

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## **8/ Exporters gearing up for European market**

The Myanmar Times, 6-12 May 2013

Local exporters are scrambling to take advantage Myanmar's new access to the European market, as it's expected that the EU will most likely reinstate the GSP soon. Sectors that may enjoy the benefit are manufacturing, agriculture and fisheries industries. The companies are studying how to ensure their products to meet the EU standard.

## **9/ Singaporean firms bid for Yangon Airport contract.**

<http://www.mizzima.com/business/investment/9316-singaporean-firm-bids-for-yangon-airport-contract.html>

Yongnam Holdings of Singapore announced that it is leading a consortium of engineering companies – Changi Airport Planners and Engineers, Tokyo-listed JGC Corporation and itself- in submitting a proposal to design, construct, operate and maintain Yangon International Airport.

## **10/ Parliament to examine ways of strengthening tax collection**

<http://www.irrawaddy.org/archives/33688>

The next parliament session, to be resumed in June 2013, will discuss on improvement of tax collection system in all areas. Myanmar is aiming to collect around 4.5% of its GDP for the 2013-2014 fiscal year, which could be about 2.5 billion USD.

## **11/ Indonesia's top cement firm plans \$200m Myanmar factory.**

<http://www.irrawaddy.org/archives/33414>

PT Cement Indonesia plans to build a \$200 million factory in Myanmar in 2014 as it expands its business in Southeast Asia.