

1/ Migrants in Thailand to send funds home by ATM

<http://www.mizzima.com/business/investment/9362-migrants-in-thailand-to-send-funds-home-by-atm.html>

Thailand's Kasikorn Bank (KBank) signed a deal with Myanmar's Co-operative Bank (CB Bank) to allow Myanmar nationals in Thailand to transfer funds to Myanmar via KBank ATMs, starting from 28 May 2013.

2/ Minimum wage law to go to parliament

<http://www.mizzima.com/news/inside-burma/9389-minimum-wage-law-to-go-to-parliament.html>

Myanmar Parliament session, which will be convened in June 2013, would most likely discuss on law setting the minimum wage.

3/ Tax reform to be discussed in Myanmar parliament in mid June 2013

ThuraSwiss Newsletter, 2 May 2013

Myanmar parliament will discuss on a new tax reform bill in mid June 2013. The bill is aimed at increasing the collection of commercial, income and state lottery taxes as well as stamp duty.

4/ Telecoms agency going public

The Myanmar Times, 13-19 May 2013

State-owned Myanma Post and Telecommunication (MPT) will be transferred into a private enterprise and eventually become a public company. The new entity would be called Myanmar Public Telecom. After MPT becomes a public company it will be one of four private telecommunications providers, along with Yatanarpon, Teleport and two other as yet undetermined operators.

5/ Low-priced SIM cards sales plans of MPT for May

The New Light of Myanmar, 14 May 2013

Myanmar Government will distribute further 350,000 units of SIM cards on 20 May 2013. One unit of SIM card will be sold at 1,500 kyat with 300 kyat for top-up. Since April 2013, Myanmar Government has been distributing low-priced SIM cards monthly with the aim at providing people with the access to mobile-phone with affordable price.

6/Export first-Import later system is abolished

ThuraSwiss Newsletter, 9 May 2013

Myanmar has officially canceled the export earning foreign currency system, which was previously implemented for a favourable trade balance. Now trading companies can import and export freely without having to show proof of earnings.

7/ First Taiwan bank enters Myanmar

ThuraSwiss Newsletter, 9 May 2013

The First Commercial Bank of Taiwan is the latest foreign bank that opened representative office in Yangon. Currently there are around 30 representative offices of foreign banks in Myanmar.

8/ Japan Law firms enter Myanmar

ThuraSwiss Newsletter, 9 May 2013

One of the four largest law firms of Japan, Nishimura and Asahi plans to enter Myanmar market and set its office by May 2013 as the responses for the resurgence in Japanese investment over the past two years, notably in the Thilawa Special Economic Zone Project.

9/ New Hotels in Mandalay to serve the increasing numbers of tourists

ThuraSwiss Newsletter, 9 May 2013

About 20 new hotels are being built in Mandalay, which will provide approximately additional 1,400 rooms to accommodate the increasing numbers of tourists. At present, there are total 83 hotels, which provide over 3,500 rooms in Mandalay.