

1/ EU reinstates Myanmar access to GSP

<http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=6e5d80ed-00af-401b-b945-fcbff7c8ec28>

On 19 July 2013, Myanmar's reinstatement in the EU's Generalized System of Preference (EU GSP) will take effect and apply retrospectively from 13 June 2013. All products originating in Myanmar, except ammunition and arms, will benefit from full duty-free and quota-free access to the EU market.

2/ Law giving Myanmar's Central Bank autonomy due "within days"

<http://www.irrawaddy.org/archives/39636>

<http://www.mizzima.com/news-91481/prisoner-watch/9650-parliament-adopts-central-bank-law>

Myanmar Parliament approved the Central Bank Bill on 8 July 2013, which analysts say will enable the Central Bank to form a strong financial policy and more autonomy to conduct monetary policy. The Bill is under the consideration of the President's Office and expectedly to be enacted soon.

3/ Japanese firm closes China factories, relocates to Yangon

<http://www.irrawaddy.org/archives/39393>

Japan is gearing up to make Myanmar the new sweatshop of Asia. Japan-based Famosco Clothing is closing its factories in China and moving operations in Yangon. The company will begin shipping its first consignment of suits to Britain for the famous Marks&Spencer chain

4/ Carlsberg to brew beer in Myanmar by end of 2014

<http://www.irrawaddy.org/archives/39393>

The first Carlsberg beer will be brewed in Myanmar by end of 2014, according to the Danish giant's local partner Myanmar Golden Star Breweries (MGS).

5/ Tobacco giant back after ten-year absence

<http://www.mizzima.com/business/investment/9652-tobacco-giant-back-after-ten-year-absence>

Tobacco giant British American Tobacco returns to Myanmar after a ten-year absence from operations in Myanmar. Joint Venture company, British American Tobacco Myanmar Ltd. with I.M.U Enterprise Ltd, will manufacture, distribute and market BAT's brands for the domestic market.

6/ Myanmar Tourism Master Plan

ThuraSwiss Newsletter, 20 June 2013

The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism along with the ADB and the Government of Norway have unveiled a 500 million USD "2013-2012 Tourism Master Plan" aiming at enhancing the tourism industry in a sustainable manner. The Plan outlines 38 development projects and formation of a Tourism Executive Coordination Board.

7/ Japan offers infrastructure loans

Economic Intelligence Unit

Japan agreed to provide 520 million USD tin development loans to upgrade the country's infrastructure and finance a crucial new port and industrial zone project that could enable more foreign investors to enter Myanmar, with nearly one-half of that figure going to the Thilawa project. The Japanese Government also finalized plans to write off Myanmar debts of 1.74 billion US dollar to Japan.

8/ US relaxes sanctions further

Economic Intelligence Unit

The US has relaxed sanctions against Myanmar further, lifting a visa ban targeting a wide range of Government officials, although a number of targeted restrictions remain in place.

9/ South Korea extends loans to Myanmar

ThuraSwiss Newsletter, 27 June 2013

South Korea will provide 500 million US dollar in loans to Myanmar between 2013-2017 from its economic development funds. South Korea and Myanmar discussed 8 areas of cooperation covering 39 projects including those related to infrastructure development, promoting service and sports sectors.

10/ Mileage Communications expands business in Myanmar

ThuraSwiss Newsletter, 27 June 2013

Singapore-based public relations consultancy firm Mileage Communications has expanded into the Myanmar market through a joint venture with Marketing Communications Group (MCG).