

1/ Government agrees to join World Bank

<http://www.mizzima.com/business/investment/9659-govt-agrees-to-join-world-bank-program>
ThuraSwiss Newsletter, 4 July 2013

Myanmar Parliament agreed with the President Thein Sein's suggestion to join World Bank's Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), a subsidiary of the World Bank Group. As a member of MIGA, Myanmar would enjoy greater economic ties with member organizations of the World Bank Group as well as gain benefit by receiving knowledge on structural adjustment programs and technical expertise related to the financial sector.

2/ MOGE releases prequalified list for the first offshore bidding round 2013

ThuraSwiss Newsletter, 11 July 2013

Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) released a prequalified list for the "First Offshore Bidding Round 2013" this month, in which 61 companies prequalified such as Chevron, Exxon Mobil, ConocoPhillips, Shell, Unocal, Total and top companies in Asia's oil and gas market such as Oil India, GAIL, PTTEP, China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC), Coastal, JX Nippon, Korea National Oil, and Daewoo. MPRL E&P, one of the Myanmar largest Myanmar oil and gas companies, was the only local name to make the list.

3/ PTTEP finds Gas in Myanmar waters

<http://www.irrawaddy.org/archives/39954>

PTTEP is finding gas during the test drilling at the M3 Mottama offshore block. PTTEP is the operator of M3 with Japanese partner Mitsui Oil Exploration Company. Another Gulf of Martaban field being developed by PTTEP, the Zawtika block, has confirmed gas reserves of at least 50 billion cubic metres.

4/ Thai businesses lead the field in investing in June 2013

<http://www.irrawaddy.org/archives/39954>

In June 2013 Thai business continue to be the biggest investors in Myanmar, leading the field of foreign investment in June with 379 million US dollar out of the month's total of 423 million US dollar. In total, Thailand is the second largest foreign investors in Myanmar after China.

5/ Telecoms winners announce plans for reduced call rates in Myanmar

<http://www.irrawaddy.org/archives/39969>

Norway's Telenor and Qatar's Ooredoo, winners of the telecom licenses, plan to offer highly competitive calling rate that are significantly lower than what is available in the market today. The companies would also offer SIM cards not exceeding 1,500 kyat (1.6 US dollar) in price.

Myanmar is set to compete in a tender in September for the export of high-quality rice to Japan. In the first week of July, Myanmar made its first rice export of 5,000 tons to Japan.

6/ Myanmar to expand its rice export markets

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7/ Trade promotion and information center to be opened this year

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The Ministry of Commerce is planning to open a Trade Promotion and Information Center in Yangon later this year. The centre will provide trade related information and assistance to trade partners

8/ Toshiba will provide data centre for Myanmar's securities exchange

ThuraSwiss Newsletter, 11 July 2013

Toshiba, in cooperation with KDDI Corporation, a major Japanese telecommunications operator and network solution supplier, plans to provide a modular data centre for the Myanmar Securities Exchange. Toshiba won the order from Japan's Daiwa Institute of Research Ltd. with the deal making Toshiba's first supply of a data centre to oversee the market. The Myanmar Securities Exchange is set to open in 3015, with the assistance of Tokyo Stock Exchange, Daiwa Securities Group and the Central Bank of Myanmar.

9/ General Motors enters Myanmar

ThuraSwiss Newsletter, 11 July 2013

General Motors (GM) will be the second US car company to enter the Myanmar market. The company signed a letter of intent with Pacific Alpine Pte. Ltd. to distribute, sell and service Chevrolet vehicles. The vehicles will be imported from manufacturing plants across the world and adjusted to cater specifically to the needs of Myanmar consumer base.

10/ Electricity Ministry seeks gas imports for new power plants

<http://www.irrawaddy.org/archives/39954>

The Ministry of Electricity is planning to import liquefied natural gas (LNG) to fill the gas shortage. The LNG would be used to fuel four new small power plants being built in the greater Yangon region. It will need 230 million cubic feet per day to fuel the four plants with a combined electricity generating capacity of 270 megawatts.