

Government's Policy

1/ President to focus on Rural Development

<http://www.mizzima.com/news/development/9979-president-to-focus-on-rural-development>

President Thein Sein pledged that the Government will focus on rural development programmes during the remaining 30 months of 5 year –tenure. The core implementing authority is the Ministry of Livestock, fisheries and Rural Development. The 3 main objectives of the programmes are to provide sufficient purified water in rural areas, to provide adequate electricity and to offer food security programme.

2/ Yangon's circular train tests new air-conditioned carriages

<http://elevenmyanmar.com/national/3278-yangon-s-circular-train-tests-new-air-conditioned-carriages>

Myanmar Railways (MR) has been running trail tests of air-conditioned circular railways. The train is a second hand RBE from Japan with ten rail carriages. MR will charge 300 kyat per tickets for the circular route and planned to arrange the route connecting Yangon with Kyaik Hti Yo.

3/ Myanmar and China will sign MoU on clean development management project

<http://www.mizzima.com/news/environment/9981-myanmar-ministry-chinese-company-sign-mou-on-clean-development-management-project>

Myanmar Ministry of Environment Conservation and Forestry and China's Sunshine Kaidi New Energy Group Co., Ltd. signed a MoU on Clean Development Management Project. The Chinese company will provide clean development mechanism (CDM) consultancy service. The cooperation will include, e.g. CDM advocacy and public awareness raising, analysis of sectoral CDM potentials of Myanmar. CDM projects identification. CDM is one of the flexibility mechanisms identified in Kyoto Protocol.

Trade and Investment

4/ Myanmar and Bangladesh to resume direct Dhaka-Yangon flights

Myanmar Business Today, 5-11 September 2013

Myanmar and Bangladesh have been working to reestablish direct flight between Yangon and Dhaka, after six year break. The first direct flight is expected to be re-operated in November 2013.

5/ Nok air states flight from Mae Sot to Mawlamyein

<http://elevenmyanmar.com/national/3279-nok-air-starts-flight-from-mae-sot-to-mawlamyine>

Nok Air launched its maiden flight from Mae Sot to Mawlamyein on 1 September 2013. Thai businesspeople are enthusiastic about Myanmar economic prospects and Nok Air service would facilitate trade and investment in Mawlamyein.

6/ Kunlone hydropower project on Thanlwin river to begin in 2013

<http://www.mizzima.com/business/investment/9971-kunlone-hydropower-project-on-thanlwin-river-to-begin-in-2013>

Kunlone Hydropower project, a joint venture between Myanmar Government and Chinese Hanergy Holding Company will begin this year. The project will be located on Thanlwin river in northern Shan State and planned to generate 1,400 megawatt of electricity. The project is expected to be completed within 7 years with investment amount of 1,400 million USD.

International Relations

7/ Japan will provide 900 million USD loans to Myanmar

<http://www.irrawaddy.org/archives/43192>

JICA will provide about 900 million USD loan for roads improvement and other infrastructure development in Myanmar. The loans are separate from financial aid, which is also being provided for infrastructure development in Thilawa SEZ.

8/ FAO and GIZ plans to build fruits packaging factory and cold storage

Myanmar Freedom, 5 September 2013

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) plan to build fruits packaging factory and cold storage to preserve food. The project is planned to be implemented in Mandalay, Sagaing and Southern Shan State. Currently, Myanmar exported fruits could not get good prices as most of the farmer could not afford to use cold storage facilities and cold storage vehicles.

9/ India's Exim Bank to open Myanmar branch

Myanmar Business Today, 5-11 September 2013

Export-Import Bank of India will open a branch in Yangon in September 2013 as part of India's efforts to enhance trade ties with Myanmar.

10/ Korea and Myanmar signed new development pact

Myanmar Business Today, 5-11 September 2013

Myanmar and Korea signed an agreement for greater cooperation, in which Korea pledged to provide 33 million USD in financial assistance over six years. The project includes road network development by KOICA, implementation of national statistic system, capacity building in conference management, land reform programme for mechanized farming.