

## Government's Policy

### 1) Myanmar's Yangon Stock Exchange set to launch in October 2015

New Light of Myanmar: 26May-1June 2014

The plan to launch Myanmar's stock exchange is on track for October next year. According to Dr. Maung MaungThein, Myanmar's Deputy Minister of Finance, there will be no delay and the target date will be met. The Yangon Stock Exchange will be operated by Myanmar Economic Bank in partnership with Japan's Toyo Stock Exchange (TSE) and Daiwa Securities Group, a Japanese securities company. Myanmar enacted the Securities and Exchange Law in July, 2013.

### 2) Myanmar government has approved to upgrade Yangon airport

Myanmar Business Today, 26May-1June 2014

President U Thein Sein has approved to upgrade Yangon International Airport, to boost its annual capacity from 2.7 million to 6 million passengers. Pioneer Aerodrome Services Co., a subsidiary of local conglomerate Asia World, has been selected for the project.

### 3) MEB will disburse USD 1.02 billion to Agri loans

Myanmar Business Today, 26 May- 1 June 2014

Myanma Economic Bank (MEB) will disburse USD 1.02 billion to agricultural loans for this financial year. MEB started issuing the loans last fiscal year, becoming the only government-run bank that issues agri-loan. The annual interest rate for this year's loans is 5 %, down from 8.3 % in the previous year.

## Trade and Investment

### 4) Canada's largest life insurer re-establishes its presence in Myanmar.

Myanmar Times: 26 May- 1 June 2014

'Manulife' has re-opened a representative office in Yangon after 70 years of absence. Manulife, operating in 11 Asian markets including Thailand and China, manages USD 584 billion and is awaiting an operational license from the government to begin selling (life insurance) products.

### 5) YESB to Give 24-Hour Electricity to Industrial Zones

Myanmar Business Today: 26May-1June 2014

U Aung Khaing, Chairman of Yangon Electricity Supply Board (YESB), said priority will be given to provision of uninterrupted electricity supply to Yangon's industrial zones. YESB announced that there will be some blackouts

in some parts of Yangon as it expands its network and carries out maintenance work on power grids. YESB has already expanded its network by 99.435 miles of 66 Kilo Volt grids, 770.913 miles 33 Kilo Volt grids and 1,108.902 miles of 11 KV power grids to provide constant electricity to the industrial zones.

## 6) Toyo-Thai Plans to invest USD 2.7 billion in Coal Power Plant in Myanmar

Myanmar Business Today: 26May-1June 2014

Thailand-based Toyo-Thai Corp is in talks to invest USD 2.7billion in a 1,280-megawatt coal-fired power plant in Myanmar's southeastern Mon state. The work on the plant will start as soon as the Myanmar government approves the project. The company recently signed a deal for a project loan worth USD 100 million from the Export-Import Bank of Thailand to develop a 120-megawatt combined-cycle gas-turbine project in Ahlone Township, Yangon.

## 7) Samchem Targets Expansion into Myanmar

Myanmar Business Today, 26-31 May 2014

Malaysian chemical products distributor Samchem Holdings Bhd plans to expand to Myanmar, striving to become a leading industrial chemical distributor in the Southeast Asia. Samchem is currently present in Indonesia, Vietnam and Singapore, and is targeting to raise revenue contribution from overseas operation to 50 % by 2018 from the current 34 %.

## International Relations

## 8) JITI donates computer, accessories for MR

New Light of Myanmar: 26May-1June 2014

Japan International Transport Institute has donated software, computers and accessories that can help draw train timetables automatically, safely and systematically to the Ministry of Rail Transport of Myanmar. Experts from Japan International Consultant for Transportation Co., Ltd are also conducting courses on the software for staff of the Ministry.

## 9) Swedish Business Delegation explores business opportunities in Myanmar

Myanmar Business Today: 26 May- 1 June 2014

Sweden is showing increased business interests in Myanmar. Ambassador of Sweden to Myanmar and Ambassador of Sweden to Singapore recently led a delegation of executives of 12 Swedish companies based in Singapore to visit Myanmar. The purpose of the visit was to identify business opportunities and to get better understanding of the politic and economic development of Myanmar. The delegation met with key Ministers of Myanmar Government, representatives of UMFCCL, and Swedish business community in YGN.

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