Weekly Business News  
(30 June-6 July 2014)

Government Policy

1) Myanmar Military to help establish economic zones with Thailand

New Light of Myanmar: 6 July 2014

Myanmar military will help establish economic projects at the border areas and economic zones with Thailand, said Commander-in-Chief of Defense Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing while meeting with Thai army Chief General Prayuth Chan-ocha in Bangkok. General Prayuth also promised to work together in the establishment of border economic zones and to promote ties between the two militaries.

Trade and Investment

2) First Myanmar International Food & Beverage fair from 24th-26th July 2014

New Light of Myanmar: 04 July 2014

Myanmar will hold the first Myanmar International Food & Beverage exhibition from 24 to 26 July at Myanmar Convention Centre MCC in Yangon. The exhibition will be jointly organized by Thai Chamber of Commerce, Board of Trade of Thailand and ICVeX Co., Ltd. and will showcase manufactures, suppliers and brands mostly from Thailand.

3) Franchising opportunities of CP available now

New Light of Myanmar: 5 July 2014


4) Thai Companies invite Myanmar entrepreneurs to Business Matching Fair for Industrial & Machinery Products

New Light of Myanmar: 05 July 2014

The Business Matching Fair for Industrial & Machinery products will be organized at Summit Parkview Hotel in Yangon on 18 July and at Sedona Hotel in Mandalay on 21 July. Thai delegations from 20 companies will meet Myanmar entrepreneurs to discuss production of agricultural machinery & equipment, auto parts and tools, construction material and service, electronic & security products, foodstuff, rubber and hydraulic products.
5) CGG opens Myanmar Subsurface Imaging Centre

Myanmar Business Today: 10-16 July 2014

France-based geophysical services company CGG said it has opened a subsurface imaging centre in Yangon to service and support the anticipated growth in Myanmar’s oil and gas sector. CGG, established in 1931 in Paris, had 2010 revenue of £2.186 billion and has about 9,800 employees worldwide.

6) Ernst & Young Expands its Assurance Services in Myanmar

Myanmar Business Today: 10-16 July 2014

London based professional service organization Ernst and Young (EY) said it had expanded in Myanmar to offer assurance services, seeking to help its clients and providing confidence to their stakeholders and build trust in the capital markets.

7) Kelvin Chia Expands to Mandalay

Myanmar Business Today: 10-16 July 2014

Singapore-based law firm, Kelvin Chia Yangon, which is the oldest and largest foreign legal consultancy in Myanmar, has expanded its operations in Myanmar by setting up a new office in Mandalay. In active operations in Myanmar since 1995, Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd has been involving in many significant projects that have received approval of the Myanmar Investment Commission.

8) Tesco Chairman meets Suu Kyi to Broker Deal to enter Myanmar

Myanmar Business Today: 10-16 July 2014

Sir Richard Broadbent, Tesco chairman, had a meeting with Aung San Su Kyi, opposition leader, brokering deal for the grocer to enter Myanmar. Aung San Su Kyi, NLD Chair-person, has previously said that she would welcome “ethical, responsible investment” from British business when she visited the UK. A Tesco spokesman said the visit was aimed “to develop sourcing relationships”.

9) Strategic Environmental Assessment of Thilawa SEZ’s Second Phase Starts

Myanmar Business Today: 10-16 July 2014

The strategic environmental assessment (STA) has been launched for the second phase of the Thilawa SEZ; this will cover an area of about 2,000 hectares according to SEZ’s management committee. In the original plan for the second phase of the project, the 2,000-hectare area was planned to be allocated into 1,058 hectare for industrial area, 70 hectares for commercial area and 552 hectares for public use.
10) Panasonic to expand business in Myanmar

Myanmar Business Today: 10-16 July 2014

Panasonic Corp, electronic product manufacturer, will expand business to Myanmar by cooperating with local engineering companies in Myanmar. The company plans to hold first exhibition displaying the full range of B2C and B2B solutions in Yangon in October 2014 and new showrooms will also be open in Yangon and Mandalay later this year.

International Relations

11) Myanmar joins natural resource transparency organization

The Myanmar Times: by staff reporter, Thursday 03 July 2014

Myanmar was admitted as a candidate country for the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), a global coalition of governments, companies and civil society working together to improve openness and accountability management of revenues from natural resources, on 2 July. By becoming a candidate country for the EITI, Myanmar has to be more transparent in disclosing and improving ways in which oil, gas and minerals are governed. Myanmar is required to publish its first EITI report on 2 January 2016.

12) Myanmar, Australia to promote opportunity for higher education of youths

The New Light of Myanmar: 4 July 2014

President U Thein Sein received a delegation of Commonwealth of Australia led by Hon Ms Julie Bishop, Minister for Foreign Affairs on 3 July at Nay Pyi Taw. They discussed about assistance for improving living standard projects in Myanmar focusing on border areas, investment of Australian entrepreneurs in Myanmar and promotion of cooperation in education.

13) President U Thein Sein received Chairman of the Asian Peace and Reconciliation Council

The New Light of Myanmar: 5 July 2014

President U Thein Sein received Professor Dr. Surakiart Sathirathal, Chairman of the Asian Peace and Reconciliation Council and former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and his delegation at the hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw on 4 July. The President and Professor Dr. Surakiart discussed about solving regional problems peacefully and focused on progress of the Asian Peace and Reconciliation Council.