

## Government Policy

### 1) [Commerce Ministry plans to introduce Negative List Licensing System](#)

[The New Light of Myanmar: 6 August 2014](#)

The Ministry of Commerce is planning to introduce the Negative List Licensing System in an attempt to provide import and export trading with smooth service as of the recent press release of the ministry. They announced that they have relaxed from six steps to four steps for the import and export licenses and reduced application cost from Kyat 4,000 to Kyat 2,500.

## Trade and Investment

### 2) [All Asia Asset Capital says Myanmar agreement close to approval](#)

[Myanmar Business Today: August 7-13, 2014](#)

All Asia Asset Capital Ltd said that the power plant agreement between APU, the Myanmar Government and Thailand which focused power generation firm is close to the final approval. All Asia Asset Capital's agreement to acquire a 4.5 percent stake in APU is dependent on the power plant agreement being signed.

### 3) [Hotel and Tourism Ministry to Allow Casinos in Border Areas](#)

[Myanmar Business Today: August 7-13, 2014](#)

Three star hotels in border areas will be allowed to open casinos according to the Ministry of Hotel and Tourism (MoHT). Only foreigners will be allowed to gamble in those casinos while locals will be banned from taking part.

### 4) [FDI in Hotel and Tourism hits USD 700 million](#)

[Myanmar Business Today: August 7-13, 2014](#)

Foreign firms have invested USD 690.88 million in 22 hotel projects and USD 39.2 million in joint-venture developments of hotels in Myanmar as of July 2014, according to the government statistics. Myanmar Tourism sector is expected to earn more than USD 1 billion this year, said U Thet Naing Toe, vice president of Union of Myanmar Travel Association (UMTA).

### 5) [Mogok, Mai Shu "Treasures lands" Go Up for auction](#)

[Myanmar Business Today: August 7-13, 2014](#)

Gem mining plots from Mogok and Mai Shu went up for auction on July 28 until August 27, 2014, according to the supervisory work committee for gem plots. The mining sector earned USD 7 million from export in the currently fiscal year as of the second week of July 2014.

#### 6) [Production of Minerals and Fossil Fuel Drops](#)

[Myanmar Business Today: August 7-13, 2014](#)

There was a drop in the production of minerals and fossil fuels in the second half of the 2013-2014 FY, said Daw Le Le Thein, Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development. She said that Thailand has bought less than expected amount and suggested to repair and renovate program for aged oil operation fields nationwide.

#### 7) [Japan to extend 10.5 billion yen loans to Myanmar](#)

[New Light of Myanmar: 10 August, 2014](#)

Japan will extend a total 10.5 billion yen low-interest loans to Myanmar to improve its communications network linking major cities to meet growing demand for mobile and internet, said Fumio Kishida, Foreign Minister of Japan, during his talk with U Wunna Maung Lwin, Myanmar Foreign Minister, at the ASEAN-related meetings in Nay Pyi Taw.

#### 8) [Investment in production of cement, tyres and textile discussed](#)

[The New Light of Myanmar: 5 August 2014](#)

U Maung Myint, Union Minister for Industry, received Mr. Virkram Kumar, Resident Representative of the International Finance Corporation (IFC) in Nay Pyi Taw on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2014 and discussed linkage of IFC for local and foreign companies to invest in production of cement, tyres and textiles under the ministry, linkage for international loan providers to disburse loans to Small and Medium-scale Industries Development Bank and investment of IFC in Myanmar.

#### 9) [Air KBZ to begin Charter Flights this Month](#)

[Myanmar Business Today: August 7-13, 2014](#)

Air KBZ will introduce air charter service this month, said U Myat Thu, General Manager of Air KBZ. The private airline said they would cut fares during the off season which is between April and September.

### International Relations

#### 10) [S Korean to loan USD 500 million for Myanmar's economic development](#)

[Myanmar Business Today: August 7-13, 2014](#)

South Korea is helping Myanmar in its economic development by extending economic development cooperation fund (EDCF) to the country for implementing development projects. According to the framework agreement signed recently between the two countries, South Korean will give USD 500 million loan to Myanmar.

#### 11) Myanmar and India to cooperate in building Thermal Power Plant

The New Light of Myanmar: 7 August 2014

U Khin Maung Soe, Union Minister for Electric Power, discussed to build coal-powered Thermal Power Plant with Dr NandakumarNagendran of the Indian Minister Councilor Office to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Mr. Govindas Konthoujam, Economic and Industrial Minister of Manipur State, on 3<sup>rd</sup> August at Tamu. The plant will use coal from Kalewa coal mine in Sagaing Region of upper Myanmar.

#### 12) A New Chapter in Myanmar-Canadian Diplomatic Relation begins

The New Light of Myanmar: 10 August 2014

Canada opened its embassy to Myanmar in Yangon on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2014 to further promote relations and cooperation in various sectors between the two countries. With that, John Baird, Canadian Foreign Minister, said Canada is in a better position to provide financial, technical and social assistance to Myanmar.

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