


 **Government Policy****1) Green Factories to Get Priority for Industrial Zones**

Myanmar Business Today: August 21-27, 2014

Cost-effective and low-pollution factories will be given priority in awarding licenses for operations at new industrial zones in Myanmar, said Vice President U Nyan Tun at a coordination meeting on industrial zones in Yangon region. Yangon region currently has 29 industrial parks.

 **Trade and Investment****2) Thailand eyes garment investment in Myanmar**

The New Light of Myanmar: 23 August 2014

U Aung Myint, Union Minister for Industry, held a meeting with Mr Chalermphol Assakul, Director of Bangkok Weaving Mills Limited, Thailand and party on 22 August 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw. They discussed making investment in Myanmar's garment industry. U Aung Myint said that the Ministry will hire No.3 garment industry (Sagaing) and its staffs to the private company.

3) Myanmar to formally introduce E-visa for Foreign Tourists

Myanmar Business Today: August 21-24, 2014

Myanmar's immigration authorities will formally introduce online electronic (e)-visa for all foreign tourists from 1st September 2014 according the ministry's website. It will take five days to get the e-visa. Tourist arrivals in Myanmar shot up from 1.06 million 2012 to 2.04 million in 2013.

4) Russia and Myanmar Sign USD 38 million Deal on Oil Survey Wells

Myanmar Business Today: August 21-27, 2014

Bashneft International BV, a subsidiary of Russia's largest oil products producer-Bashneft, has signed Production Sharing Contract (PSC) with Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) for the distribution of the Block EP-4 oil well which is 841 sq kilometers located in the central Myanmar. Investments in the program will be USD 38.3 million and signing bonus totals USD 4 million, said Bashneft.

5) IP Laws drafted, to be submitted to Parliament soon

Myanmar Business Today: August 21-27, 2014

Intellectual property right bills have been drafted and will be submitted to the parliament soon said U Ba Shwe, Deputy Minister for Science and Technology. The ministry also set MoU with Korea's Intellectual Property Office and is also working with United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and European Union's Office for Harmonization of Internal Market.

6) Capital Development Company to build Myaenigone flyover

Myanmar Business Today: August 21-27, 2014

Capital Development Company, a local construction firm, has won the tender to build 650 meters long and 14.5 meters wide, Myaenigone overpass in Yangon which is aimed to reduce traffic jams in the city. Yangon Region government proposed to spend USD 17 million on the construction of the flyover in 2014-2015 FY.

7) Tourist arrivals almost double at Nay Pyi Taw Airport

Myanmar Business Today: August 21-27, 2014

Tourist arrival to Nay Pyi Taw in the first seven month of this year has almost doubled to that of the same period last year, according to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism. A total of 10,621 foreign tourists had arrived in Nay Pyi Taw International Airport between January-July 2014, up from 5,428 during the same period last year.

8) Highway linking India to Myanmar, Thailand likely to finish by 2016

Myanmar Business Today: August 21-27, 2014

Two major connectivity projects-Kaladan Multi-modal Transit and India-Myanmar-Thailand trilateral highway-are likely to be completed by 2016, said VK Singh, India's Minister for External Affairs. Kaladan project will connect Kolkata to Sittwe port in Myanmar and further to Mozoram by river and road. The trilateral highway will run from Moreh in Manipur to Mae Sot in Thailand via Myanmar.

9) China Union Pay International Card to be introduce in Myanmar next month

The New Light of Myanmar: 24 August 2014

China Union pay International (UPI), in cooperation with Myanmar's cooperative Bank (CB), will introduce EASi Travel Union Pay Card, deposited with Myanmar Kyat, in Myanmar from 1st September 2014. China UPI card is being issued in more than 30 countries including Myanmar.

10) JTJB opens in Yangon

The New Light of Myanmar: 20 August 2014

JTJB Myanmar, Law Consultant Service Firm that will undertake JV with Singapore-based Joseph Tan Jude Benny LLP was commissioned into service in Yangon on 18 August 2014. JTJB Myanmar will provide a wide range of services, including legal consultation on the signing of contracts.

11) Oil and Gas Myanmar 2014 fair to be held in 15-17 October


The New Light of Myanmar: 19 August, 2014

'Oil and Gas Myanmar 2014' will be held at Myanmar Convention Centre (MCC) in Yangon from 15-17 October 2014. A large number of foreign exhibitors will participate including 3R Solution, Down hole Products, Yokogawa, etc. Foreign investment in oil and gas sector reached USD 14.372 billion last year according to Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC).

12) Muse Central Economic zone to be completed in 2017

The New Light of Myanmar: 19 August, 2014

Muse Central Economic Zone located at the northern Shan State, the border with China will be completed in 2017, according to U Ngwe Soe, the Director of the Muse Central Economic Zone project. Muse stands as the highest border trade transit between Myanmar and China, reaching over USD 3 billion in 2013-2014 FY which is over 60 percent of the country's total border trade.

 International Relations

13) Canadian Embassy Opened in Myanmar

Myanmar Business Today: August 21-27, 2014

John Baird, Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister, inaugurated the Canadian Embassy's new chancery in Yangon last week. The embassy will offer consular services and play a role in strengthening relation between Canada and Myanmar. Canadian investment in Myanmar amounted to USD 41.88 million as of June 2014, according to the Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration (DICA).

14) Myanmar, Qatar to cooperate in trade and investment

The New Light of Myanmar: 22 August 2014

U Nyan Htun, Vice President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar received a delegation led by member of Qatar Emirate family Sheikh Abdullah bin Mohammed bin Saud A1-Thani in Nay Pyi Taw on 21 August 2014. They discussed cooperation in trade and investment and promotion of friendly relation between Myanmar and Qatar.
