

6th June, 2018

Issue 1

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Legislation

Myanmar opens up for foreign wholesalers and retailers

Source : Myanmar Times

The Ministry of Commerce issued the notification 25/2018 on May 9, which authorizes 100 percent foreign-owned companies as well as joint ventures between international and domestic investors to allow engaging in retail and wholesale businesses.

The liberalization measure aims to foster competition in the sector to provide more options, cheaper options and better options for consumers across the country. This will bring in technology and quality products for the sector, facilitate growth of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), attract more foreign investments and create jobs.

Ks 4,800 daily minimum wage set officially

Source : Global New Light of Myanmar

The National Committee on Minimum Wage announced on 4th May that the minimum wage will be Ks600 per hour and Ks 4,800 per eight-hour work day irrespective of the type or location of work. This minimum wage does not apply to small and family-owned businesses with less than 10 employees; it was noted in the committee's Notification No. 2/2018.

Upcoming events (In early June)

Food & Hotel Myanmar (FHMM) 2018

Date: 6th June

Organizer: UBM Myanmar

Contact: nurziah@exportsolutions.com.au

Myanmar -EU Economic Forum

Date: 6th June

Organizer: EuroCham Myanmar

Contact: info@eurocham-myanmar.org

International Exhibition & Conference on Cosmetics, Beauty, Hair & Spa

Date: 7th to 9th June

Organizer: ECMI ITE Asia Sdn Bhd

Contact: enquiry@ecmi.com.my

Britcham Social Joint Chambers Evening

Date: 13th June

Organizer: Britcham Myanmar

Contact: info@britishchambermyanmar.com

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New Investment

Zay Kabar signed an agreement to develop one-stop bazaar in Mingalardon

Source : Myanmar Times

Zay Kabar Group of Companies and Chinese developer Zhejiang Luding Investment Company have signed an agreement to jointly develop a bazaar in Mingalardon township. The two companies have committed to invest a total of \$ 700 million for implementing this project. This idea came about after the Ministry of Construction approved the construction of a 40.5 kilometer highway linking Strand Road in downtown Yangon to Yangon – Mandalay highway. The bazaar is expected to be a one-stop shopping bazaar in Mingalardon when it opens.

The project will be built on 124 acres of land and is designed to involve retail and wholesale market, commercial buildings and residential buildings. These designs for the project have been submitted to Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) and Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) for necessary approvals.

A new Beta Plant opened in Thilawa Special Economic Zone

Source : Myanma Alin

Zifam Pyrex Beta Plant in Thilawa Special Economic Zone was inaugurated on 13th May. As for the first step, the company will manufacture Flumox which is used for bacterial infections. Others medicines which could contribute to public health sector will be manufactured in later stages. Being locally manufactured drug, price would be much cheaper than that of imported ones. In terms of quality, as Zifam Pyrex is a Joint Venture organization with Austrian based company, the quality of medicines manufactured is expected to meet with international standard. In addition, this beta plant can help decrease import of illegal medicines to some extent.

Kayah State Investment Forum and potential investment

Source : MMRD

With the aim to promote investment in Kayah State effectively and develop linkage between local businesses, the Kayah State Investment Forum was held on 26 May 2018 at State Hall in Loikaw, Kayah State. It was jointly organised by the Kayah State government and the Kayah Investment Committee, supported by the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC). With the invitation of Kayah Investment Committee, MMRD Business Insight conducted Kayah State Investment Opportunity Survey and survey reports English and Myanmar were distributed at the forum. The Kayah State Investment Forum was attended by more than 500 participants, including Chief Minister of Kayah State U L Phaung Sho and cabinet ministers of Kayah State Government, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win, Ambassadors, senior officials from relevant ministries, representatives from private sector associations and foreign and local businessmen. Ten groups of investors called on Kayah State chief minister, seeking opportunities for investment in the state on the next day of the forum. The investors included two cinema companies, three marble production companies, one company for adventure tourism, two

companies involved in hotel businesses, and two company engaged in agriculture and mining businesses.

Economy

MOU is signed for Myitkyina Economic Development Zone project

Source : Daily Eleven

Kachin State Government and Deputy Mayor of Paung San Province of the Republic of China signed a memorandum of understanding to build Myitkyina Economic Development Zone on 8th May.

Kachin State Minister for Ministry of Finance, Revenue, Planning and Economic Development, , Deputy Mayor of Paungsan Province and Managing Director from Hein Rong Chinese Investment Company have signed MOU. Responsible officials from both Myanmar and China sides discuss to continue to sign MOA, JVA and so on. The Myitkyina economic development zone project will be developed on 4,751 acres of land in Nankyin Villages. The projected value of investment is around USD 273.44 million. Project implementation will be started from June 2018.

Central Bank issues license to Myanmar Credit Bureau

Source : Daily Eleven

The Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) has issued a license to Myanmar Credit Bureau Limited, allowing it establish a credit bureau in the country with the aim to provide small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with easier access to loan, according to a May 17 CBM announcement. It is a joint venture between the Myanmar Banks Association (MBA) and Asian Credit Bureau Holdings which is based in Singapore. The credit bureau will collect loan repayment histories and other information on borrowers and distribute the profiles to lenders such as banks and other non-bank financial institutions. Therefore, lenders can assess the risk of providing loans to SMEs based on the information provided by the credit bureau.

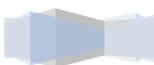
Apart from the license, the new Myanmar Credit Bureau will require capital of at least K3 billion (\$2.2 million). It is expected to be operational within a year.

World Bank's Myanmar Economic Monitor Report launched

Source : UMFCFI

The ceremony for issuing World Bank's Myanmar Economic Monitor was held at UMFCFI in 18th May 2018. The Myanmar Economic Monitor (MEM) is the report published twice a year by World Bank and it is based on latest economic information of Myanmar. The report is well gathered about the information on the recent economic development and predictions for the potential of economic development and policy issues. Present at the ceremony included U Zaw Min Win, chairman of UMFCFI, Ms. Ellen Goldstein, Country Director of World Bank, Dr. U Myint, Lead Economist and the presenter Mr. Hans Amand Beck, Lead Country Economists.

The report indicates a favorable outlook with growth expected to increase to 6.7 percent in 2018/19 and inflation which moderated to 5.5 percent in 2017/18 from 7 percent in 2016/17 and expected to ease further to 4.9 percent in 2018/19. An increase in export has resulted in a



decrease in trade deficit and accelerates FDI inflow. For the development of economic potential, Myanmar Government is urged to implement MSDP (Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan) and Fiscal Strategy, tax exemption and proper inspection on the implementation plan, to monitor continuously on the changes relating with Doing Business, liberalise some strict regulations and to attract the Foreign Direct Investments.

Union Minister for Planning and Finance reshuffle

Source : Global New Light of Myanmar

U Kyaw Win, Union Minister for Planning and Finance has been permitted to resign of his own volition on 25th May 2018 and U Soe Win has been appointed as New Union Minister for Planning and Finance on 31st May 2018. The newly appointed Union Minister is a retired General Manager of Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank. He is also a senior member of the NLD Central Economic Committee and possesses over 46 years of experience in advising local and international clients regarding Myanmar taxation, investment laws and banking.

UMFCCI B4B Insights Forum

Source : UMFCCI

On 26th and 27th May, the two-day event of B4B Insights Forum was held at UMFCCI. In this forum, business owners from various sectors were met with each other and discussed about the economic development of Myanmar. U Moe Kyaw, Chairman of MMRD presented findings of Business Sentiment Survey 2018 and U Wai Phyo, vice president of the federation, made the overall discussion. The following factors were discussed in the forum: - to exempt of interest rates for small-medium enterprises (SMEs) and to identify a policy in collecting taxes, to combat illicit trade, to adjust the work relations between employers and employees, to penetrate the international market with high value products from domestic industry and to produce high-value products by applying high technology in industrial business.

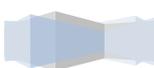
In second day of the forum, the entrepreneurs were discussed about the following sectors:- law and regulations, trade sector and SME sector.

Business News Update

Telenor and Myanmar Net collaborate for an innovative data plan

Source: 7 days (Weekly)

Telenor and Myanmar Net have joined forces in the last week of April to develop a specially crafted 'A-wa-thone Data' plan available for Telenor customers. This data plan has three different options; 300MB, 500MB or 2GB with different validities, for customers to make their own choice depending on their data preference. Using internet on their mobile data, customers can enjoy Telenor's fastest internet speed, and when they are in the coverage area of Myanmar Net, they can easily switch to Wi-Fi with unlimited data usage. Myanmar Net covers 18 townships in Yangon and 3 townships in Mandalay. However, Myanmar net did not announce its offer speed plan for that innovative data plan.



First Private Sector LPG project launched in Thilawa

Source: Myanmar Alin

On 20th May 2018, the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Terminal and Port Facility was launched at the Thilawa Special Economic Zone by Elite Petrochemical Co. The terminal is developed across 49 acres of land under BOT agreement. The development of entire project includes phases. The construction of a 20,000-tonne jetty and storage facilities for up to 3,000 tonnes of LPG are included in Phase 1. In Phase 2, the firm building storage capacity for up to 25,000 tonnes of LPG and up to 100,000 tonnes of diesel and petrol which is now around 40 % is completed.

New Cargo Warehouse launched in Mandalay

Source: Myanmar Alin

The launching ceremony for the new cargo warehouse which can be able to store the export and import cargo directly loading via Mandalay International Airport was held on 8th May 2018 at Mandalay Region Chamber of Commerce and Ministry. This has now made the cargo warehouse operations better for the exports of perishable cargo including fruits and flowers. Moreover, the issues of less time-consuming and extra travelling expenses will be reduced. It is reportedly known that the loading charges from cargo warehouse to the plane for normal cargo cost Ks.6,000 per 40 kilogram while 40 kilogram of valuable cargo cost Ks.12,000.

5 star rated hotel Spring Ling opens now

Source: 7 days (Weekly)

5 stars rated Spring Ling Hotel was opened in Insein Township on 17th May. The luxury hotel comprises 4 buildings with 24- storey and a building with 17- storey and includes office tower, shopping center and high-standard restaurants. The investment value for this 5 star hotel is over USD 100 million. Currently, Spring Ling hotel creates employment opportunities for over 400 people.



Tender

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(10/ 2018)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

Tender No	Description	Remark
IFB/002(18-19)	Cement Additives (4) Items	USD
DMP/L-031(18-19)	Steel Ball Valves and Pipe Fittings (2) Groups	Ks
DMP/L-032(18-19)	2 3/8" & 2 7/8" EUE Tubing (2) Items	Ks
DMP/L-033(18-19)	Spares for CAT D-342 Engine (52) Items	Ks
DMP/L-034(18-19)	Spares for CAT D-353 PC Engine(55)Items	Ks
DMP/L-035(18-19)	Spares for Hitachi Excavator (72) Items	Ks
DMP/L-036(18-19)	Spares for Mack Truck (10) Items	Ks

2. The Open Tender forms including Description of Materials / Qty with details specifications and Tender Terms & Conditions can be available free download at the Ministry of Electricity and Energy Website Portal (www.moee.gov.mm) as from 23 May 2018. Tender forms will not be sold.

3. The interested Bidders should submit the **Technical Specifications with Original Bid Bond and Commercial Quotation in each separate sealed envelopes** on which to be addressed to the Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and should reach in Tender Box of the Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise not later than **16:30 pm on 21 June 2018**.

4. Tender Closing Date & Time- 21-6-2018, 16:30 pm

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise Ph . +95 67 - 411206 +95 67 411212

Source: Global New Light of Myanmar

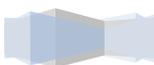


Ministry of Construction
Department of Highways
Request for Expressions of Interest dated May 18, 2018
Yangon Expressway PPP Project

The Ministry of Construction of the Union Government of Myanmar, coordinating with the Yangon Regional Government, is planning to develop an elevated four-lane ring road expressway project in Yangon of approximately 47.5 kilometers, through a Public Private Partnership (PPP). The elevated toll road is expected to connect Downtown Yangon, Yangon Port, Yangon International Airport, Mingalardon Industrial Park and the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway (the “Project”). The Ministry of Construction is inviting local and/or international sponsors interested in designing, engineering, financing, constructing, operating and maintaining the Project through a long-term PPP concession agreement. The selection of PPP sponsors by the Ministry of Construction will be done through an international competitive tender expected to commence later this year. The Ministry of Construction may decide to split the project into sections and implement it through multiple PPP tenders with the support of the International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group.

Interested sponsors shall send their Expression of Interest in the Project by 5:00pm on June 29, 2018, providing the following documents:

- a cover letter expressly stating the interested sponsor’s interest in the Project;
- a short description of the interested sponsor and of its group of companies (if applicable) and its/their activities;
- the interested sponsor’s financial statements for the last three years;
- a list of relevant certifications (e.g. ISO certifications);
- a list of projects undertaken by the interested sponsor similar to the Project including the following details(maximum of five projects):
 - project name;
 - location;
 - project description including length in kilometers, and length of elevated sections in kilometers;
 - role in the project (sponsor, contractor and/or operator); and
 - total project cost and shareholding percentage, if any, in the project company by the interested sponsor;
- for international sponsors, a brief description of their current presence and/or involvement in Myanmar, if any (maximum one paragraph); and
- name of contact person and contact details.
- a letter confirming the sponsor’s name can be published by the Ministry of Construction on its website for having submitted its Expression of Interest



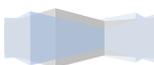
Interested sponsors shall submit their expression of interest in three hard copies and in electronic format by email at the following address:

Ministry of Construction, Office No. 11
Department of Highways
Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

Telephone: +95 67 407068
Attention: U Kyi Zaw Myint, Deputy Director General, Minister's Office

Email: Unionminister@construction.gov.mm
cc'ing kyizawmyintmyanmar@gmail.com
jleber@ifc.org
gfridegotto@ifc.org

Source: Global New Light of Myanmar



**Tender Invitation for Ngwe Pin Le Integrated Logistics Zone & IWT Jetty Link Port Project,
Submission date: 27 July 2018**

1. Yangon Regional Government, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, intended to develop the Jetty, Inland Container Depot, Container Freight Station and CFS Warehouse and Warehouse/Bonded Warehouse project near the Ngwe Pin Le Industrial Zone and Ale-Ywa to support the transportation and logistics sector within the Yangon Region.

2. Sealed bids are invited from the qualified developers who interested to develop the Ngwe Pin Le Integrated Logistics Zone & IWT Jetty Link Port Project with Build-Operate-Transfer Program as the following.

Tender Description	Bidding Document Fee (USD)
1. Jetty, Inland Container Depot, Container Freight Station and CFS Warehouse	5,000 USD
2. Warehouse/Bonded Warehouse	3,000 USD

3. The bidding document may be purchased by interested bidders after signing the Non-disclosure Agreement (NDA) upon submission of a formal request on payment of a non-refundable fee indicated above for each set of tender documents.

4. The bidding documents will be available from the office as noted in paragraph 8 on any working day with effect from 31.5.2018 (From 9.00 hour to 16.00 hour, local time).

5. Pre-bid meeting will take place at the below address and date and time will be confirmed later for discussions of various issues raised by the prospective bidders.

6. The bid duly completed in all respects as described in the bidding document shall be submitted, in a sealed envelope, to the Yangon Regional Government on or before Friday 27.7.2018 at 12:00 noon (local time).

7. The bid received after the expiry of the stipulated time of submission shall not be considered. Yangon Regional Government reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids at on its discretion without assigning any reason whatsoever. The Yangon Regional Government is not bound to accept the lowest offer/bid and reserves the right to negotiate with bidders.

8. Contact Address is as mentioned the following, Yangon Regional Government Room 222, Ahlone Road, Yangon Regional Government Office, Yangon, Myanmar.

**Telephone No +959 448 144 744, +959 448 144 755, +959 95015150
Email: project.finn.sg@sg.pwc.com**

Source: Yangon Regional Government

