

What's Happening in Myanmar Market & Valuation

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Myanmar Junta invites bids for new solar power projects

国家統治評議会 (SAC) は、外貨獲得のため、12 ヶ所で入札による太陽光発電プロジェクトの建設を模索している。プロジェクトはマンダレーやバゴー、マグウェ、サガイン地域やシェン州が予定されている。

Learnt from: The Irrawaddy (July 2, 2021)

Norway's Telenor Sells its Myanmar Telecoms Operation to Regime-linked Partner

ノルウェーの携帯通信事業社テレノールが同社のミャンマー事業を売却した。売却先はレバノンの投資会社 M1 グループで売却額は 105 ミリオン米ドル。

Learnt from: The Irrawaddy (July 8, 2021)

BRIDGESTONE, the world's second largest tire maker to suspend investment in Myanmar

世界第 2 位のタイヤメーカーであるブリヂストンは、ミャンマーにおける投資を 7 月末より凍結することを発表した。

Learnt from: Khit Thit Media (July 8, 2021)

NUG warns against purchasing public land from SAC

ミャンマー国民統一政府(NUG)は国家統治評議会(SAC)傘下の民営化委員会により売り出された公共用地を購入しないよう呼びかけた。

Learnt from: National Unity Government (July 9, 2021)

Chinese Casino City in Myanmar Recruiting Despite COVID-19 Crisis

ミャンマー国内で新型コロナウイルスの感染者数が急拡大する中、香港に所在する中国資本のヤタイグループがタイとの国境付近で求人を進めている。同社は、敷地規模 12,100 ヘクタールでタイ国境に沿って 19km にも及ぶミャンマー・ヤタイ・シュウェ・コッコ経済特区(総投資額 150 億ドル)内で、カジノを中心とした開発を予定している。

Learnt from: The Irrawaddy (July 19, 2021)

Myanmar Economy Expected to Contract by 18 Percent in FY2021

世界銀行によると、2021 年度のミャンマー経済は対前年度比で 18%縮小すると予想されている。また、貧困状態にあるミャンマーの人口は 2022 年に 2 倍以上になる可能性がある。さらに、現在進行中の COVID-19 第 3 波は、人々の生命、生活、経済に差し迫った脅威もたらしている。

Learnt from: The world bank (July 23, 2021)

Myanmar Junta Invites Bids for New Solar Power Projects



A Solar Power Plant in Myanmar.

The Military regime is seeking tenders to implement 12 solar power projects to raise foreign currency, with some 40 firms including Thai and Chinese companies planning to make bids. Bids for the 12 solar power projects were invited on May 24 and tenders are to be submitted by August 11. The projects are planned to be built in Madalay, Bago, Magwe and Sagaing Regions and Shan State, with each one expected to generate between 20 to 40 megawatts of electricity. Many of the companies that are planning to bid have no experience in solar power production. But experienced companies are not bidding because they doubt the economic feasibility of the projects. The majority of domestic energy firms are not interested in the tender as the price of raw materials is soaring in the global market, while domestic electricity demand is unlikely to increase significantly, as Myanmar is barely receiving new foreign investment. Five Chinese firms have expressed interest in the project. Other companies interested include the Malaysian-owned Muhibbah Myanmar, RJE Myanmar, and Australian-owned engineering and Construction Company, hydropower companies and international firms.

Learnt from: The Irrawaddy (July 2, 2021)

Norway's Telenor Sells its Myanmar Telecoms Operation to Regime-linked Partner



A Telenor showroom in downtown Yangon.

Norwegian telecoms operator Telenor has sold its Myanmar operations to the Lebanese investment firm M1 Group, which was added to the Burma Campaign UK's Dirt List in 2019 for doing business with the Myanmar Military. Telenor announced in a statement that it has sold its mobile operations in Myanmar to M1 group for US\$105 million. It said that M1 Group would acquire all shares in Telenor Myanmar and continue the current operation. Telenor launched its operations in Myanmar in 2014. As of 2020, it had 16,243 million subscribers and was one of the biggest foreign investors in the country. The junta's Feb.1 coup was a serious blow for Telenor, which has since been forced to deal with military regime-imposed internet restrictions, as well as human rights implications of continuing to do business in Myanmar. In May, Telenor Group was forced to write off the value of its operations in Myanmar, recording a US\$ 780 million impairment charge. Reuters reported that the junta has banned senior foreign executives of major telecommunications firms from leaving the country without permission, while pressuring them to fully implement intercept technology that would allow the authorities to monitor users.

Learnt from: The Irrawaddy (July 8, 2021)

BRIDGESTONE, the world's second largest tire maker to suspend investment in Myanmar



BRIDGESTONE TYRE LOGO.

BRIDGESTONE, the world's second largest tire manufacture, has announced that it will suspend all investment in Myanmar from the end of July. The company officially announced on July 6 that it would shut down BRIDGESTONE tires, which has been investing in Myanmar for more than seven years. BRIDGESTONE tires are manufactured by First Japan Tire Service (FJTS), a Japanese company founded in 1931. BRIDGESTONE tires are among the top quality tires in the world.

Learnt from: Khit Thit Media (July 8, 2021)

NUG warns against purchasing public land from SAC

The National Unity Government of Myanmar (NUG) issued a statement on July 9 warning of the purchase of public land sold by the Privatization Commission under the State Administration Council (SAC). Under the Ministry of Planning and Finance managed by SAC, the privatization Commission announced bids for 23 state-owned land and buildings on June 26, located in Kachin State, Sagaing Region, Thanintharyi Region, Bago Region, Mon and Shan State. The NUG government announced that the military is illegal and it has no rights to sell or manage any land and buildings. Property purchased from SAC will be confiscated.

Learnt from: National Unity Government (July 9, 2021)

Chinese Casino City in Myanmar Recruiting Despite COVID-19 Crisis



The Shwe Kokko Project in August 2019.

Amid Myanmar's COVID-19 spike, Hong Kong-registered Yatai International Holding Group (IHG), which is run by Chinese investors accused of running illegal casinos in Cambodia and Philippines has been recruiting near the Thai border in Karen State. IHG's said that the current city project involves the construction, development and operation of the special economic zone in Myanmar. The US\$ 15-billion "Myanmar Yatai Shwe Kokko Special Economic Zone" is due to cover nearly 12,100 hectares, stretching 19 km along the border. IHG's business plan identifies casinos as the top source of revenue, projecting an income of US\$ 11.4 billion within 10 years. The project was suspended after the National League for Democracy government formed a tribunal to investigate irregularities such as an alleged lack of transparency, land confiscations, confusion over the scale of construction, an influx of Chinese money, suspected illicit activity and residents' concerns about the social impact of casinos. In early July, Myanmar's regime locked down the city area after it reported around 10 COVID-19 cases.

Learnt from: The Irrawaddy (July 19, 2021)

Myanmar Economy Expected to Contract by 18 Percent in FY2021



People queuing to get cash out from the bank.

Myanmar's ongoing political turmoil and a rapidly rising third wave of COVID-19 cases are severely affecting an economy that had already been weakened by the pandemic in 2020. The economy is expected to contract around 18 percent in Myanmar's 2021 Fiscal Year (Oct 2020- Sep 2021). An 18 percent contraction, coming on top of weak growth in FY 2020, would mean that the country's economy is around 30 percent smaller than it would have been in the absence of COVID-19 and the military takeover of February 2021. Around 1 million jobs could be lost, and many other workers will experience a decline in their incomes due to reduced hours or wages. Myanmar's population living in poverty is likely to more than double by the beginning of 2022, compared to 2019 levels. Economic activities has been hit by reduced mobility and incomes, protests and labor shortages, as well as the ongoing disruption of critical business services and limited access to banking and payment services. As of mid-July, the Myanmar Kyat had depreciated by around 23 percent against the US Dollar since late January, which combined with trade disruptions has lead to rapid price increases for some imported products including fuel. Taken together, these shocks have weakened consumption, investment and the supply of labor and inputs. The current third wave of COVID-19 is posing an immediate threat to lives, livelihoods, and the economy, especially given the lack of capacity in the public health system to adequately respond. Over the long term, recent

events have the potential to jeopardize much of the develop progress that has been made over the past decade. Significant impacts on investment, human capital accumulation, and the environment for doing business are likely to impair prospects for economic over the long term.

Learnt from: The world bank (July 23, 2021)

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