



Press Release

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Yangon's first Blue Plaque unveiled at City Hall

Yangon: On Saturday, August 9th, Yangon's first commemorative Blue Plaque was unveiled at City Hall to highlight the history of the landmark building.

The installation ceremony of the Blue Plaque was held at City Hall and attended by officials from Yangon Regional Government, Yangon City Development Committee, members of Yangon Region Parliament, diplomats, historians, and media.

Commemorative Blue Plaques are part of Yangon Heritage Trust's efforts to highlight historical buildings and renowned residents who contributed to the narrative of the city. Blue Plaques are one of the most effective and visible means to celebrate Yangon's rich history. The introduction of commemorative Blue Plaques will make Yangon's history accessible to people of all age and backgrounds.

Founder and Chairman of Yangon Heritage Trust, Dr. Thant Myint-U, said that the plaques will be installed on buildings of architectural significance or historical importance including the homes of famous people.

"Yangon is a city important not only for the history of Myanmar, but also the history of the world. It's witnessed two Anglo-Burmese wars, the Second World War, British and Japanese occupation, a civil war, coups and uprisings. It's been home to Myanmar's top leaders, thinkers, writers and artists, as well as internationally renowned figures from the last Mogul Emperor to Nobel Laureate Pablo Neruda. It's played host to icons from Mahatma Gandhi to Nikita Khrushchev. And it's been home to millions of ordinary people from many different faiths and backgrounds. It's a special city, a unique city, and all this is reflected in Yangon's beautiful built heritage. This is what these plaques will recognize and celebrate. We hope it will help residents and visitors alike appreciate what is around them," said Thant Myint-U.

Royal Philips (NYSE: PHG, AEX: PHIA) agreed to contribute US\$75,000 for the Yangon Blue Plaques initiative. Aside from highlighting key cultural heritage sites, the contribution will also

support the research and curation of historical sites, and creation and installation of Blue Plaques that will share the historical relevance and background of key sites across the city.

“At Philips, we are committed to deliver meaningful Philips innovations to help Myanmar and the community to live better, healthier lives and cities to become more sustainable. We are excited to see the partnership with Yangon Heritage Trust reach a significant milestone today with the installation of the first of the Blue Plaques that share the historical relevance of the country’s commercial and cultural center. With fast-paced urbanization and massive re-development underway, we believe sustainable LED lighting solutions can help conservation and to build livability, supporting Yangon’s goal to regain its stature as the jewel of Asia,” said Alex Ngian, Commercial Leader Philips Myanmar.

Yangon Heritage Trust

Established in March 2012, the Yangon Heritage Trust promotes the proper conservation of Yangon’s rich urban heritage within a cohesive planning process. It believes that good integration of conservation and development can make Yangon into one of Asia’s most beautiful and liveable cities. The Trust assists in the conservation of urban heritage places, advocates for sustainable and sympathetic development within the historic city, advises on the adoption of planning policies and manages a range of training, public outreach and advocacy programs.

For more information on Yangon Heritage Trust:

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Royal Philips:

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