

MEMBER INTERVIEW

YOUR STORY DESERVES THE SPOTLIGHT



MS. THET ZAN PHYU

CEO, Myanmar Noble College



Q. Could you share the story behind the founding of Myanmar Noble College and what inspired its establishment?

A. As a developing country, private sector engagement plays a vital role in advancing national development, particularly in the education sector. With this understanding, Myanmar Noble College was founded in 2011 to play a meaningful role in strengthening the quality of education in the country.

We aim to provide internationally recognised qualifications accessible to Myanmar students at an affordable cost. At the time, international qualifications were primarily attainable only by studying abroad, which was not a viable option for many students due to financial and other constraints. Recognising this gap, we were inspired to establish an institution to bridge this divide and empower local youth with high-quality, globally relevant education. Our goal remains to provide quality education that meets international standards without requiring students to leave their home country.

Since 2011, we have proudly served as one of the pioneering institutions in Myanmar approved as a Pearson Edexcel centre, offering internationally recognized qualifications ranging from iPrimary and GCSEs to A Levels and BTEC programs. Under the Noble Education Group, we proudly offer a range of educational institutions to serve our community. Myanmar Noble College provides higher education opportunities, while Noble Academy focuses on high school qualifications through an international curriculum. Additionally, Genius Myanmar Private High School offers high school qualifications following the government curriculum. We are committed to supporting students on their educational journeys across these programs and contributing to both individual success and national development.



- Q. Myanmar Noble College has become one of the prominent private institutions in Yangon. What values or approaches do you think have contributed most to the college's growth and reputation over the years?**
- A.** Our growth has been driven by a steadfast commitment to academic integrity, diversity and inclusion, and community engagement. These core values have allowed us to cultivate a dynamic and student-centred learning environment that emphasizes critical thinking, collaboration, and innovation. We firmly believe that students should be at the heart of everything we do. While we uphold high standards of academic excellence, we also place strong emphasis on practical, real-world learning. Through structured site visits, industry-led workshops, and internship opportunities, we ensure that our students are not only gaining theoretical knowledge but also developing the skills and professional insights needed to thrive in a competitive global landscape.
- In addition, we actively encourage student involvement in volunteering and community service, nurturing a sense of social responsibility and leadership. We take a principled approach to growth-prioritizing quality over quantity and maintaining strict ethical standards in all aspects of our operations.
- Ultimately, our success is reflected in the development of our students into lifelong learners who are confident, adaptable, and prepared to contribute meaningfully as professionals and leaders in an ever-evolving world.



Q. MNC emphasizes providing students with global standards of education. How do you create an international learning environment while staying rooted in the local context of Myanmar?

A. Our motto is “Study locally, achieve globally.” We deliver education that aligns with international standards while remaining contextually relevant to Myanmar. Our academic team continuously updates the curriculum to reflect current global practices and industry needs. Faculty members undergo regular training, including international workshops and faculty exchange programs. We also send both staff and students abroad for seminars, conferences, and academic development initiatives.

To inspire the spirit of youth empowerment, innovation, and sustainable development, Myanmar Noble College proudly hosts international seminars and has been representing the country at the ASEAN-China-India Youth Leadership Summit annually since 2023. These enriching experiences prepare Myanmar youth for global opportunities while fostering a strong sense of local identity, enhancing awareness of sustainable development, and providing invaluable international exposure and networking.



Q. As a woman leader in the education sector, what challenges have you faced, and how have you addressed them?

A. In a society where traditional gender roles still influence perceptions, women leaders often face both gender and age-related biases. Despite the significant presence of women in the education sector, leadership roles are still predominantly occupied by men, and female voices are sometimes undervalued, particularly in decision-making contexts. My response to these challenges has been rooted in perseverance, professionalism, and a strong commitment to inclusive leadership. With over a decade of experience in higher education, I have consistently advocated for women's empowerment and inclusivity. At Noble Education Group, gender representation reflects a strong presence of women and constituting 60% of the workforce. This majority not only highlights the organisation's commitment to diversity and inclusion but also showcases the critical roles women play across various positions within the group. Their contributions significantly shape the workplace culture and drive the mission of the organisation forward.

My goal is to build environments where women are encouraged to lead and given equitable opportunities to innovate and excel.



- Q. What are your aspirations for MNC in the next five years, especially in terms of program expansion and international recognition?**
- A. With the enactment of the Private Education Law in 2024, Myanmar Noble College is now officially recognised by the Ministry of Education as a private college, allowing us to offer our own diplomas and certificates. Over the next five years, we aspire to upgrade our institutional status to that of a university, with the authority to confer our own bachelor's degrees. We also plan to expand our international collaborations through dual-degree programs, student and faculty exchanges, and joint research initiatives. Our vision is to continue fostering global academic partnerships while contributing meaningfully to national education development.**



- Q. How has your partnership with CCI France Myanmar added value to your institution, and are there any areas where you see room for greater collaboration?**
- A.** Joining CCI France Myanmar has been a privilege. This partnership has provided invaluable opportunities to engage with professionals from diverse industries, facilitating knowledge sharing and networking. Through CCI France Myanmar, we aim to strengthen our contribution to Myanmar's socio-economic development, particularly by creating opportunities for youth. There is significant potential for deeper collaboration, including student internship placements, faculty development programs, and joint educational projects with French institutions. We are optimistic about expanding these partnerships to benefit both our institution and the broader community. We aim to achieve not only substantial academic benefits but also a deeper cultural understanding that fosters enriching experiences for all involved. By creating win-win situations, we hope to cultivate an atmosphere of collaboration where diverse perspectives are valued, leading to innovative solutions and mutual growth.



- Q. Could you please share any guidance for entrepreneurs and educators aiming to enhance learning experiences on a global scale?**
- A.** We live in an increasingly interconnected world, where education and innovation transcend borders. To thrive in this dynamic environment, it's essential to embrace change, be open to collaboration, and continuously adapt. For educators and entrepreneurs, my advice is to stay curious, resilient, and committed to lifelong learning. Failures are part of the journey; use them as stepping stones toward success. Most importantly, remain passionate about your mission. Education holds the key to progress—empower others, invest in inclusive learning experiences, and always be prepared to learn, unlearn, and relearn as the global landscape evolves