Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office
(Order No. 23/2014)
1st Waxing of Thadingyut, 1376 ME (24 September, 2014)
Formation of Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

1. Under Sections 4 and 9 of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Law, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission was formed with the following persons with the aim of uplifting and protecting the fundamental rights of citizens included in the constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

(a) U Win Mra Chairman
Ambassador (Rtd)
(b) U Sit Myaing Vice Chairman
Director-General (Rtd), Social Welfare Department
(c) U Zaw Win member
Director-General (Rtd), Myanmar Correctional Department
(d) U Yu Lwin Aung member
Chairman (Rtd), Social Security Board
Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security Department
(e) U Nyunt Swe member
Deputy Director-General (Rtd), Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Myanmar, China to cooperate in prevention of deforestation in Kachin State

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept — President U Thein Sein received Mr. Han Changfu, Minister of Agriculture of the People’s Republic of China and party at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday afternoon to discuss prospects of exporting agricultural produce, products of live-stock breeding and marine products, including rice.

They also emphasized technical exchange for production of quality strains and cooperation in prevention of deforestation in Kachin State.—MNA

President U Thein Sein cordially greets Mr. Han Changfu, Minister of Agriculture of the People’s Republic of China at the talks about exports of Myanmar’s agricultural produce. MNA

The KOICA President in an interview to The New Light of Myanmar Daily

By Ye Myint
YANGON, 24 Sept — President of Korea International Cooperation Agency Mr. Kim Young-mok, who visited Myanmar recently as the first sitting KOICA president making a historic visit to Myanmar, elaborated on his office’s key directions to support Myanmar reform process, sharing the South Korean philosophy on development experiences.

NLM: Please provide a brief introduction of your first-ever visit to Myanmar.
KOICA President: My first visit to Myanmar as the incumbent President of KOICA is to reassure and strengthen development assistance by the South Korean Government to Myanmar over the coming years. The development assistance by the Government of the Republic of Korea to Myanmar started in 1991 with the total size of official development assistance (ODA) between 1991 and 2012 recorded at around USD 43 million. The KOICA, as the primary ODA agency of the Government of the Republic of Korea, first established the Myanmar Office in August 2001 and its volume of grant aid to Myanmar has been in sharp increase since 2013. The total delivery of the KOICA Myanmar in 2013 was at USD 11.34 million (taking about 75% of the total of the (See page 9)

My message to Myanmar people is as simple as that “if Koreans did well, why not Myanmar people?” KOICA President Mr. Kim, Young-mok

Art works of Win Pe, Paw Oo Thet, Khin Maung Yin to be exhibited from Sept. 27 to Oct. 4

By Aye Min Soe
YANGON, 24 Sept— Art works of Win Pe, Paw Oo Thet and Khin Maung Yin, regarded as a part of the second generation of Myanmar’s modern artists, will be showcased to the public at the Beikthano Art Gallery from 27 September to 4 October.

“It’s a rare chance to see the art works of these three artists at one place. Today, art works of Paw Oo Thet are very rare. We have organized this show with the intention of exhibiting rare art works of these three artists,” said U Tin Win, himself a renowned Myanmar artist and owner of Beikthano Art Gallery.

Of the three influential artists, Paw Oo Thet died at the age of 57 in 1993 and Khin Maung Yin died at 73 in June this year.

The trio is regarded as the initiators of a modernistic art movement in Myanmar in the early 1960s. In creating art works, Paw Oo Thet used his great (See page 8)

Mr. Kim, Young-mok, president of the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), gives interview to local media at Grand Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on Tuesday.—PHOTO: KOICA

Myanmar, Mauritius to promote banking services

Food security and nutrition are fundamentals for peace and prosperity
Proposal on immediate ceasefire echoes in 8th day of Pyithu Hluttaw session

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept — The 11th session of the first Pyithu Hluttaw granted the recognition to two important proposals regarding the acknowledgement on military services and the need of immediate ceasefire agreement in the country during its eighth day on Wednesday here with U Sai Than Naing, representative of Papon township constituency, submitted the first proposal urging to adopt a certain policy or to enact a law to confer certificates of honour and to give financial support to those who lost their lives, body parts and property while they were accompanying the soldiers in the military operations.

His second proposal also called for the immediate ceasefire of relevant parties as the loss of lives and properties are resulted from civil conflicts. In response to the questions of two representatives, Daw Lei Lei Thein, deputy minister for National Planning and Economic Development, made explanations.

U Tin Maung Oo, representative from Shwepyitha township constituency, asked if the relevant ministry has any plan to join the Open Government Partnership programme undertaken by the governments which are implementing democratic reform processes.

The deputy minister said that Myanmar is making plans to enter OGP programme in 2016, with holding a workshop on openness for sustainability and progress in which discussions were made on transparency in financial sector, information of government to the public, property declaration of government officials.

Lt-Col Myo Htet Win, representative of Tarmataw, asked if the relevant ministry has any plan to join the Open Government Partnership programme undertaken by the governments which are implementing democratic reform processes.

The deputy minister explained that out of many research works some are still under tests and some others are not appropriate to publicize at the preliminary stages, but some sorts of information are now available on the websites of government ministries.—MNA

Biosecurity measures in place to prevent animal epidemics: Deputy Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept — The Amyotha Hluttaw representatives on Wednesday raised four questions, approved on bill and submitted a proposal.

The question related to measures being taken by the government for biosecurity practices in livestock breeding farms in rural areas was responded by Deputy Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development Dr Aung Myat Kyaw, who said that screening is being carried out for 9 epidemics of animals and other epidemic diseases at terminals and border gates. The deputy minister added that live-stock breeding zones are also developed in states and regions, and courses on epidemic research are also being conducted while laboratories are upgraded.

Knowledge on epidemics is also disseminated to farmers in cooperation with experts from the FAO and plans are underway to enhance the efforts of biosecurity teams, according to the deputy minister.

Another question was responded by Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint. He said the told the representatives of the Ministry of Construction of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) that they are at Milepost 4/0 and Milepost 4/2. Then, the representatives approved the bill amending the Constitution of the Union of Myanmar National Building Code and enforce it, as this will contribute to the safety and health of the public and ensure higher living standards.—MNA

India-Myanmar 2014 Trade and Investment Show kicks off to explore business and partnership opportunities

By YE MIYINT

YANGON, 24 Sept — More than 90 companies from India showcased their products and businesses at India-Myanmar 2014 Trade and Investment Show at Tatmadaw Convention Hall in Yangon on Wednesday to explore business opportunities and make partnerships with Myanmar counterparts.

The Federation of the Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), India’s oldest and largest apex business organization, and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Government of India organized the Show with the support of the Republic of India.

The inaugural session of the Show took place with addresses by Union Minister for Industry U Maung Myint, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Gautam Mukhopadhyaya, President of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), Myanmar India International Business Association (MIIBA), Myanmar India Business Club (MIBC) and IMA.

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (COM & IND), the implementing ministry, submitted the first report and second report on the measures taken for land confiscation issues on Wednesday.

Deputy Minister for Industry U Maung Myint addressed the opening ceremony on Wednesday.

Union-level officials explained the measures taken for land confiscation issues at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept — The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Session discussed a report on efforts for the implementation of the recommendation for settlement of land confiscation issues by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and union-level officials explained the measures taken for the issues on Wednesday.

Concerning the issues, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw said that for sound reasons, his ministry could not return the land for 104 out of the total 127 complaints while it was able to strike deals with landowners in 9 cases.

The ministry returned the all the land to landowners in five cases but it was able to return the land only partially in two cases.

Deputy Minister for Transport U Zin Yaw explained the measures being taken for confiscated land for airport projects. He said that his ministry compensat-ed the landowners for 5,569 acres of land for Nay Pyi Taw International Airport at the prevailing prices at the time of the confiscation but land owners are asking for compensation at current prevailing prices again. He is asking for more budget allocation to compensate for land confiscated for Pakokku Airport and Kyauktada Airport. The ministry compensated Ky 54.86 million to landowners for 9690.4 acres of land confiscated for Hanthawady Airport, the deputy minister added. Negotiations are underway to compensate for land confiscated for Tachileik and Bagan-NyaungU Airports. Union-level officials will explain the measures taken for land confiscation issues on 25 September.—MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw

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**Myanmar, Mauritius to promote banking services**

_Nay Pyi Taw, 24 Sept—Vice President U Nyan Tun received a delegation led by President of the State Bank of Mauritius Ltd (SBM) Mr Muni Krishna T Reddy at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday._

They focused on promotion of banking services between Myanmar and Mauritius and cooperation in financial matters.—MNA

**Formation of Myanmar...**

(from page 1)

(f) Dr Myint Kyi member
   Pro-Rector (Admin) (Rtd)
   International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University

(g) Dr Nyan Zaw member
   State Medical Superintendent (Rtd)
   University of Medicine

(h) Dr Dau Than Nwe member
   Professor/Dean (Rtd)
   Law Department

(i) Daw Mya Mya member
   Deputy General Manager (Rtd)
   Ministry of Information

(j) U Khin Maung Lay member
   Director (Rtd),
   Labour Department

(k) U Soe Phone Myint member
   Staff Officer (Rtd),
   Attorney-General Office

2. According to the Section 69 of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Law, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission formed under the notification No (34/2011) by the Union government dated 5-9-2011 was revoked as of today.

_Sd/Thin Sein_  
President  
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

**ASEAN, + 3 countries urged to closely cooperate in implementing activities under APTCS**

_Nay Pyi Taw, 24 Sept_ — The Association of South East Asian Nations—ASEAN and its plus three countries namely China, Japan and South Korea need to closely supervise the various ongoing activities under the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Strategy (APTCS) Framework, said the chairman of the 14th meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry and Plus-three countries.

Myanmar’s Agriculture and Irrigation Minister U Myint Hlaing, the chairman of the meeting which was held in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday, also urged the ASEAN nations and Plus Three countries to closely cooperate with each other to tackle the challenges posed by natural and man-made disasters and the challenges by climate change and to achieve the sustainability of natural resources.

ASEAN and its Plus Three countries are implementing activities especially in the areas of food security and bio-energy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable forest management, agricultural Research and Development (R&D), control and eradication of trans-boundary pest and animal diseases, and human resource development.

According to a joint press statement issued after the meeting, 6,730 metric tons of rice were stockpiled in total under the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Ricer Reserve (APTEERR) Agreement, of which, 6,150 tons has been distributed to the Philippines to help people suffering from typhoon Haiyan.

Agriculture ministers from ASEAN also encouraged Japan to expand its establishment of Food Value Chain (FVC) in some ASEAN member states through public-private partnership cooperation to a regional level, the joint statement said.

Japan has already been holding bilateral dialogue on the issue with some ASEAN countries, including Vietnam, Myanmar and Indonesia, according to Kyodo News.

Japan’s Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has estimated the world food market size in terms of value, excluding Japan, is expected to be doubled to $7.2 trillion by 2020, according to Kyodo News.

During the 14th AMAF Plus Three Meeting, ASEAN and its Plus Three countries also reaffirmed the APTCS Plus Three Cooperation on Food, Agriculture and Forestry as one of the main vehicles towards the long-term goal of building an East Asian community with ASEAN as the driving force and encouraged the Plus Three countries to continue supporting the implementa-

_Art works of Win Pe, Paw Oo Thet, Khin Maung Yin to be..._

(from page 1)

skills in design, said U Win Pe, a 78-year-old artist.

Paw Oo Thet became well-known amongst connoisseurs for his blend of Myanmar traditions with modern Western techniques and for his successfully reviving traditional Burmese style in a modern manner.

According to U Win

Pe, Khin Maung Yin understood the arts from various “isms” such as Cubism, Impressionism, Abstract and Surrealism. (U) Khin Maung Yin is especially interested in space vibration as he was an architect and is a man who loved just creating paintings without caring if he would be a success or not, said U Win Pe.

U Win Pe will exhibit his Zodiac Series comprising 12 arts works along with 10 works of Paw Oo Thet and 15 works of Khin Maung Yin.

The 15th Meeting of AMAF Plus Three will be held in the Philippines in 2015.

NLM

_Nay Pyi Taw, 15th Meeting of AMAF Plus Three._

Beikthano Art Gallery is located at No. 113/3B, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Bahan Township.
Nay Pyi Taw
Mandalay
Katha
Nyaungshwe
Yangon
Thaton
Pyay
Ngaphe
Nay Pyi Taw
Nyaung U
Dawei
Natogyi
Dawei, 24 Sept—A ceremony to hand over artifacts to Dawei Cultural Museum was held at the hall of the Taninthayi Region government in Dawei on Tuesday. Deputy Minister for Culture U Than Swe donated 59 pieces of 10 artifacts and U Ba Myint, on behalf of Dawei Yodaya Monastery Sayadaw, nine packets of ancient palm-leave manuscripts to Director-General U Kyaw Oo Lwin of the Ministry of Culture. Deputy Minister U Than Swe explained that he collected the artifacts 40 years ago and expressed his wish for keeping the artifacts at the museum.

Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko spoke words of thanks. After the ceremony, the deputy minister and party visited the Cultural Museum in Dawei.

Taninthayi Region IPRD

Free eye care given to patients in Natogyi Tsp

NyaungU Township saves trees for greening

NyaungU, 24 Sept —A monsoon tree growing ceremony took place at a plot near Ananda Pagoda in NyaungU of Mandalay Region on Tuesday with the aim of greening and conserving environment of ancient archaeological area. The district deputy commissioner and the township administrator presented saplings to Chairman of NyaungU District Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Khin Nyi Lar Kyaw, Head of NyaungU District Immigration and National Registration Department U Aung Khin and officials. Members of the social organizations and local people totalling about 640 planted 640 saplings in the area.

Ye Thura Aung (NyaungU)

Danger of narcotic drugs disseminated to people

Pyay, 24 Sept—Bago Region (West) and Pyay District Anti-Narcotics Associations organized educational talks on the dangers of narcotic drugs at Pyay Education College in Pyay of Bago Region on 22 September. Police Major Myint Oo of Pyay District Police Force, Chairman of the Pyay District association U Khin Maung Win, Secretary of Bago Region (West) association U Ye Htut and psychiatrist U Kyaw Win gave lectures on human trafficking, facts about Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association, salient points of 1993 Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, narcotic drugs and medical point of view. Bago Region (West) association plans to accelerate dissemination of knowledge about narcotic drugs to the people.—NLM-017

Artifacts, ancient palm-leave manuscripts donated to Cultural Museum
Local news

N gaphe, 24 Sept — Local farmers in Suntet Village in Ngaphe Township of Magway Region are engaged in cultivation of perennial plants as a long-term business, earning incomes yearly.

Chin national farmers of the village grow seasonal crops on the farmlands and perennial plants such as lime and orange in their horticultural farms. They faced shortage of water as the village is located on Chin mountain ranges. In 2013-14 fiscal year, the local authorities spent K3 million from the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw fund and K300,000 from the local level fund on laying 8,500 feet long two-inch diameter PVC pipelines for supply of water to 76 houses of the village. Thanks to water supply, the locals can carry out cultivation of crops successfully.

“Local people on laying 8,500 feet long two-inch diameter PVC pipelines for supply of water to 76 houses of the village. Thanks to water supply, the locals can carry out cultivation of crops successfully. "We mainly grow lime plants. It can grow 250 lime plants per acre. A young plant can bear about 5,000 fruits a year. We send the fruits to the markets in Minbu and Yangon," said a local. "If there is favourable weather, we can fetch about K3 million from the perennial plants," he added."

Temporary bridges to serve for smooth transport of locals

Kathay, 24 Sept — Local authorities are building temporary bridges across the creeks in Kathay in the places of damaged concrete and wooden bridges caused by heavy rains on 18 September in the township of Sagaing Region.

Local people faced difficulties in transport due to broken and damaged bridges on their ways. As such, township level officials, social organizations and well-wishers make concerted efforts in the construction of temporary bridges crossing creeks to ease the difficulties of local people.

"As there are rains daily in the region, we find it difficult to cross the creeks. Thanks to temporary bridges built by local authorities, the local people can travel from one place to another conveniently. Smooth transportation will reduce commodity prices, so I thank the officials for construction of the bridges," said a local.

Lighting traps help prevention against paddy germs and pests

Thaton, 24 Sept — Staff members of the Township Agriculture Department lit the lighting traps at paddy fields on both sides of Thaton-Mawlamyine road in Thaton of Mon State on Monday evening.

The lighting will protect the farmlands against danger of paddy germs and pests to be able to contribute to boosting production, said U Sein Moung, Staff Officer of the Township Agriculture Department.

Under the supervision of Thaton Township Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) U Saw Ba Thein and Township Administrator U Tun Tun Naing, the staff members and local farmers lit 300 lighting traps along both sides of the road.

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Buddha images of Inlay PhaungdawU Pagoda starts trips in Inlay Region

NyauNngshwe, 24 Sept — Four Buddha images of Inlay PhaungdawU Pagoda started trips of 21 places in Inlay region from Yadana Chamber of Nambu Village to Kyaypawkhon Village in NyauNngshwe Township of Shan State as of 24 September.

Officials conveyed the Buddha images from the throne of the Yadana chamber on board the Golden Karaweik barge.

The local people flanked the barge with their boats along the trip.

Inlay nationals enjoy conveyance of Buddha images from Inlay PhaungdawU Pagoda to Inlay region for public obeisance.

Chin national farmers earn income from perennial plants

Ngaphe, 24 Sept — Local farmers in Suntet Village in Ngaphe Township of Magway Region are engaged in cultivation of perennial plants as a long-term business, earning incomes yearly.

Chin national farmers of the village grow seasonal crops on the farmlands and perennial plants such as lime and orange in their horticultural farms.

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Inlay nationals enjoy conveyance of Buddha images from Inlay PhaungdawU Pagoda to Inlay region for public obeisance.
Abe to vow at UN Japan’s more active role in Africa peacekeeping

NEW YORK, 24 Sept—Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe plans to vow in a speech to the United Nations on Friday that Japan will take a more active role in UN-led peacekeeping operations in Africa and support US President Barack Obama’s initiative to quickly deploy peacekeepers in the region, a draft of the speech showed on Tuesday.

Abe will unveil Japan’s aid in training people and providing the equipment necessary for such operations, as well as deployment of a Japanese Self-Defence Forces officer to an important position.

Possibly commander of the international troops in peacekeeping, according to a copy of the speech draft obtained by Kyodo News.

During summit talks in Tokyo in April, the US president asked Japan to play a larger role in African peacekeeping.

PolITICAL analysts said the speech also likely reflects Japan’s desire to get the support of many African nations in efforts to reform the UN Security Council.

Abe will deliver his speech during a UN high-level meeting at the UN headquarters on peacekeeping operations. US Vice President Joe Biden will lead the discussions.

In his speech, Abe will underline the need to respond to diverse tasks of peacekeepers including maintaining security and monitoring elections, the draft said.

Describing the urgency of the swift deployment of peacekeepers to the African region, where many nations suffer political instability, the premier will state that Japan, as part of capacity building efforts, is ready to help in infrastructure development and construction of troops’ camps by providing necessary equipment and training people, according to the draft. The premier will pledge the SDF’s expanded role in the peacekeeping operations in infrastructure building following his Cabinet’s decision on 1 July for Japan’s security policy overhaul, the draft showed.

Kyodo News

Cambodia, Australia to sign deal on refugee settlement

PHNOM PENH, 24 Sept — Cambodia and Australia will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the settlement of refugees from Australia to Cambodia on Friday, the Cambodian Foreign Ministry announced in a news statement on Wednesday.

The signing ceremony will be held during a visit of Australian Immigration Minister Scott Morrison to Cambodia from 26 to 27 September, the statement said. “During the visit, Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sar Kheng and Scott Morrison will sign a MoU between the Cambodian government and the Australian government relating to the settlement of refugees in Cambodia,” it said.

The statement did not give details of the number of refugees Cambodia will receive from Australia and the location for those asylum seekers to live in Cambodia.

In May, Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Hor Namhong said the Southeast Asian nation will take in only voluntary refugees from Australia, and added that Australia will send a number of refugees from the tiny Pacific nation of Nauru to Cambodia. Australia proposed the refugee deal with Cambodia in February during a visit of Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs Julie Bishop to Cambodia.—Xinhua

Visitors view displayed photos at the “Beautiful Guangdong” photo exhibition in Yangon, Myanmar, on 23 Sept, 2014.—Xinhua

Courting Vietnam, US prepares to ease arms embargo

WASHINGTON, 24 Sept — Nearly 40 years after the United States helicopterized its last soldiers out of Vietnam in an ignominious retreat, Washington is moving closer to lifting an arms embargo on its former enemy, with initial sales likely to help Hanoi deal with growing naval challenges from China.

Senior US officials with knowledge of the initiative said Washington wants to support Vietnam by strengthening its ability to monitor and defend its coastline, and said unarmed P-3 surveillance planes could be one of the first sales.

Such aircraft would also allow Vietnam to keep track of China’s increasingly assertive activities in the South China Sea, a potential flash point because of interlocking claims from many countries to its islands and reefs.

Two senior Obama administration officials said discussions on easing the embargo are taking place in Washington and could result in a decision later this year.

“America is changing, and it is something we’re looking at seriously,” said one of the officials, speaking on condition of anonymity. “What we have found is a partner in which our interests are converging.”

Interest in warmer ties with Vietnam, despite US concerns about its human rights record, aligns with President Barack Obama’s strategy to refocus economic, political and military attention toward Asia.

The move to lift the embargo follows a gradual resumption of links between the United States and Vietnam over two decades, which accelerated with a series of high-level diplomatic and military meetings in recent months.

Two senior executives in the US weapons industry told Reuters they expected the US government to lift the arms ban soon. “There is a lot of discussion about allowing weapons sales to Vietnam.—Reuters

Philippine Islamists threaten to kill German captives

MANILA, 24 Sept — Al-Qaeda-linked militants in the southern Philippines have threatened to kill two Germans hostages they have been holding since April unless Germany stops supporting US action against Islamic State militants, the SITE monitoring service said.

Philippine security officials said on Wednesday that they were checking intelligence reports of the threats from the small but violent Abu Sayyaf group, which is also demanding a ransom of 250 million pesos ($5.6 million) for the captives’ release.

“They are reportedly held here but, as far as such demands are concerned, we are verifying it,” said Abraham Orbeta, a police official.

Abu Sayyaf rose to prominence in the early 2000s by kidnapping foreigners. It has links with al-Qaeda, although analysts and Philippine security sources say it has lately been focused on kidnapping for ransom and other criminal activities. In the message, distributed via Twitter, the militants said they would “kill one of the two hostages” if their demands were not met within 15 days, according to SITE Intelligence Group, which tracks communications from Islamist groups.—Reuters

Philippine, Japanese navies to hold sea drills

MANILA, 24 Sept — The navies of the Philippines and Japan will conduct sea drills off the western Philippine province of Palawan on Thursday, a military official said on Wednesday.

Philippine Navy Public Affairs Officer Lieutenant Commander Marinet Domingo said the Passing Exercise (PASSEX) will involve BRP Ramon Alcaraz and a Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force vessel on Thursday.

Domingo said a passing exercise is composed of sea drills between two navies to ensure synchronization of communication and cooperation between the participating navies in combined naval operations.

“PASSEX gives us the chance to establish a professional relationship with our allies and provides an ideal opportunity to enhance our situational awareness,” she said.

Both BRP Ramon Alcaraz and JDS Hatake were participants in the recently-concluded multilateral naval exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Navy.

The Philippine Navy’s second frigate is currently in the southern Philippine city of Zamboanga while JDS Hatake is on its way from Singapore where it had its own port visit.

Xinhua

Asian News Network
Rousseff regains edge in Brazil presidential race as Silva slips

NEW YORK, 24 Sept — If Iran and world powers reach a long-term nuclear deal that ends sanctions against Teheran, the agreement will open the door to deeper cooperation on regional peace and stability and fighting against terrorism, Iran’s president said on Tuesday.

President Hassan Rouhani, who spoke to senior editors ahead of the annual gathering of world leaders at the UN General Assembly, said he had no plans to meet US President Barack Obama while in New York City.

“Without a doubt, reaching a final nuclear deal will expand our cooperation, and we can cooperate in various fields including restoring regional peace and stability and fighting against terrorism,” he said through an interpreter.

Senior foreign ministry officials from the United States, Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and Iran are meeting this week in New York. Officials close to the talks say a deal is unlikely in coming days given deep disagreement on issues such as the scope of Iran’s future enrichment programme.

“America cannot deny Iran’s role in the fight against terrorism,” Rouhani said. The sides have set a 24 November deadline for a long-term agreement that would end sanctions on Teheran in exchange for curbs on its nuclear programme.

“The talks occurring will clear many things, whether we will be able to reach a final agreement or not,” he said. “I believe both sides have reached the conclusion that the continuation of the current condition doesn’t benefit anyone... So why not make strides to reach this agreement?”

He appeared to suggest relations with the United States had improved despite their differences, and even if no final agreement is reached, the negotiating process, inconceivable two years ago, had altered re-lations. “It doesn’t mean we will go back to the way things were prior,” he said. “The ground will be paved for further cooperation if the nuclear issue is resolved.” He said Iran was determined to resolve the nuclear issue. “If there is a serious will, we can reach a final agreement in the next two months,” Rouhani said. “Our wish is to close this dossier forever.”

Iranian officials last week told Reuters that Tehran was ready to work with Western powers to stop Islamic State militants, who have taken over substantial territory in Syria and Iraq, but would like concessions on Teheran’s uranium enrichment programme in return.—Reuters

Iran nuclear deal would boost cooperation, Rouhani says

BRASILIA, 24 Sept — President Dilma Rousseff has regained a slight edge in Brazil’s presidential race after weeks of aggressive campaigning against environmentalist Marina Silva, who is losing some voter support in the campaign’s homestretch, polls showed on Tuesday.

Roussife and Silva are tied at 41 percent in a likely second-round runoff that is expected to decide the election, according to a survey by the Ibope polling firm. Another survey by MDA showed Rousseff would get 42 percent of the votes against 41 percent for Silva if the runoff were held today, one point ad-vantage that amounts to a statistical tie as it is within the poll’s margin of error.

Silva, who would be Brazil’s first black pres-ident, was leading polls on the runoff before the Rousseff campaign unleashed a wave of negative campaign ads questioning Silva’s ability to lead Latin America’s largest econo-my.

Anxiety about Rousseff’s recovery in the polls has weighed on Brazilian financial markets in recent days. Sao Paulo’s Bovespa stock index lost more than 1 percent on the poll numbers and Brazil’s currency weakened past 2.40 per dollar for the first time in seven months.

After four years of sluggish growth and heavily-handed state inter-vention in the economy un-der the left-leaning Rousseff, investors are hoping the election will bring in a new president who will push for pro-market reforms that economists say are needed to lift Brazil out of its cur- rent rut. —Reuters

State Duma obliges all those seeking positions in state service to declare incomes

MOSCOW, 24 Sept — The Russian State Duma lower parliament house on Tuesday passed in the first reading a presidential bill binding Russian nationals seeking any state service positions to disclose their incomes.

Apart from that, the bill expands the list of officials banned from hav-ing deposits with foreign banks.

Now, only citizens seeking a number of positions in state service are obliged to declare their incomes. The bill ex- tends this liability to all who want to be employed in state service,” Irina Yarova, the chairwom-an of the State Duma anti-corruption committee, told ITAR-TASS.

Apart from that, the bill extends the ban on having deposits with for-eign banks outside Russia to all state servants taking part in decision making in the areas linked with Russia’s sovereignty and national security. Such of-ficials will also be prohib-itied to have or use foreign financial tools. Currently, this ban is applicable only to federal-level officials who are appointed and dismissed directly by the president, prime minister of prosecutor general.

In case the bill is passed into law, all feder-al and regional-level state servants, employees of the Central Bank and state-run corporations will be prohibited to have foreign deposits.—Itar-Tass

Iran’s President Hassan Rouhani acknowledges members of the media on the sidelines of the Climate Summit at the UN headquarters in New York on 23 Sept, 2014. —Reuters

Britain’s Cameron overheard saying Queen ‘purred’ at Scottish ‘No’ vote

MANCHESTER, 24 Sept — Britain’s monarch is famously above politics, but Prime Minister David Cameron was overheard on Tuesday saying Queen Elizabeth had “purred” with happiness when he phoned her to inform her Scotland had voted to re-ject independence.

In New York to attend the United Nations General Assembly, TV crews accidentally picked up remarks Cameron made to Michael Bloomberg, the former mayor of the city, which are likely to embar-rass Queen Elizabeth and the British leader.

“She purred down the line. I’ve never heard someone so happy,” Cam-eron, whose Conserva-tive Party campaigned for Scotland to stay in the United Kingdom, said of the Queen, according to BBC TV and Sky News.

Cameron also revealed he had been frustrated with pollsters who towards the end of the 18 September referendum suggested the outcome would be close. In the event, Scots voted by 55-45 to reject inde-pendence.

“It should never have been that close. It wasn’t in the end, but there was a time in the middle of the campaign when it felt...” said Cameron, the micro-phones failing to pick up the rest of his sentence.

“I’ve said I want to find these polling compa-nies and I want to sue them for my stomach ulcers be-cause of what they put me through, you know. It was very nervous,” Cameron’s office and Buckingham Palace said they would not be commenting on the re-mar ks. The Queen said pub-li-cly after the vote she was sure Scots would be able to come together in a spir- it of mutual respect after the divisions of their inde-pendence referendum.—Reuters

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Britain’s Prime Minister David Cameron
Food security and nutrition are fundamentals for peace and prosperity

By Aung Khin

Food security and nutrition are crucial for the stability and prosperity of any region on the planet. Without enough food and nutrition, no human being will survive on earth. Food security could give people empowerment of individuals in terms of health and education.

Food security is also a matter of peace and security. If there is nothing to eat, there will be serious distrust and frustration which lead to social and political instability. There have been many circumstances in recent years with riots over hike prices in many countries.

The global population is increasing annually. The current figure of seven billion is projected to increase to over nine billion to 10 billion in 2050. To ensure food security, global countries should address both immediate needs as well as structural causes.

The development of the agricultural sector is one of the reasons for both short-term and long term to produce sufficient food items for the increasing population. In this matter, support for smallholder farmers is at the core. All the governments should adopt sound policies to improve food security, specifically by reducing food price volatility and enhancing agricultural productivity.

With far-sighted vision, governments from many developing countries have increased their investments in agriculture and food security, with growing attention on nutrition through direct nutritional interventions as well as nutrition-sensitive development.

ASEAN countries and global communities are now facing challenges out of global warming together with environmental deterioration and climate changes. These climatic changes have resulted in various natural disasters from high temperature to tsunamis, causing the decline of food production.

To tackle shortage of food and ensure sufficient nutrition, the global community should put more efforts into sustainable agricultural development and food production.

POWER

Kyi Mun

The word POWER, here, means Control, Ability, Authority, Influence, Energy, etc. In this article, power is meant to be personal power as a human being – physical, mental, emotional, spiritual and achievement powers.

In my opinion, you can attain POWER by cultivating the following factors:

• P for Positive Thinking
• O for Objectives
• W for Work for Win-Win Progress
• E for Earnest Endeavour
• R for Relationships

POSITIVE THINKING

The word POSITIVE, here, means: Confident, Affirmative, Effective, Useful, Constructive, Sure, Definite, Desirable. Positive Thinking is composed of Hope, Courage and Strategy.

It is said that, “Hope is the Shield, Courage is the Sword, and Strategy is the Chariot”.

Positive thinking is a way of going forward towards fulfillment and victory with hope, courage and strategy.

Here, positive thinking signifies:

• Being Proactive
• Seeing Through
• Daring & Dream
• Possibility & Potential
• Win-Win Relationships
• Human Dignity & Development
• Inspiration & Initiative
• Believing & Achieving

In your work, you can work for the following results:

• Vision for the Purpose
• Mission for the Purpose
• Goal for the Purpose
• Objectives for the Purpose
• Tactics for the Purpose
• Control for the Purpose
• Recognition & Reward

* Vision is what you want to become in the long-term, say (10) years.
* Mission is what you are going to do to achieve your vision.
* Goal is medium-term expectation (5-7 yrs)
* Objectives are your near-term expectations. (3-5 yrs)
* Target is the short-term expectation of results (say 3 months, 6 months, 1year)
* Strategy is the means to achieve the Objectives.

Tactics are the Performance Activities to carry out the strategy to a successful conclusion.

WORK FOR WIN-WIN PROGRESS

In your work, you can work for the following results:

• Win
• Win-Win
• Win-Lose
• Lose-Win
• Lose-Lose

If you can’t, for any reason, manage to arrive at the Win-Win outcomes, you had better wait and explore the chances for Win-Lose outcomes. The policy should be “Win-Win or No Deal.”

ERNEST ENDEAVOUR

In every work you do, you have got to be passionate, earnest and resolute and be resourceful in achieving your objective on a win-win basis.

If thou desirest to obtain victory, Make ready for the battle.

Strive, man, to win that glory;
Toil, man, to gain that light.

In due season we shall reap,
If we faint not.

RELATIONSHIPS

We should, in our striving and seeking power, we’d better seek to understand, then to be understood. We should have consideration for others first, and then should have courage to protect our own interests. All human relationships should be built upon the basis of “Sahajāta & Aññamāññiya” – i.e. on “Being together & Sharing the Mutual Benefits on an equitable basis”.

CONCLUSION

The feeling of having no power over people and events is generally unbearable to us – when we feel helpless we feel miserable. No one wants less power; everyone wants more. In the world today, however, it is dangerous to seem too power hungry, to be overt with your power moves. We have to seem fair and decent. So we need to be subtle-congenial yet calculating, democratic yet diplomatic.

Ref: 48 LAWS OF POWER by Robert Greene

U Kyi Mun residing in Yangon is a consultant of NAING Group Capital Co.,Ltd.
Trust essential for promoting relations between Myanmar and Japan: Senior General Min Aung Hlaing

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept — His visit represents the new chapter in the history of friendly relations between the armed forces of Myanmar and Japan, and trust is essential for promoting relations between Myanmar and Japan, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing told Mr Aye Aye Thin, 31st and team events, together with Aye Aye Thin, 31st and Rosy, 43" on Wednes- day, Myanmar stood 12th at the country level shooting event.

In the morning, Nay Pyi Taw, 24 Sept — Thu Thu Win Tun Naing of Myanmar lost to Thailand 0-3 in the men’s event. Aye Aye Thin, Yaw Sein Ya and Shin Htet Kyaw will take part in the recurve and compound events of archery. Myanmar will play against Thailand in the last group match of women’s recurve. Takraw event tomorrow.

In the volleyball event, Myanmar lost to Thailand 3-0 in the men’s event. Aye Aye Thin, Yaw Sein Ya and Shin Htet Kyaw will take part in the recurve and compound events of archery. Myanmar will play against Thailand in the last group match of women’s recurve. Takraw event tomorrow.

In this context, KOICA will provide assistance in im- plementing the SMU Pro- ject in Myanmar with the largest budget, compared to those similar projects being implemented in Laos and Cambodia etc. On the previous day in Yangon, I met with H.E. U Kan Zaw, Union Minister of NPED, and Dr. Aung Tun Thet and Dr. Zaw Oo who have been appointed as the Chair- man and the Executive Secretary of the Project Preparatory Task Force of the Myanmar Develop- ment Institute (PTF-MDI) respectively. We discussed and shared common vision about how to establish the Myanmar Development In- stitute (MDI). NLM: What is the ROK’s philosophy on sharing its development experience, especially eco- nomic reform, to a country like Myanmar which has opened up to foreign in- vestments?

KOICA President: For continuous and rapid economic and social develop- ment in Myanmar, it is important for the Myanmar Government to come up with a comprehensive na- tional development strategy and to have the matching capacity to implement the strategy. In this regard, KOICA will provide assistance in institutional capacity build- ing of the Myanmar Develop- ment Institute (MDI) as the national think-tank to learn economic and social policy research, advisory on policy implementation and capacity development training for policy uptake. The MDI will be under the direct supervision of the President’s Office.

Another area for KOICA’s assistance is, in close collaboration with the Department of Trade Promotion of the Ministry of Commerce, to support capacity development in trade promotion in close linkage with investment promotion and industrial development. KOICA is about to launch the Project on Capacity Develop- ment for Trade-Investment Promotion and Es- tablishment of Master Plan on the Myanmar Trade-In- vestment Promotion Agen- cy (MYANTRA). Capacity development of trade promotion shows close linkage with investment promotion and industrial development. The Project period is starting from the last quarter of 2014 until 2016, with a total budget of USD 3 million.

KOICA President: The development assis- tance by the South Korean Government to Myanmar has been increasing since the Myanmar Government has embarked on a transi- tion process to an open and civilian democratic and market based economic system. Korea has a sim-ilar experience to which the Myanmar Government could relate.

In terms of the cur- rent progress on peace and prosperity building in My- anmar, what is important is to bring Myanmar peo- ple into the development process. Inclusive growth through social inclusion and agricultural and rural development is crucial in terms of ensuring balanced development of the country and thereby safeguarding peace and prosperity.

KOICA President: South Korea has experi- enced a rapid development in a short period of time, moving from one of the poorest countries in the world by the end of Korean War, to a donor country in a position to provide develop- ment assistance as one of the OECD-DAC mem- ber countries. One of the success factors for this rapid transition and success- ful development can be attributed to a smart use of international development assistance owned by the people themselves under the strong and committed leadership of the Korean Government.

My message to Myan- mar people is as simple as that “if Koreans did well, why not Myanmar peo- ple?” — NLM

KOICA President: I discussed with the Presi- dent about KOICA assis- tance based on the priority development areas identi- fied by the Myanmar Gov- ernment. Based on comparative advan- tage of the Korean development experienc- es, KOICA will provide assistance in the areas of agriculture and rural devel- opment, human resources development, governance and public administra- tion capacity development especially in promoting trade and investment, in- dustrial development and ICT based e-governance, infrastructure development such as airport, railway and urbanization, and pub- lic health among others.

For human resources development, KOICA will focus on technical and voca- tional education and training in order to help prepare young Myanmar people with the knowledge and skill-set required as the country shall develop further on many fronts. NLM: What is KOICA’s next steps, following your visit to Myanmar, to support Myanmar in its democratization and reforms which are expected to bring peace and prosperity to the country?

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NLM: Would you like to share key directions of KOICA to support the Myanmar reform process and areas of priority as discussed with President U Thein Sein?

KOICA President: For continuous and rapid economic and social develop- ment in Myanmar, it is important for the Myanmar Government to come up with a comprehensive na- tional development strategy and to have the matching capacity to implement the strategy. In this regard, KOICA will provide assistance in institutional capacity build- ing of the Myanmar Develop- ment Institute (MDI) as the national think-tank to learn economic and social policy research, advisory on policy implementation and capacity development training for policy uptake. The MDI will be under the direct supervision of the President’s Office.

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**ASEAN ministers visit paddy and vegetable plantations in Nay Pyi Taw**

Ministers of ASEAN and Japan, China and Korea who attended the 36th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) view round fruits and vegetables displayed at farmland in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

**South Korea to help Myanmar with its infrastructural development**

South Korea will provide US$56.86 million to Myanmar for the establishment of model villages, research and technology on post-harvest, in-land fish farms, and the construction of schools and power stations in rural areas.—MNA

**Pyithu Hluttaw Committee chairman meets Mauritius bank president**

Pyithu Hluttaw Committee chairman on behalf of the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw, received President of the State Bank of Mauritius (SBM) Mr Muni Krishna T Reddy and party at the Hluttaw affairs hall in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday to talk about cooperation between the two countries. Also present at the call were Secretary of the committee U Win Myint and members U Phyo Min Thein, Daw Khin San Hlaing, U Ba Htee and U Tun Aung Khang.—MNA

**Plan underway to draft aquaculture development plan: MFF says**

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 24 Sept—The Myanmar Fisheries Federation (MFF) is now holding several discussions with NGOs and other organizations to draft an aquaculture development plan suggested by Australian Dr Jennifer Cobcroft, Daw Toe Nanda Tin, central executive committee member of MFF, said at Tuesday’s meeting.

She added that government participation and NGOs’ funding play an important role in implementing the development plan that can help to reach the country’s sustainable growth of aquaculture as well as to attract more foreign direct investment.

“Tilapia production is enough for local market but not ready for export as the fishery industry needs to get grandparent stock (GP) that is vital to export tilapia fish. The MFF will discuss how to get GP with a Korean group on Wednesday,” Daw Toe Nanda Tin said. U Myint Sein, Vice President of MFF, estimated that fishery industry will reach US$1 billion if entrepreneurs export tilapia and freshwater lobster to foreign market.

Joint venture with foreign companies is the suitable way to promote all-round development in fishery sector as the industry is slowly improving, he suggested.—NLM

**MFPPEA to open two-week training for fresher next week**

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

EU’s inspection in 2015, Myanmar Fisheries Products Producers and Exporters Association (MFPPEA) will open a training for fresher workers on 29 September in Yangon, sources said on Tuesday.

MFPPEA Secretary U Myo Nyunt said the association spent at a cost of US$10,000 on the course which is aimed at promoting the workers’ skills who never accesses the trainings before. The association has chosen about 40 trainees from 19 factories to attend the two-week course with an EU trainer.

He added that in order to expand the fishery products into new market, the association makes necessary preparations to participate in the three-day China Fisheries & Seafood Expo, one of the biggest shows in the world, which will be held in Qingdao, China on 5 November.
Obama’s Syria war carries risks for him at home and abroad

UNITED NATIONS/ WASHINGTON, 24 Sept — Appearing relaxed enough to crack a joke, US President Barack Obama took to the world stage on Tuesday after launching airstrikes in Syria against Islamic State militants but he is still facing huge political risks at home and abroad.

The reason for Obama’s good humour? His diplomatic pay off this time, with military contributions from five Arab states. One of his first items of business after arriving in New York for meetings at the United Nations was to personally thank representatives from the five. But heading into a US congressional election campaign season where control of the Senate is at stake, Obama’s new war could become problematic for him and his Democratic Party if all does not go smoothly. It could temper the enthusiasm of anti-war Democrats to turn out and vote on Election Day in November. Any problems with the mission could further dampen his approval ratings, now hovering around 40 percent, and embolden Republicans ready to pounce at the slightest misstep.

Initially, at least, Obama was scoring points with both political parties for his actions. Opinion polls could be expected to show some Americans will be pleased Obama acted to retaliate against Islamic State after the extremists beheaded two American captives and taunted the United States.

Frank Newport, editor in chief of the Gallup polling organization, said polling on 20 September and 21 September found major- ity support for military action but “whether that will be translated into increased support for the president at least as we measure it is still unknown.”

A Reuters/Ipsos poll published on 12 September showed that Americans support Obama’s campaign of airstrikes but they have a low appetite for a long campaign. Sixty-four per cent of people in the online survey said they backed the campaign. Twenty-one percent were opposed and 16 percent said they did not know. Obama could face problems with Congress. The vote to authorize the use of force that lawmakers approved last week did not give Obama carte blanche to carry out this fight but rather it was a limited vote for a narrow, two-month authorization to equip and train Syrian rebels.

Lawmakers will be taking up this issue again after the election.

“His presidency was built on getting out of wars, not getting in them,” said James Goldgeier, dean of American University’s School of International Service in Washington. “It’s certainly risky, but there is popular support there for doing something.”

So I think a lot is going to depend on how it goes…


Britain close to joining US-led air strikes against Islamic State

MANCHESTER, 24 Sept — Prime Minister David Cameron may announce as early as this week that Britain is ready to join air strikes against Islamic State in Iraq and that he plans to seek parliament’s approval for such action, government sources said on Tuesday.

Cameron is due to set out his position in a speech to the UN General Assembly in New York on Wednesday night at which he will call on the world to unite to destroy Islamic State. (IS) militants, whom he has warned are planning to attack Britain.

The decision to strike in Iraq would be at Baghdad’s request, Cameron is due to meet Iraqi Prime Minister Haidar al-Abadi on Wednesday. Sources in Cameron’s office expect him to request British air strikes against ISIS during the meeting.

Cameron has not yet decided whether Britain would take part in strikes against IS targets in Syria because of legal issues, one source familiar with the matter said, and any announcement on Iraq would be to join strikes in principle and would not herald immediate action.

“This is a fight you cannot opt out of,” Cam- eron told NBC News in an interview on Tuesday. “These people want to kill us. They’ve got us in their sights and we have to put together this coalition ... to make sure that we ultimately destroy this evil organi- zation.” — Reuters

Erdogan says Turkey may give military support to US-led coalition

ISTANBUL, 24 Sept — Turkey could give military or logistical support to US-led air strikes against Islamic State insurgents in Syria, President Tayyip Erdogan was quoted as saying on Tuesday.

“We will give the necessary support to the operation. The support could be military or logistics,” Erdogan was quoted by Turkish broadcaster NTV as telling reporters in New York.

The United States and its Arab allies bombed Syria for the first time on Tuesday, killing scores of Islamic State fighters and members of a separate al-Qaeda-linked group, opening a new front against militants by joining Syria’s three-year-old civil war.

NATO ally Turkey, which is alarmed by Islamic State but also worried about Kurdish fighters and any action that might help Syrian Presi- dent Bashar al-Assad, had so far refused a military role in the coalition.

Turkey is home to a major US base in the southern town of Incirlik, which officials have said has not been used so far in any strikes in Iraq or Syria.

Erdogan said Turkey viewed the US-led ac- tion positively and said it should continue.

Turkish officials have said its hands were tied while 46 of its citizens were held hostage by Islamic State militants in northern Iraq, including its consul general in Mosul, soldiers and diplomats’ children.

On Saturday, Turkish intelligence agents brought the hostages back to Tur- key after more than three months in captivity, in what Erdogan described as a covert rescue operation.

“Clearly, Turkey had an initial challenge with respect to its hostages and that being resolved, now Turkey is ready to conduct additional efforts along with the rest of us in or- der to guarantee success,” US Secretary of State John Kerry said at a counter-ter- rorism forum.

Air strikes in Syria hit Islamic State-held areas near Turkey

BEIRUT, 24 Sept — Air strikes overnight hit Is- lamic State-held territory in Syria near the Turkish border, near an area that tens of thousands of Kurds have fled as the militant group advanced, an organization that tracks the Syrian war said on Wednesday.

Rami Abdulrahman, who runs the Syrian Observ- atory for Human Rights, said the warplanes that car- ried out the raids around 30-35 km (19-22 miles) west of the city of Kobani, also known as Ayn al- Arab, had come from the di- rection of Turkey.

There was no other confirmation of air strikes in the area and Reuters could not independently verify the report.

Abdulrahman said it was not clear which coun- try had carried out the strikes, although the planes were not believed to be from the Syrian air force, he said. Abdulrahman’s Observatory gathers its in- formation from a network of sources across Syria.

A US-led alliance started air strikes on Islamic State in Syria on Tues- day. Islamic State, which has captured land in Syria and Iraq, launched an offen- sive against the predomin- antly Kurdish town of Kobani last week, forcing more than 130,000 Syrian Kurds to flee.

A local official in cen- tral Kobani said he had not heard any air strikes close to the town overnight, but that fighting continued be- tween Kurdish forces and Islamic State, which has been trying to consolidate its territory across northern Syria.

Reuters
United Nations climate summit sets goals to save forests, use clean energy

The one-day summit, hosted by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, set goals to halt losses of tropical forests by 2030, improve food production and hike the share of electric vehicles in cities to 30 percent of new vehicle sales by 2030.

The non-binding initiatives were set by various coalitions of governments, multinational companies, cities, financial groups, investors, environmental organizations and other groups. The targets are meant to help prepare a 200-nation summit in Paris in late 2015 to finalise a deal to slow global warming.

The United Nations said in a statement that pledges of financial support would create a “significant boost” to a promise by rich nations in 2009 to raise $100 billion a year by 2020 to help poor countries shift to renewable energy and adapt to heatwaves, droughts and rising seas. Separately, an alliance of about 30 countries, including the United States and a coalition of multinational companies set a goal of halving losses of forests by 2020 and halting losses by 2030. If fully implemented, this would stave off between 4.5 billion and 8.8 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions a year, equivalent to emissions by all the world’s one billion cars. Trees soak up carbon dioxide from the air as they grow and release it when they die. Burning of forests from the Amazon to the Congo, mainly to make way for farmland, accounts for up to a fifth of all greenhouse gases generated by human sources.

Companies including Walmart, Unilever, Wilmar International, General Mills, Asia Pulp and Paper and Nestle, many non-governmental organisations and indigenous peoples’ groups signed up for the plan. The declaration is backed by more than $1 billion from countries including Britain, Germany and Norway. Norway said it would provide up to $300 million to Peru and $150 million to Liberia.

“The actions agreed today will reduce poverty, enhance food security, improve the rule of law, secure the rights of indigenous peoples and benefit communities around the world,” Ban said.

Among initiatives to curb the use of fossil fuel, one project would raise the share of renewable energy used in power generation in 19 countries in eastern and southern Africa to 40 percent by 2030 from 10 percent. Another alliance of major nations and energy groups including EOn of Italy and Southwestern Energy in the United States signed up to do more to curb emissions of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas.

Companies including McDonald’s and Kellogg committed to “climate-smart agriculture” to protect farmers from global warming and to improve crop yields to feed the world’s rising population.

**Great Britain donates 86 drainage pumps**

Belgrade, 24 Sept — Great Britain donated 86 drainage pumps to the Serbian Armed Forces at the Belgrade Fair on Tuesday as a mode of assistance to the flood-hit areas.

Ambassador of Great Britain Denis Keefe delivered the donation to Serbian Defence Minister Bratislav Gasic, noting that this donation constitutes a continuation of assistance provision to Serbia in combating natural disasters which began in May.

The donation consists of pumps with drainage capacities of 400-800 litres per minute, which can be very useful on the site. The pumps were delivered to the Serbian Armed Forces during the International Fair ‘Prevention and Reaction in Emergency Situations and Health Safety at Work’. Keefe recalled that after the floods which hit Serbia in May, Great Britain demonstrated sincere solidarity and took on the obligation to continue providing assistance to Serbia in the long-run so as to help the country overcome the crisis.

With its Tuesday donation, Great Britain continues providing assistance to the Serbian Armed Forces with which it maintains traditionally good cooperation. Keefe said and added that prior to the Tuesday donation, his country delivered equipment to the Serbian Interior Ministry’s Emergency Situations Sector, provided technical assistance to the Red Cross of Serbia and actively participated in the donor conference in Brussels.

Keefe expressed the hope that there will no longer be any need for assistance provision with such intensity as was the case in May. He noted that the drainage pumps will help improve the efficiency of Serbia’s response to the World War II. The three other islands are Kunashiri, Shikotan and the Habomai islet group.

After Putin returned to Russia’s presidency in May 2012, Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev visited Kunashiri in July that year and Agriculture Minister Nikolay Fyodorov visited the islet group. Kyoto News

Senior Russian official visits disputed isle

Vladivostok, (Russia), 24 Sept — Senior Russian government official, visiting one of the Russian-controlled islands claimed by Japan to inspect a new airport that opened there earlier this week.

Ivanov, chief of staff of the Presidential Executive Office, is known as one of the closest aides of Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Deputy Prime Minister Yury Trutnev, who also serves as head of the Russian Far Eastern district, and Sakhalin Region Gov. Alexander Khoroshavin, accompanied Ivanov on the visit to Iturup island, which is known as Etorofu in Japan, Russian sources said. Etorofu is one of the four islands which the Soviet Union seized following Japan’s surrender in World War II. The three other islands are Kunashiri, Shikotan and the Habomai islet group.

After Putin returned to Russia’s presidency in May 2012, Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev visited Kunashiri in July that year and Agriculture Minister Nikolay Fyodorov visited the islet group two months later.

In Tokyo, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told a news conference that Ivanov’s visit to Etorofu island is upsetting to Japanese people, indicating that Japan will file a protest with Russia over the visit.

Bilateral ties between Japan and Russia have faced difficulties since the outbreak earlier this year of a crisis in Ukraine.

Japan’s Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has proposed holding direct talks with Russian President Putin on the sidelines of an international conference in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum to be held in November in Beijing.
Mexico frees Cuban survivors found at sea, some bound for US border

A boat used by Cuban migrants to travel to the United States is seen in this 31 Aug, 2014 handout photograph made available to Reuters by Mexico's Navy (SEMAR) on 1 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS

Mexico's government has released a group of Cuban migrants who were rescued off the coast of the Yucatan peninsula and was headed for the United States. The group consisted of 14 Cuban migrants who were on the way to the US border and were caught off the Yucatan peninsula after they were rescued.

The Cuban government has not commented on the case. The group was released from an immigration center in Chetumal, Mexico. They were taken to the US border and were allowed to continue their journey. However, some of the group members were not yet identified, and investigations are ongoing.

Two men found dead in vehicle related to US mall shooting

WASHINGTON, 24 Sept — Two men were found dead in a crashed vehicle that matched the description of the suspects believed to have opened fire on Tuesday night inside a shopping mall in the southeastern US state of Florida and injured two, local media reported. The men, who are believed to have conducted the shooting inside the Plaza del Sol mall in Kissimmee may have died while fleeing the scene, local news website ClickOrlando.com quoted police as saying.

The two victims of the shooting suffered non-life threatening injuries, police said. Joshua Vega, a shopkeeper who witnessed the shooting inside the mall, told the website that one man pulled out a gun and fired several shots toward shoppers just after 6 pm EDT (2200 GMT) after an altercation. As police officers were heading to the scene, they spotted a vehicle that matched the suspects’ vehicle. After turning around to follow it, the cops found the vehicle crashed with two dead men inside, the report said. The men were not yet identified, and investigations are still underway, said the report.—Vinshu

Aeroflot flagship carrier recruits first ever foreign pilot

MOSCOW, 24 Sept — Russia’s Aeroflot flagship carrier has recruited the first in the history of Russian civil aviation foreign pilot, its press service reported on Tuesday.

German Klaus Diet er Rolfs is the first foreign pilot to work for Aeroflot, and procedures are under way to hire two more candidates for aircraft commander, citizens of the Czech Republic and Germany, a company report said.

Aeroflot Director General Vitaly Saveliev said it was a historic day. “It is very important that owing to the recruitment of foreign aircraft commanders, we will sharply increase the turn-over of our own pilots who will fly with foreigners as second pilots, gaining experience for passing exams for aircraft commander qualification,” he said.

According to Saveliev, despite a slowdown in growth rates of air passengers’ conveyance, growth continued and aircraft commanders were in demand.

Russia has very good prospects as a market of air conveyance, the work of a pilot is in great demand and is highly valued, Klaus Dieter Rolfs said. He also hailed working conditions, saying they were better than in any other airline of the world. Rolfs’ first destination as Aeroflot pilot will be Prague on 24 September.

In line with changes to the Air Code of the Russian Federation, from 21 July Russian airlines are allowed to hire foreign citizens in flight crews. A government instruction says up to 200 foreigners a year may be hired as aircraft commanders.—Iftar Tass

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Weather report

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 25th September, 2014: Rain or thunder showers will be fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin and Rakhine States, scattered in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Tanintharyi Regions, Shan, Kayin and Mon States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin and Rakhine States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.
Hackers threaten to leak nude photos of actress Emma Watson

Los Angeles, 24 Sept — Hackers threatened to leak nude photos of actress Emma Watson days in response to her speech at the United Nations urging men to join the fight for gender equality, The Guardian newspaper reported on Tuesday. Users of 4chan, the website behind other leaks of celebrities nude photos, created a new site called “Emma You Are Next”, The Guardian said. 

Late Tuesday night, under a photo of a weeping Watson and a countdown clock that had ticked down to zero, a message read, “We will launch earlier, tune in on 24 Sept, 2014 at 12am EST (0400 GMT).”

In her speech at the UN, the Harry Potter actress said she believed it was right for her to be able to make decisions about her own body.

“My recent research has shown me that feminism has become an unpopular word,” said Watson. “I was appointed six months ago and the more I have spoken about feminism the more I have realised that fighting for women’s rights has too often become synonymous with man-hating. If there is one thing I know for certain, it is that this has to stop.”

The threats could be the work of Internet trolls and their credibility is hard to assess, with some 4chan users suggesting that the episode was a prank, The Guardian reported. Watson’s UN speech marked the launch of the “HeForShe” campaign, which aims at mobilising 1 billion men and boys over the course of 12 months to support gender equality.

The campaign’s web site, www.heforhe.org, includes a map showing the countries in which men have clicked to join the effort. By Tuesday, more than 90,000 men and boys had signed online pledges.

Watson’s UN speech marked the launch of the campaign’s web site, www.heforhe.org, in- cludes a map showing the countries in which men and boys had signed online pledges. — The Guardian

Vince Vaughn to join Colin Farrell in ‘True Detective’

Los Angeles, 24 Sept — Actor Vince Vaughn will star alongside Colin Farrell on the upcoming second season of ‘True Detective’.

HBO confirmed that the duo will replace main cast Matthew McCo- naughy and Woody Harrelson from the first season of the crime anthology, re- ported Ace Showbiz. Vaughn is announced to portray a character named Frank Semyon, “a career criminal in danger of losing his empire when his move into legitimate enterprise is upended by the murder of a business partner.”

Meanwhile, Farrell is going to play Ray Velcoro, “a compromised detective whose allegiances are torn between his masters in a corrupt police department and the mobster who owns him.”

The new season will revolve around “three po- lice officers and a career criminal must navigate a web of conspiracy in the aftermath of a murder.”

The two other leads, one of which is expected to be a prominent actress, haven’t been revealed. Vince Pizzolatto who created the show and penned the first season will write the second one. Fast & Furious’ director Justin Lin is tapped to serve behind the lens, replacing Emmy winner Cary Fukunaga from the first season. Production is expected to begin soon in California.

Dr Dre is king of hip hop with $620 million in earnings — Forbes

Los Angeles, 23 Sept — With $620 million (£378.8 million) in estimated pre-tax earnings, veteran rapper and record producer Dr Dre topped Forbes list as the highest paid hip hop artist, ousting Sean “Diddy” Combs from the top spot.

Forbes said Dre’s estimated annual earnings for the 12 months between June 2013 and 2014 are the highest of any musician in any genre it has ever evaluated, and more than the combined takings of the other 24 names on the hip-hop list released on Tuesday. Much of the 49-year-old’s earnings this year came thanks to the $3 billion sale to Apple of the Beats high-end headphone company he founded with music executive Jimmy Io- vine and other financial ven- tures, including cognac and vodka brands.

Combs, 44, tied for sec- ond place with Jay-Z, 44, with $60 million, with earn- ings from drinks, clothing and television deals.

Jay-Z, who toured with his wife, Beyonce, for the first time with their “On the Run” concerts, pulled in money from lucrative per- formances, his latest album and his Roc Nation enter- tainment empire, which as- sured him a place in the top five.

Movies bust out of screen with panoramic, virtual technology

Los Angeles, 24 Sept — A Tyrannosaurus rex lumbers forward, belts out a deafening roar, then stomps overhead, and a viewer watching inside a virtual reality headset turns around to see the beast walking away.

The lifelike run-in with a prehistoric monster comes courtesy of prototype Oculus Rift goggles, giving a glimpse of a fu- ture that breaks movies out of the flat screen.

Virtual reality, which immerses viewers in 360-degree worlds long used in video games, is drawing top Hollywood filmmakers and, such as Twenty-First Cen- tury Fox (FOXA.O) and Walt Disney Co (DIS.N). The technology should ar- rive on the consumer mass market within two years.

Virtual reality can transport audiences into the middle of the movie landscape, says Brendan Iribe, chief executive of Oculus, which Facebook Inc (FB.O) acquired this year for $2 billion (1.22 billion pounds). “In some decade or two, we are go- ing to be at a point where watching things on 2D surfaces is going to feel pretty outdated,” Iribe told Reuters.

Virtual reality still has technological hurdles to overcome. The biggest problem is motion sick- ness in some users, which Oculus believes it is close to resolving.

Hollywood directors are trying to figure out how to create 360-degree scenes, and it remains unclear if audiences will want to spend two hours in a virtual world, or just visit for shorter experiences.

Iribe has big ambi- tions for Oculus Rift de- vices, the latest version unveiled at a developers conference on Saturday in Hollywood. A prototype is sold now to developers for $350 per headset. With a consumer version on the horizon, Iribe believes vir- tual reality devices could be in the hands of millions of consumers within a cou- ple of years.

Designers at Disney’s Lucasfilm are playing around on the desert planet Tatooine, exploring how to bring virtual reality to the “Star Wars” universe, as the studio prepares to release Episod VII of the film franchise in 2015.

Justin Bieber gives up alcohol?

London, 24 Sept — Pop sensation Justin Bieber has reportedly quit alcohol and junk food.

The 20-year-old ‘Baby’ hitmaker has decided to ditch booze and stay away from junk food in the hope of getting his music career back on track, reported Contactmusic.

“Justin has been boasting to his friends about his new healthy lifestyle. He no longer drinks and has stopped eating junk food, too. He’s had a difficult few months and is hoping that this will give him a fresh start,” a source said.—PTI

Actor Vince Vaughn will star alongside Colin Farrell on the upcoming second season of ‘True Detective’. — Reuters

Dr Dre performs at the 2012 Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival in Indio, California on 15 April, 2012.—Reuters

An attendee tries on the Oculus VR Inc. Rift Development Kit 2 headset at the 2014 Electronic Entertainment Expo (E3) in Los Angeles, California in this 11 June, 2014 file photo.— Reuters

Dr Dre is king of hip hop with $620 million in earnings — Forbes
**GENERAL**

**Barcelona, 24 Sept** — Cristiano Ronaldo continued his prolific start to the season with four goals, including two penalties, as Real Madrid came from behind to beat Elche 5-1 in La Liga on Tuesday. The Portuguese made a bad start by conceding a 15th minute penalty for a foul on Pedro Mosquera, with Edu Albacar sweeping the ball home past Keylor Navas making his official debut in the Real goal.

Gareth Bale quickly put Real back on track as he headed in a James Rodriguez cross five minutes later and then the referee pointed to the spot for a foul by Mosquera on Marcelo even though there was marginal contact.

Ronaldo fired in the 28th minute penalty and headed home a Marcelo cross four minutes later to extend Real’s lead.

He was then upended by Mario Pasalic with 10 minutes to go and slotted home his second spot-kick while there was still time for another goal from Ronaldo deep in injury time where he finished clinically in the box. The World Player of the Year now has seven goals in four days after the hat-trick he scored on Saturday in the 8-2 win over Deportivo La Coruna.

**Wuhan Open**

**Ill Williams follows seeds out of Wuhan Open**

Serena Williams (C) of the US is helped as she leaves the court after retiring from her second round match against France’s Alize Cornet at the Wuhan Open Tennis Tournament in Hubei Province on 23 Sept, 2014. — Reuters

Ill Williams follows seeds out of Wuhan Open

**Liverpool come through epic shootout to beat Middlesbrough**

Southampton’s Nathanial Clyne (R) celebrates with team mate Florin Gardos after scoring against Arsenal during their English League Cup soccer match at the Emirates stadium in London on 23 Sept, 2014. — Reuters

Liverpool were sent to a second round penalty shootout for the first time since the English League Cup was introduced. They had to beat Middlesbrough in Tuesday’s match to advance to the third round.

The Reds had 10 men for much of the match after Robert Firmino was shown the red card in the 41st minute for striking Adam Clayton. But they held on to score a 1-1 draw, which was enough to progress on aggregate.

Their winner came from Adam Lallana’s penalty in the 88th minute. The teams had to wait until the 11th penalty shoot-out kick to find a winner, with Liverpool’s second pick, Adam Smith, scoring to seal their passage to the third round.

**Middlesbrough’sMarc Muniesa.**

**Liverpool reached the fourth round of the League Cup on Tuesday after winning an epic and nerve-shredding penalty shootout 1-13 at home to second-tier Middlesbrough, with the teams ending extra time tied at 2-2.**

Middlesbrough’s Albert Adomah brought the gripping penalty contest to an end when he fired wide after both teams had kept their nerve in sudden death, shattering the record for the longest shootout in the League Cup. Liverpool, who had looked a shadow of the team that finished second in the Premier League last season in the new campaign, twice took the lead against their lower league opponents, but defensive errors were once again their undoing.

Elsewhere, Nathanial Clyne scored with a stunning 30-metre strike as Southampton won 2-1 at Arsenal and Swansea City, who have begun the league season in confident fashion, beat Everton 3-0 with goals from Nathan Dyer, Gylfi Sigurdsson and Marvin Emnes. In another all Premier League tie, Stoke City came back from a goals down to win 2-1 at Sunderland thanks to a double from Spaniard Marc Muniesa.

Liverpool had gone ahead through debutant Jordan Rossiter after 10 minutes but a familiar failing appeared as Adam Reach was allowed to head home unchallenged midway through the second half.

Spaniard Suso looked like he had given Liverpool victory with a low strike late in extra time, but the hosts imploded with seconds remaining as Kolo Toure conceded a penalty after a terrible backpass from Raheem Sterling. Patrick Bamford slotted home. — Reuters
South Korea beats China to win Asian Games badminton men’s team title

**Inccheon, 24 Sept** — China fell to South Korea 2-3 in the Asian badminton men’s team final here on Tuesday night, missing out on winning the title for the third time in a row, a day after the Chinese women successfully retained their crown for the fifth consecutive time.

World No 2 seed Chen Long lost to seven-time South Korean national singles champion Lee Yongdae, 18, 21-16.

Ye Shiwen returns to top of podium after London letdown

**Inccheon, 24 Sept** — Ye Shiwen, the Chinese sensation whose mind-boggling performances at the 2012 London Olympics sent tongues wagging and fingers pointing, made an overdue return to the top of the podium on Tuesday.

After two years where she struggled to cope with the expectations on her from China as well as the thinly-veiled accusations against her, the 18-year-old turned back the clock to win the women’s 400m individual medley, but still more than five seconds ahead of her closest rival.

Ye was under world record pace for the 250m but weakened over the last lap of breaststroke then the final freestyle leg.

Her winning time of four minutes 32.97 seconds was more than 4.5 seconds outside her world record but still more than five seconds ahead of her closest rival.

“I’m satisfied because the result is due to my training,” she said.

Two years ago, Ye was on top of the world, having smashed the world record to win the Olympic title.

But instead of basking in glory, the then 16-year-old was forced to fend off questions and insinuations of cheating in a doping row that had no solid basis in fact.

Her accusers highlighted the fact that she completed her last lap faster than the men’s winner Ryan Lochte, even though her overall time was much slower.—Reuters

Ye Shiwen returns to top of podium after London letdown

Gold medalists players of South Korea, silver medalists players of China and bronze medalists players of Malaysia pose on the podium during the awarding ceremony of the men’s team badminton competition at the 17th Asian Games in Incheon, South Korea, on 23 Sept, 2014. South Korea defeated China 3-2 and claimed the title.—Xinhua

South Korea’s Hyeonseong Park and Kim Tae-soo, right, pose for a photo after defeating Malaysia’s Zulfadli Zainudin and Cheng Wei, left, at the 17th Asian Games men’s doubles final at Yachae Gymnasium in Incheon, South Korea, 23 Sept. 2014. South Korea won the match 22-19, 22-19, 22-20, 21-19, 22-21 to win the gold medal. —Xinhua

Ye Shiwen of China (C) poses with silver medallist Sakiko Shimizu of Japan (L) and bronze medallist Thi Anh Vien Nguyen of Vietnam on the podium at the women’s 400m individual medley final award ceremony at the Munhak Park Tae-hwan Aquatics Centre during the 17th Asian Games in Incheon on 23 Sept, 2014.—Reuters

Suda, Omoto earn golden hat-trick in lightweight skulls

**Inccheon, 24 Sept** — Japan’s Takahiro Suda and Hideki Omoto won the men’s lightweight double sculls on Wednesday, marking the third career Asian Games gold medal for each.

In a rainy men’s final at Chungju Tangeum Lake Rowing Center, the Japan pair duedled with China’s Dong Tianfeng and Kong Deming at the start, but were able to generate their trademark flying finish to pull away to victory in 7 minutes, 57.30 seconds.

Hong Kong’s Chow Kwong-wing and Tang Chi-mung were second 5.12 seconds back with the Chinese third, 10.13 seconds back of Suda and Omoto, whose victory gives them a little boost ahead in their effort to make it to the Olympics for the first time in 2016. —Kyodo News

Gold medalist Ye Shiwen of China (C) poses with silver medallist Sakiko Shimizu of Japan (L) and bronze medallist Thi Anh Vien Nguyen of Vietnam on the podium at the women’s 400m individual medley final award ceremony at the Munhak Park Tae-hwan Aquatics Centre during the 17th Asian Games in Incheon on 23 Sept, 2014.—Reuters

Medals table of the Asian Games after Tuesday’s events

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Suda, Omoto earn golden hat-trick in lightweight skulls

In a rainy men’s final at Chungju Tangeum Lake Rowing Center, the Japan pair duedled with China’s Dong Tianfeng and Kong Deming at the start, but were able to generate their trademark flying finish to pull away to victory in 7 minutes, 57.30 seconds.

Hong Kong’s Chow Kwong-wing and Tang Chi-mung were second 5.12 seconds back with the Chinese third, 10.13 seconds back of Suda and Omoto, whose victory gives them a little boost ahead in their effort to make it to the Olympics for the first time in 2016. —Kyodo News

Ye Shiwen returns to top of podium after London letdown

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Gold medalist Ye Shiwen of China (C) poses with silver medallist Sakiko Shimizu of Japan (L) and bronze medallist Thi Anh Vien Nguyen of Vietnam on the podium at the women’s 400m individual medley final award ceremony at the Munhak Park Tae-hwan Aquatics Centre during the 17th Asian Games in Incheon on 23 Sept, 2014.—Reuters