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

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 livestock 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 KOCIA 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)

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

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)

INSIDE

Myanmar, Mauritius to promote banking services — PAGE-3

Food security and nutrition are fundamentals for peace and prosperity — PAGE-8

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw discussed on Wednesday about settlement of land confiscation issues.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw

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 Papun 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 proprieties 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 Tatmataw, asked that if the relevant has a plan for online publications of non-confidential documents and findings which inform the activities of research bodies in respective sector.

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*

Union-level officials explain 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 compensated 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 Kyaukhtu Airport. The ministry compensated K 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 Tachilek and Bagan-NyaungU Airports. Union-level officials will explain the measures taken for land confiscation issues on 25 September.—*MNA*

Amyotha Hluttaw

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 livestock 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 toll gate between Milepost 1/0 and Milepost 1/1 on Yangon-Bago Highway at Hyaukkyant would be relocated to a site between Milepost 4/0 and Milepost 4/2.

Then, the representatives approved the bill amending the Constitutional Tribunal Law.

The representatives also agreed to discuss the motion to publish the 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 Myint*

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 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 inaugural session of the Show took place with addresses by Union Minister for Industry U Maung Myint, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Gautam Mukhophadhaya, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) U Win Aung, Assistant Secretary of FICCI Mr. Atul Shunglu and Chairman of FICCI North-East Council Mr. Ranjit Barthakur.

Dignitaries cut ribbon to open India-Myanmar 2014 Trade and Investment Show where Indian exhibitors showcase their products and services to attract Myanmar counterparts in business opportunities and partnership.
Photo: Ye Myint

In his speech, the Union minister saidthat India stands fifth in trade relations with Myanmar where 64 Indian companies are operating business with a total investment of US$300 million which is accounting for one per cent of the total investment volume of Myanmar.The total trade volume between the two countries has reached $1,637 million, 24.9 per cent higher than last year, he added.

"Now is the right time to cooperate with Myanmar developing industries", the Union minister suggested, inviting Indian investors to make partnership with Myanmar counterparts in food processing, automobile, engineering, textile, consumer goods and pharmaceutical factories.

The India-Myanmar 2014 Trade and Investment Show is scheduled to exhibit till Saturday.

Today's event was followed by the 2nd Enterprise India Show organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in Yangon in January, India Trade Show organized by the Engineering Export Promotion Council in Yangon in March and India Investrade Myanmar-2014 in the middle of the year.

Officials said the 3rd Enterprise India Myanmar 2014 is slated for October in Mandalay.

NLM

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)

(h)Dr Daw 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
of the Union

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*/Thein Sein**
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

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*

***Vice President U Nyan Tun greets President of the State Bank of Mauritius Ltd (SBM) Mr Muni Krishna T Reddy in the talks about promotion of banking services between the two countries.*—MNA**

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 thevarious on-going 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 urgedthe ASEAN nations and PlusThree 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 (APTERR) 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 Plut Three Meeting, ASEAN and its Plus Three countries also reaffirmed the ASEAN 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 implementation of the Road Map for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) and contribute to the ASEAN Community Post-2015 Vision.

After the meeting, agriculture and forestry ministers from ASEAN, China, Japan and South Korea signed a Memorandum of Understanding on ASEAN Cooperation and Joint Approaches in Agriculture and Forest Products Promotion Scheme-2015-2019.

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

NLM

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.

Beikthano Art Gallery is located at No. 113/3B, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Bahan Township.

NLM

Water colour work of Paw Oo Thet.

Art work (Oil on Canvas) of Khin Maung Yin.

Art work (Acrylic on Canvas) of Win Pe.

Free eye care given to patients in Natogyi Tsp

NATOGYI, 24 Sept—Under the arrangements of Venerable Sitagu Sayadaw of Sagaing, eye specialists and medical technicians performed eye checkup at patients with the sponsorship of Thukha Chantha health and social welfare association at Theingon Monastery in Ward 5 of Natogyi in Mandalay Region on Monday.

Over 1,230 patients from sub-townships in Natogyi Township received free medical treatment at the monastery.

Of them 151 patients were referred to Myingyan Free Eye Hospital for receiving eye surgical operations. The association has given eye care treatment to about 2,000 patients.

KhinZar Mon Myint (Law)

TODAY'S MYANMAR NEWS SITES

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 educative 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

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

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

Buddha images of Inlay PhaungdawU Pagoda starts trips in Inlay Region

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

Officials conveyed the Buddha images from the throne of the Yadana chamber on board the Golden Kara-weik barge.

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

Nay Myo Thurein

Temporary bridges to serve for smooth transport of locals

KATHA, 24 Sept — Local authorities are building temporary bridges across the creeks in Katha 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.

Po Naing (Katha)

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.

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 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 farmer.

"If there is favourable weather, we can fetch about K3 million from the perennial plants," he added.

Paing Zay (Magway)

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.

Thet Oo (Thaton)

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 at 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

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 Marineth Domingo said the Passing Exercise (PASSEX) will involve BRP Ramon Alcaraz and a Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force vessel Japan Defence Shi (JDS) Hatakaze.

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 maritime situational awareness," she said.

Both BRP Ramon Alcaraz and JDS Hatakaze 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 Hatakaze is on its way from Singapore where it had its own port visit.

Xinhua

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 helicoptered 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.

"The mood 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 Islamist militants 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 Orbita, 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 kidnap-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*

Rousseff regains edge in Brazil presidential race as Silva slips

President Dilma Rousseff

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.

Rousseff 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, a one point advantage that amounts to a statistical tie as it is within the poll's margin of error.

Silva, who would be Brazil's first black president, 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 economy.

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 heavy-handed state intervention in the economy under 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 current rut.

Reuters

Iran nuclear deal would boost cooperation, Rouhani says

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 the fight 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 relations. "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."

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

Iranian officials last week told *Reuters* that Teheran 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*

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 reject 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 embarrass Queen Elizabeth and the British leader.

"She purred down the line. I've never heard someone so happy," Cameron, whose Conservative 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 independence.

"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 microphones failing to pick up the rest of his sentence.

"I've said I want to find these polling companies and I want to sue them for my stomach ulcers because 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 remarks.

Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron

The Queen said publicly after the vote she was sure Scots would be able to come together in a spirit of mutual respect after the divisions of their independence referendum.

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 having deposits with foreign banks.

"Now, only citizens seeking a number of positions in state service are obliged to declare their incomes. The bill extends this liability to all who want to be employed in state service," Irina Yarovaya, the chairwoman of the State Duma anti-corruption committee, told *ITAR-TASS*.

Apart from that the bill extends the ban on having deposits with foreign banks outside Russia to all state servants taking part in decision making in the areas linked with Russia's sovereignty and national security. Such officials will also be prohibited 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 federal-and regional-level state servants, employees of the Central Bank and state-run corporations will be prohibited to have foreign deposits.—*Itar-Tass*

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 25 September, 2014

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.

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email wallace.tun@gmail.com with your name and title.

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

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

OBJECTIVES

The word "Objective" means: **Something that you are trying to achieve.** Its synonyms are goal and target. If you have a definite purpose, you have got to formulate and develop the following phases to achieve that Purpose:

- **Vision** *for* **the Purpose**
- **Mission** *for* **the Purpose**
- **Goal** *for* **the Purpose**
- **Objectives** *for* **the Purpose**
- **Strategy** *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-win outcomes. The policy should be "Win-Win or No Deal."

EARNEST 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.
-The Imitation of Christ

Strive, man, to win that glory;
Toil, man, to gain that light.
-Bernard of Clumsy

In due season we shall reap,
If we faint not.
-Galatians 6:9

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 "Sahàjāta & Aññamyiñña" – 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.

ETRI of Korea donates machinery to Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

Nay Pyi Taw, 24 Sept—Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute (ETRI) of the Republic of Korea donated machinery to the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology on Sunday, attended by Union Minister U Myat Hein and ROK Ambassador Mr Lee Baek Soon.

Kotra Director Mr. Lee Kum Ha of Cooperate Social Responsibilities (CSR) Activities handed over the donation board for machinery to officials.

After that, the Workshop on ICT Development (Topic about Cyber Security and e-Government) followed with discussions on cyber security in Korea, results of undertakings in e-government process.

It was also attended by Deputy Ministers U Win Than and U Thaung Tin, Vice President Mr. Han Gang Hee of ETRI and speakers from National Information Society Agency (NIA) of the Republic of Korea.—*MNA*

***Officials sign notes to donate machinery to Communications and Information Technology Ministry.*—MNA**

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 Minister of Defence and in-charge of National Security Legislation Mr Akinori Eto on Wednesday in Tokyo.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets Japanese Minister of Defence and in-charge of National Security Legislation Mr Akinori Eto.—MNA

The Japanese defence minister promised to help Myanmar during its ASEAN Chairmanship and to promote defence ties between the two armed forces at the meeting.

Then, the senior general met with Chief of Staff of Japanese Self-Defence Forces General Shigeru Iwasaki and held discussions. Afterwards, Director of Defense Plans and Policy Department Rear Admiral Hiroshi Yamamura briefed the senior general on the security situation in the Asia-Pacific Region, defense policy of Japan, and training and missions of Japanese Self-defense forces. They held discussions on cooperation and relations between the two armed forces.

On Wednesday, the senior general and party visited the Ireihi and Meiji Jingu shrines.

In the evening, General Shigeru Iwasaki hosted a dinner to the senior general and party at the Hotel Chinzanso in Tokyo.

In the morning, the senior general met with Myanmar Ambassador to Japan U Khin Maung Tin and wife, Military Attaché (Army, Navy and Air) Col Htin Kyaw Thu and wife, Myanmar students in Japan and staff of the embassy. Military Attaché (Army, Navy and Air) Col Htin Kyaw Thu and wife hosted a luncheon to the senior general and party. —*MNA*

Air force commanders meet at 11th ASEAN Air Chiefs Conference

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept — General Khin Aung Myint, Commander-in-Chief (Air), on Wednesday discussed with the visiting commanders of air forces from ASEAN member countries during the 11th ASEAN Air Chiefs Conference here.

The separate meetings were held with the delegations from Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam to encourage an exchange of views on defense cooperation for peace in ASEAN countries.—*MNA*

Myanmar athletes take part in Asian Games

INCHEON, SOUTH KOREA, 24 Sept — Thu Thu Kyaw of Myanmar stood 13th in the 50-m rifle singles and team events, together with Aye Aye Thin, 31st and Rosy, 43rd, on Wednesday. Myanmar stood 12th at the country level shooting event.

In the morning, Nay Myo Aung and Zargyi Win competed in the archery qualifier. Myanmar women beat host South Korea with a 2-1 win in the women's regu event. Win Tun Naing of Myanmar stood 11th in the 85-kilo weightlifting event. In the volleyball event, Myanmar lost to Thailand 0-3 in the men's event.

Aye Aye Thin, Yaw Sein Ya and Shein 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 regu Sepak Takraw event tomorrow.

MNA

The KOICA President in an interview . . . .

(from page 1)

South Korean Government bilateral grant ODA to Myanmar at USD 14.5 million), which rose from USD 6.2 million in 2012. The total budget of KOICA Myanmar in 2014 is at around USD 13 million and is expected to be increased as Myanmar shall become a priority development cooperation country for the South Korean Government.

On 22 September, I made a courtesy call on H.E. U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, attended by eight Union Ministers. We discussed how to implement the "Saemaul Undong (SMU)", or "New Village/Community Movement" in Myanmar. The Ministry Agriculture and Irrigation (MoAI) and other related Ministries have high expectation for applying the SMU model to accelerate income generation through enhanced agricultural productivity and rural development in Myanmar.

The Government of Myanmar is ready to take leadership and ownership in moving forward with uplifting rural livelihoods and wealth creation through agricultural and rural development. In this context, KOICA will provide assistance in implementing the SMU Project 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 Chairman and the Executive Secretary of the Project Preparatory Task Force of the Myanmar Development Institute (PTF-MDI) respectively. We discussed and shared common vision about how to establish the Myanmar Development Institute (MDI).

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: I discussed with the President about KOICA assistance based on the priority development areas identified by the Myanmar Government.

Based on comparative advantage of the Korean development experiences, KOICA will provide assistance in the areas of agriculture and rural development, human resources development, governance and public administration capacity development especially in promoting trade and investment, industrial development and ICT based e-governance, infrastructure development such as airport, railway and urbanization, and public health amongst others.

For human resources development, KOICA will focus on technical and vocational 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 the ROK's philosophy on sharing its development experience, especially economic reform, to a country like Myanmar which has opened up to foreign investments?

KOICA President: For continuous and rapid economic and social development in Myanmar, it is important for the Myanmar Government to come up with a comprehensive national development strategy and to have the matching capacity to implement the strategy.

In this regard, KOICA will provide assistance in institutional capacity building of the Myanmar Development Institute (MDI) as the national think-tank to lead 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 aspect. KOICA is about to launch the Project on Capacity Development for Trade-Investment Promotion and Establishment of Master Plan on the Myanmar Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (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.

NLM: What are the 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?

KOICA President: The development assistance by the South Korean Government to Myanmar has been increasing since the Myanmar Government has embarked on a transition process to an open and civilian democratic and market based economic system. Korea has a similar experience to which the Myanmar Government could relate.

In terms of the current progress on peace and prosperity building in Myanmar, what is important is to bring Myanmar people 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.

NLM: What message would you give to Myanmar people?

KOICA President: South Korea has experienced a rapid development at an unprecedented scale, 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 development assistance as one of the OECD-DAC member countries. One of the success factors for this rapid transition and successful 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 Myanmar people is as simple as that "if Koreans did well, why not Myanmar people?"— *NLM*

(Mr. KIM, Young-mok is President of KOICA since 2013. As a career diplomat, Mr. KIM previously served in several senior positions and ambassadorships within the South Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs.)

ASEAN ministers visit paddy and vegetable plantations in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept — Ministers of ASEAN Countries who attended the 36th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) together with ministers of Japan, China and Korea visited the construction site of a modern rice mill near Alyinlo Village of Pyinmana Township and the Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation on 440 acres of land on Wednesday morning.

They also visited vegetable plantations on 900-acre farmland in Ottarathiri Township.

The ministers viewed round value-added wood products and furniture at the showroom of the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry and the showroom of the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development.

Union Ministers U Myint Hlaing, U Win Tun and U Ohn Myint explained products of plantations, dairy products, fruits and vegetables at the respective showrooms.

MNA

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

Myanmar bags three best CAEXPO awards

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept —Myanmar bagged three best awards at the 11th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO), which took place from 16 to 19 September in Nanning of Guangxi Province, China, sources said.

The grand event had 84 booths from 125 companies, drawing 341 businesspeople.

The awards Myanmar received were Best Galleria of Brands, Best City of Charm Pavilion and Best Exhibitor Organizer.

MNA

Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe and wife being welcomed by Saudi Arabian Ambassador Mr Talal M.S. Abdul Salam at the reception to mark the National Day of Saudi Arabia in Yangon on 23 September.—MNA

South Korea to help Myanmar with its infrastructural development

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept — Myanmar and South Korea have entered an agreement to establish a framework for assistance at a meeting which took place at the Ministry of National Planning and Development here on Tuesday, sources said.

The agreement was signed by Deputy Minister Daw Lei Lei Thein and South Korean Ambassador to Myanmar Lee Baeksoon, attended by Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw.

According to the agreement, 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

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept — Chairman of the Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) Banks and Monetary Affairs Development Committee U Aung Thaung, on behalf of the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw, received President of the State Bank of Mauritius Ltd (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 Khaing.—*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 helps 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 companiesis 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*

MFPPEA Secretary U Myo Nyunt explains functions of the association.

YANGON, 24 Sept — As part of preparation for EU's inspection in 2015, Myanmar Fisheries Products Processors and Exporters Association (MFPPEA) will open a training for fresher workers on 29 September in Yangon, source 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.

NLM

Obama's Syria war carries risks for him at home and abroad

UNITD 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 diplomacy paid 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.

US President Barack Obama delivers a statement at the White House in Washington on the air strikes in Syria, prior to departing for the United Nations in New York on 23 Sept, 2014. —REUTERS

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 majority 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 percent 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."

Obama, who shied away from airstrikes in Syria a year ago, had a slow reversal in course. A year ago he saw no positive outcome for getting involved in Syria's civil war. Spurred into action by the rapid rise of Islamic State, Obama has become what he worked really hard to avoid becoming, a war president.

But he has sought to make sure the United States was not acting alone. His mood was such afterward that he told a joke about the pregnant Chelsea Clinton after former President Bill Clinton introduced him at the Clinton Global Initiative. "If Chelsea begins delivering while I'm speaking, she has my motorcade," Obama said to laughter.— *Reuters*

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 Haider al-Abadi on Wednesday. Sources in Cameron's office expect him to request British air strikes against IS 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," Cameron 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 organization."— *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.

Turkey's President Tayyip Erdogan speaks during the Climate Summit at the UN headquarters in New York on 23 Sept, 2014. —REUTERS

NATO ally Turkey, which is alarmed by Islamic State but also worried about Kurdish fighters and opposed to any action that might help Syrian President 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 lethal strikes in Iraq or Syria.

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

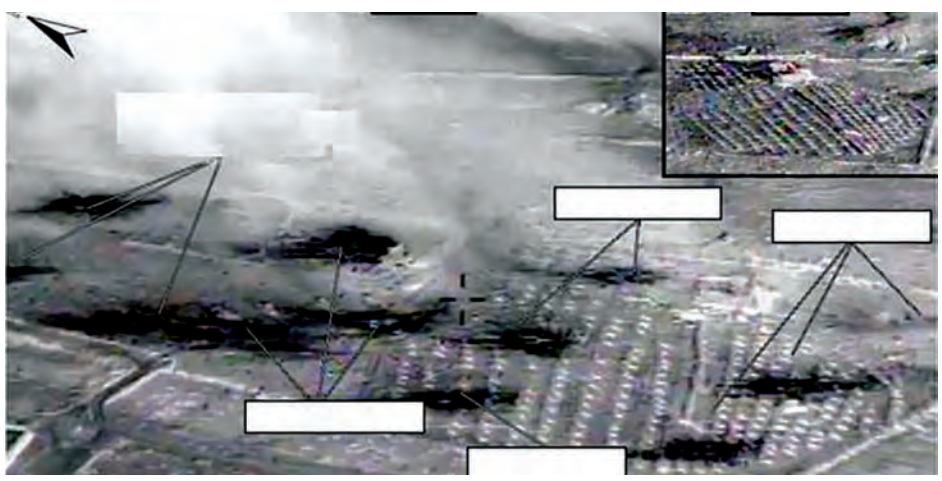
Turkish officials has said its hands were tied while 46 of its citizens were held hostage by Islamic State militants in northern Iraq, including its consul general in Mosul, soldiers and diplomats' children.

On Saturday, Turkish intelligence agents brought the hostages back to Turkey 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 order to guarantee success," US Secretary of State John Kerry said at a counter-terrorism forum.

Reuters

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



An area US officials say was an ISIL vehicle staging centre near Abu Kamal, Syria, is seen before (inset) and after it was struck by US aircraft in a US Department of Defence handout picture provided on 23 Sept, 2014. —REUTERS

BEIRUT, 24 Sept — Air strikes overnight hit Islamic 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 Observatory for Human Rights, said the warplanes that carried 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 direction 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 country 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 information from a network of sources across Syria.

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

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

Reuters

UN climate summit sets goals to save forests, use clean energy

UNITED NATIONS, 24 Sept —A United Nations summit on climate change agreed on Tuesday to widen the use of renewable energy and raise billions of dollars in aid for developing countries in an effort to increase the prospects for a wide-ranging deal to slow global warming.

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 rising greenhouse gas emissions. Until now, work has been slow with many countries more focussed on improving economic growth and creating jobs.

Governments and investors said they would raise more than $200 billion (122 billion pounds) in climate financing by the end of 2015, including $30 billion in green bonds by commercial banks and $100 billion from a group of development banks.

"This will serve as a catalyst in finalising a universal and meaningful agreement at Paris on climate change in 2015," Ban said of the cash.

The United Nations said in a statement that pledges of financial support would give a "significant boost" to a promise by rich nations in 2009 to raise $100 billion a year by 2020 from all sources 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.

United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon speaks during the closing of the Climate Summit at the United Nations headquarters in New York on 23 Sept, 2014. REUTERS

Companies including Walmart, Unilever , Wilmar International, General Mills, Asia Pulp and Paper and Nestle, many non-governmental organizations 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 ENI 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.

Reuters

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 crisis. Gasic expressed gratitude to Ambassador Keefe for the donation and underscored that Serbia needs assistance very much because after the May and June floods, the country is facing a catastrophic situation once more in the territory of Kladovo. We maintain traditionally good cooperation with Great Britain and we are committed to nurturing and improving it further, the defence minister said.

Gasic expressed the hope that the bilateral cooperation would improve in other areas of social life as well in the time to come.

Tanjug

Sergei Ivanov (front), chief of staff of Russia's Presidential Executive Office, inspects a newly constructed dock on 24 Sept, 2014, on Etorofu Island — one of the four islets off Japan's northernmost prefecture of Hokkaido, claimed by Tokyo but controlled by Moscow. In Tokyo, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said the development is "extremely regrettable." — KYODO NEWS

Senior Russian official visits disputed isle

VLADIVOSTOK, (Russia), 24 Sept — Senior Russian government official Sergei Ivanov visited 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 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.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has proposed holding direct talks with Russian President Putin on the sidelines of an annual summit meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum to be held in November in Beijing.

Kyodo News

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Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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Two men found dead in vehicle related to US mall shooting

WASHINGTON, 24 Sept — Two men were found dead in a crashed vehicle matching that 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 shopper 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.—*Xinhua*

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

CHETUMAL, (Mexico) 24 Sept — Mexico on Tuesday released 14 Cuban migrants rescued at sea this month and some of them headed for the United States by bus to take advantage of a US policy that allows Cubans arriving by land to stay.

The Cubans, who were without food and survived by drinking rain water, were intercepted off the Yucatan peninsula badly sunburned and dehydrated after three weeks adrift during which many of their companions died. Mexico's government had said they would likely be deported.

Only 15 survived the journey from Manzanillo in eastern Cuba, with 15 dying at sea, and two more dying after they were rescued. One migrant had already been released and is in the United States.

The group set off on 7 August, and were forced to fashion a makeshift sail for their vessel after the motor failed early in the journey. A Mexican immigration official said on Monday that the Cuban government had not recognized the survivors as its citizens. The Cuban government has not commented on the case. They were released from an immigration center in Chetumal on the Yucatan peninsula on Tuesday and the group split into two. Some made for the southeastern city of Villahermosa and said they were on the way to the US border, while the rest headed for the Yucatan capital of Merida. "I have 30 days to either leave the country or legalize (my situation)," said Luis Suarez Calzada, one of the survivors as he left the immigration center in Chetumal wearing a red polo shirt and a baseball cap. "We are grateful to the fishermen who rescued us," he added, saying the group had gone without food for 25 days during their ordeal.

Jose Caballero, the husband of one of the rescued women confirmed that his wife, Maylin Perez, had been released.

"My wife just called. We spoke very briefly," he said, explaining she was using a borrowed cellphone and asked him to send money to pay the bus fare to the US border. "I'm running now to send the money," he added. Caballero left Cuba by the same route in December and is now a maintenance worker at a trucking company in Austin, Texas.

Separately, nine Cubans came ashore in a homemade metal boat near Miami on Tuesday afternoon saying they had been at sea for 10 days, according to eyewitnesses.

"They were very excited when they got onto the beach," said Cristina Plihal, who watched from her beach front condo window in Key Biscayne, as US officials escorted them off. "When they jumped onto the sand they started screaming 'Cuba, Cuba'."

Reuters

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 Dieter 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 Savelyev 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-out 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 Savelyev, 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.—*Itar Tass*

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.—ITAR TASS

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 thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin and Rakhine States, scattered in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi 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.

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Hackers threaten to leak nude photos of actress Emma Watson

Presenter Emma Watson poses at the 86th Academy Awards in Hollywood, California on 2 March, 2014. **Reuters**

New York, 24 Sept — Hackers threatened to leak nude photos of actress Emma Watson days in response to she gave a 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.heforshe.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.—*Reuters*

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*

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 McConaughey and Woody Harrelson from the first season of the crime anthology, reported Ace Showbiz.

Actor Vince Vaughn will star alongside Colin Farrell on the upcoming second season of 'True Detective'.

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 police 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.

Nic 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.

PTI

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

New York, 23 Sept — With $620 million (£378.8 million) in estimated pretax 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 Iovine and other financial ventures, including cognac and vodka brands.

Combs, 44, tied for second place with Jay-Z, 44, with $60 million, with earnings 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 performances, his latest album and his Roc Nation entertainment empire, which assured him a place in the top five.—*Reuters*

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

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 future 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 studios such as Twenty-First Century Fox (FOXA.O) and Walt Disney Co (DIS.N). The technology should arrive 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 going to be at a point where watching things on 2D surfaces is going to feel pretty outdated," Iribe told *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**

Virtual reality still has technological hurdles to overcome. The biggest problem is motion sickness 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 ambitions for Oculus Rift devices, 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 virtual reality devices could be in the hands of millions of consumers within a couple 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 Episode VII of the film franchise in 2015.

Reuters

Ronaldo claims four-goal haul in Elche rout

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.

While Real have played some brilliant football, they have looked vulnerable in defence and are three points behind La Liga leaders Barcelona who have 12 points and a game in hand. They play Malaga on Wednesday.

Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo celebrates after scoring a goal against Elche during their Spanish first division match at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid 0n 23 Sept, 2014. — REUTERS

Champions Atletico have eight points from four games and play Almeria, also on Wednesday.

"I've managed to get four a few times before but this is all down to the team. Things are going for me and it is down to my team-mates who help me a lot," Ronaldo told reporters at the Bernabeu. "It was a good game for us. We started poorly, I gave away a penalty, but we responded well with two quick goals," added the Portuguese.—*Reuters*

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

WUHAN, 24 Sept — World number one Serena Williams added her name to the list of slain seeds at the Wuhan Open on Tuesday after the American was forced to retire from her second round match against France's Alize Cornet because of illness.

The top seed, playing her first match since winning her 18th grand slam singles title at the US Open earlier this month, broke Cornet to lead 6-5 in the first set when she called for the doctor to come on court at the change over. Williams sat solemnly, head down with a towel around her neck and a thermometer in her mouth during the examination before making the quick decision against continuing. The 32-year-old also had her blood pressure checked and walked slowly off court with the help of the trainer, with reports saying she went to hospital for further tests. She had shown flashes of her usual brilliance but looked shy of full fitness throughout her hour of activity on the centre court, with the lengthy 11th game, which included several deuces, proving particularly taxing as she leant on her racquet between points.

Her exit only added to the headache for organisers of the inaugural $2.4 million hard court event, where top names tumbled in early action after the city's tennis trailblazer Li Na announced her retirement from the game last week.

Former world number one and 10th seed Jelena Jankovic was also forced to quit her second round match on Tuesday in the first set while trailing American CoCo Vandeweghe 4-1.

Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(25-9-2014, Thursday)

6:00 am
* Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

6:35 am
* Song of Yester Years

7:00 am
* News

7:20 am
* People Talks

8:00 am
* News / International News

8:30 am
* TV Drama Series

9:30 am
* Shwe Yin Chone Than

10:20 am
* TV Drama Series

11:00 am
* High Lights (17th Asian Games)

12:00 noon
* News/ International News/ Weather Report

1:30 pm
* Sing & Enjoy

2:15 pm
* Fine Arts Bosom of Dramtic Performace

3:00 pm
* News

3:15 pm
* Mono Classical Songs

4:15 pm
* High Lights (17th Asian Games)

5:30pm
* TV Drama Series

6:20 pm
* Approaching Science Discovery World

6:50 pm
* TV Drama Series

7:25 pm
* TV Drama Series

8:00 pm
* News/ International News/ Weather Report

8:35 pm
* Current Affairs

9:00 pm
* News/ International News/ Weather Report
* Documentary
* CLEVER
* Pyi Thu Ni Ti

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(25-9-14 07:00 am~ 26-9-14 07:00 am) MST

* Local News
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* World News
* Kayah Style
* Local News
* Hand Down Arts Heritage
* World News
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* Human Right, Human Dignity "My Daughter"
* Local News
* MraukU, Treasure Trove of Rakhine Culture
* World News
* The Pride of Myanmar "Traditional Handicraft"

Liverpool come through epic shootout to beat Middlesbrough

*Southampton's Nathaniel 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

LONDON, 24 Sept — Liverpool reached the fourth round of the League Cup on Tuesday after winning an epic and nerve-shredding penalty shootout 14-13 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 have 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, Nathaniel 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 goal 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*

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 beats China to win Asian Games badminton men's team title

INCHEON, 24 Sept — China fell to South Korea 2-3 in the Asiad 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 seventh-ranked Son Wanho of South Korea 5-21, 24-22, 14-21 to hand the host a 1-0 lead in the best-of-five series.

"Son played better than me," said Chen after the match ended. "He has been patient while keeping pressures on me. I was actually trying to play safe because of the strong tailwind over the court, obviously he was more adaptive to it."

The South Koreans would not easily let go their lead as their star doubles and world top pair Lee Yongdae and Yoo Yeonseong defeated Xu Chen and Zhang Nan, a newly formed pair, 23-21, 21-13.

Five-time champion Lin Dan, however, eased past Lee Dongkeun of South Korea in the third, critical match with his calm mood, delicate and deft stoke shots and powerful smashes, trying to help China come from behind.

"South Korea's current players are younger and are eager to deliver in front of home crowd, we faced great pressures in the first two matches," said Lin.

The fourth match went point for point amid thunderous cheers and applause from the spectators in Gyeyang Gymnasium before Chinese veterans Cai Yun/Fu Haifeng outclassed Kim Sarang/Kim Gijung of South Korea 19-21, 21-18, 21-16.

Nonetheless, Chinese rookie Gao Huan, who has little experience of taking part in international evnets, was unable to continue the momentum, as he lost to 34-year-old veteran Lee Hyunil, 10 years his senior, 14-21, 18-21 in two straight matches.

The bronze went to Malaysia and Chinese Taipei.

Xinhua

Medals table of the Asian Games after Tuesday's events

	G	S	B	Total
China	40	22	20	82
South Korea	19	19	21	59
Japan	16	22	22	60
Kazakhstan	4	4	10	18
North Korea	3	4	7	14
Mongolia	3	3	6	12
Malaysia	2	2	2	6
Taiwan	2	1	5	8
Myanmar	2	0	0	2
Vietnam	1	2	9	12
Iran	1	2	1	4
Kuwait	1	2	0	3
Hong Kong	1	1	9	11
India	1	1	9	11
Thailand	1	0	5	6
Indonesia	0	3	2	5
Macao	0	3	0	3
Uzbekistan	0	1	6	7
Singapore	0	1	5	6
Turkmenistan	0	1	2	3
Laos	0	1	1	2
Philippines	0	1	1	2
Lebanon	0	1	0	1
Iraq	0	0	1	1
Pakistan	0	0	1	1

Ye Shiwen returns to top of podium after London letdown

INCHEON, 24 Sept — Ye Shiwen, the Chinese sensation whose mind-boggling performances at the 2012 London Olympics set 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 400 metres individual medley gold medal at the Asian Games.

Giving her rivals no chance, she charged away from the blocks at breakneck speed, opening up a big gap on the field.

She was almost a body length clear after the opening butterfly leg and seemingly in a race of her own, trying to beat the world record she set in London.

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*

Gold medallist 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

INCHEON, 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 dueled 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, 0.57 seconds.

Hong Kong's Chow Kwong-wing and Tang Chiu-mang 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.

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