



EMBASSY OF JAPAN

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PRESS RELEASE

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MADAM SHIRANTHI AND MADAM AKIE MARKED THE OPENING OF “SHINE WEEKS (WOMEN’S WEEKS)”



Madam Akie ABE, Spouse of Prime Minister His Excellency Shinzo ABE together with Madam Shiranthi Rajapaksa, First Lady of Sri Lanka marked the opening of “Shine Weeks” on 7th September, 2014 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Japan hosts a symposium titled “the World Assembly for Women in Tokyo (WAW! Tokyo 2014)”

from September 12 to 14, inviting eminent women leaders across the world. Taking this opportunity, Japan positioned the period from September 8 to 19 as “Shine Weeks” in which a series of women-related events will be held all over the world.

Madam Akie said “I am grateful that Sri Lanka hosted the exhibition “Dayak Dinawana Eya” as the opening event of the Shine Weeks. Sri

Lanka and Japan can collaborate each other in promoting women's empowerment. I hope that women can play further active roles in both Japan and Sri Lanka.”

“Dayak Dinawana Eya” showcased a variety of products by women entrepreneurs from across the country who received support of the Government of Sri Lanka. It also displayed the products by women entrepreneurs, supported by the Government of Japan under the project of “Poverty Alleviation Microfinance Project (PAMP II)” and supported by two Japanese NGOs, World Vision Japan and PARCIC.

The event highlighted the determination of the leaders of the two countries to contribute towards promoting women's empowerment, which was incorporated in the Joint Statement “A New Partnership between Maritime Countries” signed on the same day between President Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Abe.



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Please contact the Cultural and Information Section of the Embassy for further information. Tel: 011-269-3831~3 (ext.248)