

**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH
DHAKA**

MOST URGENT
FOR: BANGLADOOT, ALL MISSIONS
MSG: 43/2017
Date: Monday, 27 February 2017

FROM: PIO, PID, DHAKA
Fax: 9540553/9540026
E-mail: piddhaka@gmail.com
piddhaka@yahoo.com
Web: www.pressinform.portal.gov.bd

News brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday inaugurated a multistoried modern food warehouse at a cost of around Tk 232.71 crore having storage capacity of 25,000 metric tons of food grains in Bogra. It will preserve food grains through using solar power round the year. The Prime Minister also inaugurated and laid foundation stones of a total of 17 more projects worth Tk 316.87 crore.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the country men to reelect her party in the next general election to give it another chance to serve people and continue the current massive development activities. The Prime Minister was addressing a huge public meeting organized by its local unit at Santahar Stadium in Bogra. The Premier said her government is working to reduce the poverty rate and ensure homes for all.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith yesterday hinted that the size of the next fiscal year's budget would be Tk 4.2 trillion. He gave the indication while talking to newsmen after holding the first pre-budget meeting for the 2017-18 FY with economists at state guesthouse Padma in the capital. He said, the GDP growth rate will exceed 7.2 percent in future. The Minister said despite the opposition of the business community, the VAT law would be put in force "because time has come to do it".

Commerce minister Tofail Ahmed yesterday said country's export earnings from leather and leather products would reach \$5 billion by 2021 as the government has recognized the sector as a priority sector and is giving incentives. He said this at a press briefing on the Product of the Year-2017 at the Westin Hotel in Dhaka.

Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed yesterday said those who demeaned the situation of Bangladesh in the past are surprisingly commenting now on our economic growth. He said this while speaking at the inaugural ceremony of the Inter-University Business Plan Competition 2017 at East West University in Dhaka.

Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Minister Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain yesterday said that Detailed Area Plan (DAP) will be implemented soon to build a modern, livable Dhaka city. The Minister came up with the remarks while speaking at the 10th cabinet committee meeting at the conference room of Local Government Department for reviewing the DAP authored by RAJUK. The Minister said that the matters related to demand and supply of water and uses of land have to be emphasized for implementing DAP.

Shipping Minister Shajahan Khan yesterday called for observing 'National Genocide Day' on March 25 to denounce the atrocities perpetrated by Pakistani forces on unarmed Bangladeshis on the black night of March 25 in 1971. He told this at a press conference at Swadhinata Hall in the city's Segunbagicha area yesterday afternoon. He said, at least one lakh people were killed on the night.

State Minister for Power and Energy Nasrul Hamid yesterday said seventy percent of the existing household gas connections will be replaced with LPG over the next two years. The Minister was talking to the media on the sidelines of a program marking the inauguration of '4th Asia LPG Summit 2017' at Bashundhara, in the capital yesterday. He said, Government will find an alternative to natural gas used at household level.

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Meher Afroze Chumki yesterday said, government has been working to ensure overall empowerment of the women to achieve the status of a developed country. She said this while addressing the 61st meeting of the UN Commission as the chief guest at a city hotel.

Dhaka has expressed its deep concern at the recent test fire of ballistic missile by Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Bangladesh urges the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to refrain from any activity which can potentially escalate the situation and to reaffirm its commitment to the maintenance of peace and stability of the region and beyond.

The nominated representatives of the National Productivity and Quality Excellence Award receiving organizations will enjoy all kinds of facilities like the Commercially Important Persons. The decision to place a proposal in this regard before the cabinet came yesterday from the 11th meeting of National Productivity Council at the Industries Ministry with its Senior Secretary Md Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan in the chair.

The exporters have proposed the governments of the United States and Brazil for considering duty-free market access for the Bangladeshi readymade garment (RMG) products made from cotton imported from these two countries.

DSEX, the prime index of the DSE, settled yesterday at 5635.11 points.

Kamrun Nahar
Principal Information Officer
Ph: 02-9546091