



PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH
DHAKA



Most Urgent
For: Bangladoot, All Missions
MSG: 135/2019-20
Date: Wednesday, 01 January, 2020

From: PIO, PID, Dhaka
Fax: 9540553/9540026
E-mail: piddhaka@gmail.com
Web: www.pressinform.gov.bd

News Brief

President Md. Abdul Hamid has greeted the countrymen on the occasion of New Year 2020. In a message, on the eve of the New Year, he wished happiness and welfare for all in 2020. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has also greeted the countrymen on the eve of the New Year. The Premier in her message on the occasion said, Bangladesh witnessed glorious success in 2019 in the area of diplomacy maintaining constitutional and democratic continuation and upholding the spirit of the Liberation War.

The ECNEC has approved 7 projects including one with Taka 767.25 crore for procuring ancillary marine vessels for the Mongla Port in a bid to handle properly the growing number of ocean going ships. The approval came from the ECNEC meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in Dhaka yesterday. The approved projects involving an overall estimated cost of Taka 4,460.54 crore also include construction of border roads at Mymensingh and Netrakona portion, Matuail sanitary landfill expansion and land development, construction of drains for addressing water logging at Rajshahi metropolis, capacity strengthening of Department of Livestock Services, power grid network strengthening and establishment of Sylhet, Lalmonirhat and Barishal Institute of Livestock Science and Technology.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has stressed the need for providing the students a modern technology-based education to make them prepared to face the ever changing trends of the era. The Premier made the call while inaugurating the free textbook distribution programme and receiving the results of this year's Primary Education Completion, Ebtedayee, Junior School Certificate, Junior Dakhil Certificate and equivalent examinations at Ganabhaban in Dhaka yesterday. Education Minister Dr Dipu Moni and State Minister for Primary and Mass Education Md Zakir Hossen handed over the summery of the results of their respective ministries to the Prime Minister. According to the detailed results 87.58 percent pass rate in JSC and 89.77 percent in JDC exams. This year, a total of 76,747 students secured GPA-5 in the JSC examinations while 1,684 got GPA-5 in the JDC examination. As for the PEC exam, 95.5 percent of the examinees passed this year, declining from last year's 97.59 per cent. In the Ibtedayi exam, 95.96 percent of the candidates passed this year, compared to last year's 97.69 percent.

The 'National Textbook Festival' is set to be celebrated across the country today. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina formally opened the free textbook distribution programme by handing over books of primary and secondary levels to students at a function at Ganabhaban in Dhaka yesterday. As many as 3,53,144,554 free textbooks will be distributed to more than 42 million primary and secondary levels students on January 1 across the country for the academic year 2020.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina would open Dhaka International Trade Fair (DITF-2020) at Sher-E-Bangla Nagar in Dhaka this morning. The 25th DITF-2020 will have all kinds of facilities for the visitors, Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi told a press conference at the fair venue yesterday.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader has said, it is an old habit of BNP that the party always loses before elections. He said this at a press conference at his ministry in Dhaka yesterday. Meanwhile, almost half of the Padma Bridge has become visible after installation of the 20th span yesterday on pillar no 18 and 19. Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader has said, all the spans of the Padma Bridge will be installed by July 2020. He also said, the bridge will be opened to traffic by 2021.

Please Turn over

Information Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud speaking at a function organized by Bangladesh Writers' Club at the Central Shaheed Minar in Dhaka yesterday said, an unstable situation is prevailing across the globe now. He strongly advocated for expanding the wings of cultural activities to offset possible havoc the menaces can wreck.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan has said, the government has successfully curbed forest robbers, militancy, terrorism and drugs from the country. He came up with the remarks while speaking at a function at the Krishibid Institution Bangladesh in Dhaka yesterday. He also said, once Bangladesh turned into the heaven of terrorism and militancy but those old days have gone now.

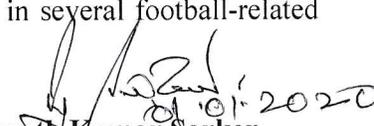
Foreign Minister Dr AK Abdul Momen has directed all Bangladesh missions abroad to improve their consular services in extending services to the expatriate Bangladeshis. The Foreign Minister gave the directive in a letter sent to the ambassadors and heads of Bangladesh missions in foreign countries.

Masud Bin Momen has been made Foreign Secretary as the country's longest-serving Foreign Secretary - M Shahidul Haque – has gone on retirement. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a notification in this regard yesterday. Meanwhile, the government has decided to appoint Nahida Sobhan, currently serving as the Director General of United Nations wing of Foreign Ministry Affairs, as the new Ambassador of Bangladesh to Jordan.

Rain is likely to occur across the country, including the capital, on Thursday and Friday, said Bangladesh Meteorological Department yesterday. Meanwhile, the lowest temperature 5.2°C was recorded at Tetulia in Panchagarh district yesterday which indicates a slight improvement from the last two days' temperature.

Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Riva Ganguly Das expressed satisfaction over the growing people-to-people contact between Bangladesh and India, mentioning that record 15 lakh visas were issued to Bangladesh citizens in 2019. She gave the information to the reporters after handing over passports with Indian visas to three freedom fighters at the integrated state-of-the-art Indian Visa Application Centre at Jamuna Future Park in Dhaka yesterday.

Football legend Diego Maradona will join the celebrations for the centennial birth anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, confirmed a top official of the Bangladesh Football Federation yesterday. Maradona is expected to meet Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina during his visit to Bangladesh as well as take part in several football-related events.


Surath Kumar Sarker
Principal Information Officer
Phone- 9546091