



PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT  
GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH  
DHAKA



Most Urgent  
For: Bangladoot, All Missions  
MSG: 03/2019-20  
Date: Wednesday, 03 July 2019

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### News Brief

President Md. Abdul Hamid has asked the Hajj Agencies Association of Bangladesh not to cheat people in the name of hajj business. The President made the directive while inaugurating the Hajj Programme-2019 at Ashkona Hajj Camp in Dhaka yesterday. The President issued a stern warning against negligence, irregularities and corruption in Hajj management.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has placed a five-point proposal at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting at Dalian in China to address the key concerns of smaller communities and weaker economies. The Bangladesh Premier put forward the proposals as she was addressing as a panel discussant in a session titled 'Cooperation in the Pacific Rim' of the WEF at Dalian International Conference Centre last afternoon. The 5 points proposed by the PM are-creation of an environment of peace-harmony-stability of all countries, focus on entire aspects of sustainable development, engagement of countries based on mutual trust and respect, focus on wealth creation for all and creation of fair competition not rivalry.

Meanwhile, the WEF has decided to arrange an event in Bangladesh next year on the occasion of the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Besides, the WEF will hold a programme in Davos of Switzerland in 2021 focusing on Bangladesh and Bangabandhu. The decisions were taken as Founder and Executive Chairman of WEF Klaus Schwab paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on the sidelines of the WEF's Annual Meeting in the Chinese city Dalian yesterday.

Myanmar is sending a high-level delegation soon by the end of July to the camps in Bangladesh to explain to hundreds of thousands of Rohingya Muslims how they can return home, Myanmar's UN Envoy Hau Do Suan said this at a General Assembly meeting at the UN Headquarters on Monday.

Singapore has expressed its interest to build a bay-terminal at Chattogram Port. Singaporean High Commissioner in Dhaka Derek Loh expressed the interest when he met State Minister for Shipping Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury at his ministry in Dhaka yesterday. The State Minister while exchanging views urged the Singaporean government to exchange technical knowledge between the two countries in shipping sector. Besides, the UAE has shown its interest to invest in the food processing sector in Bangladesh. UAE Ambassador in Dhaka Saed Mohammed Almheiri expressed the desire as the Envoy called on Industries Minister Nurul Majid Mahmud Humayun at his office in the city yesterday. South Korean Ambassador in Dhaka Hu Kang-il called on Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi at his ministry in the capital yesterday. During the call on, the Envoy expressed keen interest to invest in power and infrastructure sectors in Bangladesh.

On behalf of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, State Minister for Disaster Management and Relief Dr. Enamur Rahman handed over the land document for four decimals of land and a cheque of Taka 3 lac to landless Barber Shefali Rani in Jhalokathi yesterday whose struggling life got published in media recently.

BTV is likely to start airing its programmes in India very soon through DTH platforms of Doordarshan. A three-member technical team of BTV led by its Director General S. M. Haroon-or-Rashid reached New Delhi on July 1 to finalize technical aspects with Doordarshan to this end.

The Election Commission begins data collection for updating the voter list of the city dwellers from today. EC Secretary Md. Alamgir at a press conference at the EC Secretariat in Dhaka yesterday said, the activities will be conducted in all thana areas in the capital except Wari, Sutrapur and Demra thanas. Data will be collected from door to door of the citizens, he added.

Twenty-nine Bangladeshi workers returned home willingly from Libya yesterday. The immigration authorities have sent messages to respective police stations for verifying the addresses of the Libya returnees.

The flow of remittances grew by 9.65 per cent to a record US\$16.42 billion in the just-concluded fiscal year. The figure jumped from \$14.98 billion in FY 2017-18, according to the central bank's latest statistics.

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