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## **News brief**

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina asked all concerned to expand Bangladesh's export market with diversified products in the world market and thus boost export earnings. The Premier said this while inaugurating the second edition of 'Dhaka Apparel Summit 2017' at a city hotel yesterday. She assured the BGMEA leaders of providing necessary cooperation in achieving their target and said the power generation capacity would be increased to 24,000 megawatt by 2021 and an LNG terminal would be set up to meet the growing demand of gas while the work is underway to establish Special Economic Zones across the country.

Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed has urged the global buyers, brands and foreign countries to increase the prices of Bangladesh-made apparel products. Tofail came up with the appeal at a plenary session at the Dhaka Apparel Summit 2017 at a city hotel yesterday. On investment facilities in Bangladesh, the Commerce Minister said Bangladesh has an excellent investment policy in place.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal yesterday said Bangladeshi expatriates will get Machine Readable Passport (MRP) within maximum seven days of their application. He came up with the remark as the chief guest at the inaugural ceremony of 'Passport Service Week-2017' at the Immigration and Passport Office. The Home Minister said, the government has taken steps so that militants cannot get the passport.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid has stressed the need for skill-based technical education for the economic development of the country. The Minister made the observation while addressing the inaugural function of Skills Competition 2016 of country's technical education in the capital yesterday.

Civil aviation and tourism Minister Rashed Khan Menon yesterday urged the country's youths to come together harboring patriotic feelings to resist the spread of fundamentalism, extremism and communalism in order to take the country forward. The Minister made the calls while inaugurating the seventh national congress of Bangladesh Juba Maitree on the Central Shaheed Minar premises. The Minister said, the government expected that the country's youths would resist the emerging threat of fundamentalism.

Housing and Public Works Minister Engineer Mosharraf Hossain yesterday told the authority of Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (CVASU) to take initiatives for setting up an anatomy park on the university premises. Mosharraf said this while inaugurating the day-long Livestock Exhibition in CVASU premises. The Minister said Bangladesh has achieved a major rank in fish production.

Prime Minister's international affairs Adviser Gowher Rizvi yesterday urged the new generation to develop proficiency in English. The Adviser told this in an international public speaking competition at Faujdarhat Cadet College. He added that English is not an enemy of Bangla rather learning English is vital for spreading our mother tongue as well as international purposes.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs M Shahriar Alam yesterday said Bangladesh is deeply engaged with the Canadian government over the repatriation of Nur Chowdhury, the self-confessed and convicted killer of the Father of the Nation. The State Minister was addressing the inaugural ceremony of the conclave on 'Canada-Bangladesh Diplomatic Relations: 45 Years of Progress' in a city hotel marking 45th year of bilateral relationship between the two countries. State Minister said, the visit of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to Montreal in October 2016 at the invitation of Canadian Premier generated a new thrust in bilateral relationship.

State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid yesterday stressed the need for using modern technology at all spheres of development to build an environment friendly Bangladesh. He was speaking as the chief guest while inaugurating "Digital innovation and Branding Fair-2017" at Shishu Academy. Minister said, the new generation is very talented and a little care could turn them as golden children.

DSEX, the prime index of the DSE, settled yesterday at 5625.33 points.

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