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### News Brief

President Md Abdul Hamid is scheduled to return home tonight wrapping up his eight-day visit to Japan and Singapore. A regular flight of Singapore Airlines carrying the president and his entourage from Singapore will land at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport at 10:40 pm. The President reached Singapore on 25 October after ending his six-day official visit to Japan from October 20.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina along with other heads of the State and Government joined the second and final day discussion of the 18th NAM Summit at Baku that ended with the Baku Declaration yesterday with a view to cementing ties among the member states. The PM along with other NAM leaders also participated in the closing ceremony of the two day summit last afternoon.

Bangladesh and Azerbaijan agreed to strengthen bilateral relations and cooperation in various fields as Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev held meeting with Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Presidential Palace in Baku yesterday. The Prime Minister recalled with profound respect the support of Azerbaijan as part of the then Soviet Union to Bangladesh's Liberation War in 1971. The PM thanked Azerbaijan for extending its moral and physical support to Bangladesh on the Rohingya issue. The Premier invited Azerbaijan President to visit Bangladesh which he cordially accepted. Following the bilateral meeting, an agreement on cultural exchange was signed between Bangladesh and Azerbaijan. Bangladesh State Minister for Cultural Affairs K M Khalid and Azerbaijan Cultural and Tourism Minister Dr Abulfas Garayev signed the agreement in presence of the Bangladesh Prime Minister and the Azerbaijan President. Also yesterday, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paid rich tributes to the martyrs of Azerbaijan by placing a wreath at a monument built in memory of them in Baku.

Palestine has decided to name a road in Hebron after Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Palestinian Foreign Minister Riyad Al Malki informed this when he called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on the sidelines of the NAM Summit in Baku yesterday. The Palestinian Minister also invited Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to formally unveil the name plaque of the road. The Palestinian Foreign Minister also thanked the Bangladesh Premier for raising the issue of Palestine strongly in various international forums. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also held a meeting with her Nepalese Counterpart KP Sharma Oli on the sidelines of the NAM Summit in Baku yesterday. Sheikh Hasina while exchanging views said, Bangladesh, India and Nepal can initially make the BBIN Motor Vehicles agreement operational, if Bhutan still needs more time.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has reissued a strong warning against the wrongdoers saying that law will take its own course against those who will commit crimes. The Premier made the caution when expatriate Bangladeshis living in Azerbaijan called on her at Hotel Hilton Baku in the Azerbaijan capital yesterday evening. Referring to unbridled corruption committed by the BNP-Jamaat government, there was no limit of graft during their five-year misrule. While talking about the Rohingya issue, the PM said discussion is underway with Myanmar to solve the problem. The Premier spelled out the country's tremendous development in various sectors including health, education, ICT and social safety net and recalled the contributions of the expatriates to the country's socioeconomic development. The Premier will return home today at 7.30 pm from Baku wrapping up her four-day official visit to Azerbaijan for attending the 18th Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader while exchanging views with journalists in Feni yesterday said, all corrupt people are under surveillance of the government. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is the country's only statesman who started cleanliness drives inside her own party, the minister added.


Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan while addressing a programme marking the Community Policing Day-2019 at the Bangladesh Police Auditorium of Rajarbagh in Dhaka yesterday urged all not to be misled by rumours rather to stay alert against any evil move to spread propaganda. Calling on the community police to stop rumours, the Minister said police have to face many challenges everyday and but their first task is to ensure that false information cannot spread.

Information Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud has said, the court will decide whether BNP Chief Begum Khaleda Zia would be allowed to go abroad for treatment, it is not a matter for the government to decide. The Minister said this while talking to journalists in Chattogram yesterday.

Finance Minister A H M Mustafa Kamal has urged the expatriate Bangladeshis to send more remittance through the legal channel saying that the government provides 2 percent stimulus to boost the inward remittance flow. The Minister made the call while addressing a discussion meeting at Bangladesh High Commission in London on Thursday. Mentioning that this stimulus on remittance became effective from July, 2019, the Minister said providing 2 percent stimulus on sending remittance through legal channel is an unprecedented example set by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and such facility does not exist in any country.

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Md Mahub Ali has said, direct flight operations to the USA and London from Sylhet Osmani International Airport will start from April. The Minister revealed this while speaking at a function at Baniachong upazila in Habiganj yesterday.

Many of the 200 Bangladeshi workers forcibly sent back from Saudi Arabia on Friday night said they were deported despite having legal documents. A flight carrying them landed at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport around 11:30 pm.

  
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