

**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH
DHAKA**

MOST URGENT
FOR: BANGLADOOT, ALL MISSIONS
MSG: 27/2017
Date: Sunday, 5 February 2017

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NEWS BRIEF

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has rescheduled a major program of her today for the convenience of Secondary School Certificate examinees. The Deputy press secretary of the prime minister's office said the premier was scheduled to join the "E-9 Ministerial Meeting on Education" at Hotel Raddison Blu in the capital at 10 am today, a timing that coincided with the starting hour of the ongoing SSC examinations. The three-day E-9 Ministerial Meeting on Education is set to kick off in the capital today to discuss experiences in education, exchange best practices and monitor progress on achieving Education for All (EFA).

Public Administration Minister Syed Ashraf Islam has announced that the government is working firmly to build the Dhaka International Trade Fair permanent venue at Bashundhara area in the city and the site will be opened soon. He was speaking as Chief Guest at DITF 2017 closing ceremony. Export Promotion Bureau informed that Businessmen bagged Tk 243.44 crore worth of export orders from the DITF -2017 .

Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed said the present government led by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been working tirelessly to turn Bangladesh into a middle income country by 2021 and a developed one by 2041. He said this while speaking as chief guest at a function where the newly elected Bhola Zila Parishad chairman and other office-bearers took over the charge at the programme. Commerce minister said the government has a plan to generate 24,000 megawatt (MW) electricity by 2021 and then the government will be able to bring all people under the electricity connection.

State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid yesterday said the government will handle shortcomings in the power grid systems with priority. The state minister was addressing a general managers' conference of Rural Electrification Board of Bangladesh (REB) at its headquarters in the city's Khilkhet. He also directed the REB chairman to allocate funds as much as they need to improve the electricity distribution system. He also assured of sufficient funding from the government to modernize the power grid.

State Minister for Information and Technology Zunaid Ahmed Palak yesterday said there is no alternative to education to make the young efficient in information technology. He was addressing an assembly of students at Jormallika Nightingale High School in Singra upazila. The state minister said Information technology will be the main driving force in this development of our country.

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Engineer Khandakar Mosharaf Hossain yesterday said there is no room for communalism in the country's constitution as it provides for equal rights for all communities including 'harijon'. He said this as the chief guest at the 19th founding anniversary of Bangladesh Harijon Oikya Parishad at Poura auditorium in Faridpur.

Bangladesh Bank governor Fazle Kabir said Banks must ensure good governance and internal control and compliance alongside it. Governor Kabir said this while speaking as the chief guest at the annual business conference of Rupali Bank at the Krishibid Institution in Dhaka yesterday. He also suggested the bank to disburse more loans to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with special focus on manufacturing sector.

National Board of Revenue Chairman Md Nojibur Rahman said the number of total e-TIN holders in the country has reached 27 lakh. He said NBR is hopeful of increasing the number of e-TIN holders to 30 lakh in fiscal year 2016-17 as it is issuing 6 to 7 thousand new e-TINs everyday on an average.

Foreign Ministry officials yesterday said Bangladesh will monitor what the United Nations as well as the international community does following a report released by the UN human rights office on Friday that detailed serious human rights violations by Myanmar military in Rakhine state including mass gang rapes, killings, including of babies and young children, brutal beatings and disappearances. The Officials said Dhaka is always keen to resolve the Rohingya issue bilaterally.

Biman Bangladesh Airlines made profits in the second consecutive fiscal as it registered a profit of Taka 276 crore in fiscal 2015-16. The state-run carrier has earned revenue of Taka 4,645 crore in FY16, said a press release.

DSEX, the prime index of the DSE, settled yesterday at 5365.14 points.

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