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FROM: PIO, PID, DHAKA
Fax: 9540553/9540026
E-mail: piddhaka@gmail.com
piddhaka@yahoo.com
Web: www.pressinform.portal.gov.bd

News Brief

President Md. Abdul Hamid has urged Brazil to import more Bangladeshi goods including readymade garment (RMG), pharmaceuticals, jute-materials and ceramics. The President made the call when ambassador-designate of Brazil to Bangladesh Joao Tabajara de Oliveira Junior presented his credential to him at Bangabhaban yesterday. Referring to the opening of Bangladesh mission in Brazil, the President observed that it has opened a new door of trade and investment between the two countries. He also called for sharing experiences in agriculture, sports and culture and exchanging high-level visits between the two countries. In another ceremony at Bangabhaban yesterday, Ambassador of Switzerland to Bangladesh Rene Hostenstein presented his credential to the President. Welcoming the Envoy the President sought cooperation of the Swiss government for putting continued international pressure on the Myanmar government to resolve Rohingya crisis by ensuring their safe repatriation to the Rakhine state.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, now in the United States in connection with the 72nd UN General Assembly, is keeping round-the-clock contact with her office in Dhaka and digitally clearing urgent files. She gives necessary directives to the officials concerned on different matters, PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim told the media yesterday.

The UN Security Council will meet on Thursday to discuss the violence in Myanmar and hear a briefing from UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on the crisis. Britain, France, the United States and four other countries requested for arranging the meeting. The United Nations said yesterday about 480,000 Rohingya Muslims had fled to Bangladesh since violence broke out in Myanmar on August 25. Meanwhile, the government of Bangladesh will issue 6,000 smart cards to Rohingya orphans. The Ministry of Social Welfare will take all responsibilities of the orphans, including their food and lodging. This was disclosed by the State Minister for Social Welfare Nuruzzaman Ahmed at a press meet in Dhaka yesterday.

Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Abdullah MH Almutairi has assured that the Saudi government will continue to provide support to ensure return of the Myanmar nationals who have fled to Bangladesh amid persecution in Rakhine state. The envoy came up with the assurance during a meeting with State Minister for Foreign Affairs M Shahriar Alam in Dhaka yesterday. The State Minister expressed deep gratitude to Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz for extending humanitarian support to the distressed Myanmar nationals.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Mohammed Nasim has sought assistance from Japan government to establish a National Shishu (Children) Hospital and Institute in Dhaka. The Minister made the appeal when visiting professor of University of Kochi Graduate School of Nursing in Japan Dr Hiroko Minami called on him at the Secretariat yesterday. Mentioning Japan as a real friend of Bangladesh, the Minister said, the people of Bangladesh would always remember continuous support of Japan government in health, infrastructural and socio-economical sector." Praising the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina as a humanitarian leader, Dr Hiroko said, "She is being praised by world leaders for giving shelter to Rohingya people." The Professor assured the support for establishing the pediatric hospital.

Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu has said, the media outlet Voice of America (VOA) is the bridge between the people of the United States of America and Bangladesh. He was inaugurating a photo exhibition "Many Years, Many Stories" in Dhaka to celebrate 75 years of VOA and 60 years of its Bengali service. The Minister further said It had provided great service to Bangladesh by providing reliable information during the Liberation War and the democratic struggles against military rule, he added.

Bangladesh and Cambodia are seeking to strengthen cooperation on trade and enhance and expand trade and business partnerships via a deal which will be signed in October. Cambodia Chamber of Commerce Director General Ngoun Meng Tech said yesterday that the relevant parties of the two countries have discussed and prepared documents related to the trade deal which will pave the way to explore opportunities for investment.

The government has decided to appoint Kazi Imtiaz Hossain as the next ambassador of Bangladesh to France.

The DSE broad index DSEX closed yesterday at 6104.27 points with a loss of 0.03 percent.

Fazle Rabbi
Addl. Principal Information Officer
Ph-02- 9545096