

**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT  
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**News Brief**

Newly appointed Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain was sworn in yesterday as the 22<sup>nd</sup> Chief Justice of the country. President Md. Abdul Hamid administered his oath at a ceremony at the Darbar Hall of Bangabhaban. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina attended the ceremony.

Swiss President Alain Berset arrives in Dhaka today on a four-day official visit to express solidarity with Bangladesh on the Rohingya issue. During the visit, Mr. Alain will meet President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. LNG business, ways to further strengthen economic, development and cultural cooperation between the two friendly countries will be discussed during the visit.

Bhutanese Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay has expressed his country's eagerness to import more medicine from Bangladesh. The Bhutanese Premier expressed the eagerness as he held meeting with Industries Minister Amir Hossain Amu in the sideline of an international investment conference in the Indian State of Assam. Mr Tobgay said, Bangladesh's drugs are becoming popular increasingly in Bhutan because of high quality. He also expressed his country's interest to use Bangladesh inland water ways for expansion of bilateral trade between the two countries. Industries Minister said, Bangladesh is interested to import power from Bhutan.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith has expressed his firm optimism that country's largest state owned commercial bank, Sonali Bank Limited, would establish itself as an ideal bank within a couple of years. The Minister was addressing the Annual Meeting of the bank held in Dhaka yesterday. The meeting was informed that the number of bank accounts rose by 118 percent to 8.17 crore in 2017 which was only 3.76 crore in 2008.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid has laid emphasis on grooming new generation imparting global standard education aiming to cope with the changing world of job markets. The Minister made the stress while addressing at the convocation of American International University, Bangladesh in Dhaka yesterday. The Minister urged the authorities concerned to ensure congenial academic atmosphere at all educational institutions to make those free from all sorts of terror activities.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan has said, the government following developed countries is going to introduce e-passport service soon. He said this while inaugurating the 'Passport Service Week-2018' at BICC in Dhaka yesterday. The Minister said, in the e-service system, chips will be included in the passports having all information of their holders.

A 3-day conference of OIC Tourism Ministers begins in Dhaka tomorrow. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the conference. OIC Secretary General Dr Yousef bin Ahmed Al-Othaimen will attend the meet. During the conference, the ministers of tourism of the 57 OIC member states will talk about tourism potentials and ways to contribute better to their economies.

A five-day annual labour welfare conference kicks off in Dhaka today. Forty four labour attaches posted at Bangladesh missions in 28 countries would attend the event arranged by the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment. During the conference, the labour attaches would get fresh reorientation about the government's priorities related to workers' migration and welfare issues.

Seventy six scientists of the country working in different institutions will be sent to the UK to have training in tackling Non-Communicable Diseases, DG of the Directorate General of Health Services Prof Dr Abul Kalam Azad told the media yesterday. He said, the Bangladeshi scientists are being sent to the UK under an agreement signed recently.

The DSEX in the country's main bourse stood at 6,021 points on Thursday.

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