**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT**

### GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH

### DHAKA

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| **MOST URGENT**  FOR: BANGLADOOT, ALL MISSIONS  MSG: 03/2017  **Date: Tuesday, 03 January 2017** | **FROM: APIO, PID, DHAKA**  Fax: 9540553/9540026  E-mail: [piddhaka@gmail.com](mailto:piddhaka@gmail.com)  [piddhaka@yahoo.com](mailto:piddhaka@yahoo.com)  Web: [www.pressinform.portal.gov.bd](http://www.pressinform.portal.gov.bd) |

**News brief**

The Cabinet yesterday approved in principle the draft of the Chittagong Development Authority (CDA) Act,2016 with a provision to raise the fine to Taka five lakh from Taka two hundred for demolition of any boundary wall and pillar of street light of the CDA. The approval was given in the weekly meeting of the cabinet held at Bangladesh Secretariat with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the killing of Awami League lawmaker Manzurul Islam Liton was a planned murder, and asked all the ministers and lawmakers to stay alert. The Prime Minister said this at the weekly cabinet meeting yesterday. A condolence motion on Liton was also adopted at the meeting.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina visited pavilion of Walton after inaugurating the 22nd Dhaka International Trade Fair in Dhaka on Sunday.During the visit, the Prime Minister was overwhelmed by witnessing the `Made in Bangladesh` labeled Walton products and the remarkable progress of the local brand in manufacturing hi-tech items. She felt proud knowing that high technology based appliances are being manufactured inside the country. The Prime Minister also came up with the assurance of providing all kinds of assistance by the government for the expansion of the industry.

President Abdul Hamid yesterday underlined the importance of a consensus among political parties to hold fair elections in the country.The President made the remarks during a meeting with a 16-member delegation of Jatiya Party (JP), led by its Chairman Anwar Hossain Manju, at Bangabhaban. President Abdul Hamid has invited the ruling Awami League for a dialogue on January 11 over the formation of the new Election Commission (EC).

The namaz-e-janaza of Awami League MP Manjurul Islam Liton was held at the South Plaza of Jatiya Sangsad yesterday morning. After the janaza, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paid tributes to slain Manjurul Islam Liton by placing wreaths on his coffin. On behalf of the President, his military secretary Major General Sarwar Hossain placed a wreath on his coffin to pay homage to him.

Bangladesh has urged China to accord the utmost priority to the Padma Bridge Rail Link Project in the economic cooperation programme between the two countries, and accordingly arrange necessary funds for this project in 2017. A letter has recently been sent to Chinese president Xi Jinping, requesting quick funding for the project. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on November 25 approved certain steps to expedite the signing of the credit deal arrangement for the project. Meanwhile, the PMO has instructed the Economic Relations Division (ERD) to expedite the loan agreement initiative with the Chinese government.

10 power plants with generation capacity of 1,840 MW are expected to be commissioned this year. Director General (DG) of Power Cell under Energy and Mineral Resources Ministry Engineer Mohammad Hossain said this. The government already installed 81 power plants with generation capacity of 10,353 MW during the last eight years and brought 78 percent people of the country under electricity coverage.

The Saudi embassy in Dhaka has withdrawn the restriction on visas for male migrant workers, Shameem Ahmed Chowdhury Noman, joint secretary general-2 of Baira said yesterday. The embassy had imposed the restriction, saying that recruiting agencies were not sending at least 25 percent female workers simultaneously.

The remittance inflow improved in December as the country received $958.73 million in the last month of the previous year against $951.37 million in November, Bangladesh Bank official data revealed.

The government has directed TV channel distributors to stop airing foreign television channels that broadcast advertisements of local companies. The airing of advertisements on downlinked foreign TV channels has been banned in line with section 19(13) of the Cable Television Networks Regulation Act 2006.

The government yesterday launched a platform containing e-learning resources for Class IX-X students and an e-manual for teachers with a view to making learning and teaching easier and interactive. Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid inaugurated the online platform through a ceremony in Dhaka.

As many as 12,381 pre-primary students from Chakma, Marma and Tripura communities in the hill district got free textbooks written in their mother languages on the New Year yesterday. Earlier National Curriculum and Textbook Board took the initiative to publish textbooks in indigenous languages, following a government decision to facilitate learning of ethnic minority children in their own languages.

The country is most likely to be self-sufficient in vegetable production in the coming decade as vegetable productions grew by 32 percent in the past six years. According to latest agriculture ministry statistics the country produced 143,47,000 tons vegetables, a figure which is up by 35 lakh tons from that of 2009-10.

The government is working to develop a web-based data repository called ‘SDG Tracker’ for online monitoring of implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other national development goals.

Around 15 lakh new voters have been included in the draft of the updated voter list, said Election Commission (EC) yesterday.The draft list was revealed yesterday and it will be scrutinised till January 27. The final voter list will come on January 31.

The government will issue new Taka 5 currency note from January 5.

DSEX, the prime index of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) settled yesterday at 5,119.59 points.

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