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| Most Urgent  For: Bangladoot, All Missions  MSG: 17/2018-19  Date: Monday, 23 July 2018 | | From: PIO, PID, Dhaka  Fax: 9540553/9540026  E-mail: [piddhaka@gmail.com](mailto:piddhaka@gmail.com)  Web: [www.pressinform.gov.bd](http://www.pressinform.gov.bd) | |

**News Brief**

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President Md. Abdul Hamid has laid emphasis on finding solutions to climate change related problems on a priority basis to maintain the achievements in the agriculture sector. The President was addressing a function marking the founding anniversary of Bangladesh Agriculture University in Mymensingh yesterday. The President also laid foundation stone of 'Bangladesh Haor and Char Development Institute' on the university campus.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said, a disciplined and strong army always plays a very helpful role in establishing and integrating democracy in any country. The Prime Minister said this while inaugurating the `Army Headquarters Selection Board 2018' at the Dhaka Cantonment yesterday. The Premier gave six-point directive to the Generals for following the process to select new officers for their promotion.

President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina have greeted the recipients of 'Public Administration Padak' on the eve of the Public Service Day. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to hand over the Award to the winners of this year at Osmani Memorial Auditorium in Dhaka this morning.

Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury has said, Bangladesh is now working sincerely to meet nutrition demand of its growing population after attaining autarky in food. The Speaker said this while inaugurating the construction works of the advanced calf breeding centre at Pirganj in Rangpur yesterday.

Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed has urged Britain to continue the existing trade facilities to Bangladesh even after Brexit. The Minister made the call while exchanging views with visiting British Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Bangladesh Rushnara Ali, MP at his official residence in Dhaka yesterday. The British MP also met State Minister for Power and Energy Nasrul Hamid at his office yesterday. During the meeting, she informed the State Minister that British Petroleum is interested to work in Bangladesh.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Mohammed Nasim has asked the authority concerned to withdraw the medicine 'Valsartan', usually used for controlling blood pressure, as the drug may cause cancer. The Minister made the directive at a meeting at his ministry yesterday.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal has said, the use of drug will be eliminated from the country like militancy. The Minister said this while speaking at RAB Media Centre in Dhaka yesterday.

Freedom Fighters would receive medical treatment at all government and specialized hospitals at free and or minimal cost. A MoU in this regard was signed between the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in Dhaka yesterday.

Bangladesh has ranked 115th in the United Nations E-Government Survey 2018 among the 193 countries moving nine notches up from its previous 124th position in 2016. Post, Telecommunications and ICT Minister Mustafa Jabbar revealed the information at a press conference at Bangladesh Computer Council in Dhaka yesterday.

DSEX, the broad index of the DSE, settled yesterday at 5339.18 points.

**Fazle Rabbi**

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