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**News Brief**

 President Md. Abdul Hamid has urged members of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to take special care on the human rights related issues, specially protecting the rights of the physically-challenged. The President made the urge when an NHRC delegation led by its Chairman Kazi Reazul Hoque submitted its annual report-2018 to the President at Bangabhaban yesterday. The President also asked the Information Commission to be more active in disseminating information at the grassroots level when a delegation of the Information Commission led by Chief Information Commissioner Martuza Ahmed submitted its annual report 2018 to him yesterday.

 Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will leave Dhaka on July 1 for China on a five-day official visit to attend the annual meeting of World Economic Forum in Dalian from July 1-3. During her visit, the Prime Minister will hold bilateral talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping and Chinese Premier Li Keqiang in Beijing. The PM is expected to return home on July 6.

 Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has informed the Jatiya Sangsad that her government has set a target of creating 1.50 crore employments in the next five years. The Premier said this in a reply to a question in the House yesterday. While replying to another question tabled in the House, the Prime Minister said, the government has been continuing its diplomatic efforts with Myanmar alongside with international and regional forums to send back the forcibly displaced Rohingyas to their homeland.

 Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader has said, the development work to upgrade the Dhaka-Sylhet highway into a four-lane one will begin soon. The Minister came up with the announcement while responding to a query in the Parliament yesterday. The work to similarly upgrade the Dhaka-Tangail highway is almost over and work on upgrading the Dhaka-Mawa-Bhanga and Elenga-Hatikumrul-Rangpur highways into four-lane ones is continuing, the Minister added.

 Bangladesh Awami League has announced the names of the party’s Chairman Candidates for elections to one municipality and 71 Union Parishads. The announcement came at a meeting of AL Local Government Election Nomination Board with AL President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair at Ganabhaban yesterday.

 Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal has said, the Department of Narcotics Control has formed anti-drugs committees in more than 28,000 educational institutions across the country. The Minister said this to journalists after attending a programme on the occasion of International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking at KIB in the city yesterday.

 LGRD Minister Md. Tajul Islam has said, pragmatic and effective steps will be taken for solid waste and sewerage management on roads, waterways and railways as improved sanitation system is an integral part of clean environment. The Minister said this while addressing a workshop at Sonargaon Hotel in the capital yesterday.

 Foreign Minister Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen has said, strong political determination is needed to make BIMSTEC more effective for maintaining sustainable and peaceful Bay of Bengal region. The Minister made the remarks while speaking at a reception marking the 22nd founding anniversary of BIMSTEC in the capital yesterday.

 Railways Minister Md. Nurul Islam Sujan has said, stern action would be taken if investigation into the Kulaura accident found anyone guilty of negligence. The Minister gave the warning while talking to reporters after visiting people injured in the accident at Sylhet Osmani Medical College and Hospital yesterday.

 State Minister for Disaster Management and Relief Md. Enamur Rahman has said, all chemical factories of old Dhaka will be transferred to Sirajdikhan of Munshiganj by June, 2022. The State Minister said this to media after attending a meeting of the inter-ministerial Disaster Management Coordination Committee at his ministry yesterday.

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 **Md. Shahinoor Miah**

Sr. Deputy Principal Information Officer (Press)

Ph-02-9540138