**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT**

### GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH

### DHAKA

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**News Brief**

The incumbent President Md. Abdul Hamid has been elected unopposed as the country’s President for a second consecutive term. Chief Election Commissioner K M Nurul Huda yesterday declared him the 21st President of Bangladesh as no other candidate was found for the post.

President Md. Abdul Hamid has urged all concerned to come up with new inventions in technology and ensure their proper use to speed up the country’s development at all levels. The President made the urge while addressing the third convocation of Jessore Science and Technology University in Jessore yesterday. The President, also the chancellor of the university, categorically laid stress on making efficient manpower to compete with the revolutionary expansion of the information technology worldwide.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said, Bangladesh does not want any war with any country as it works for peace. She said."We run the country upon the principle of 'friendship to all malice to none.” The PM said this while she was addressing the graduation ceremony of Defence Services Command and Staff College 2018 at Sheikh Hasina Complex of Mirpur Cantonment yesterday. The PM, terming the armed forces symbol of independence said, they are now much more developed and efficient having modern training and equipment.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina goes to Patuakhali and Barisal today on a daylong visit to open 'Sheikh Hasina Cantonment' and 54 development projects. She will also lay the foundation stones of 34 uplift schemes during her visit to the two southern districts of the country.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has appreciated Tokyo's support for Bangladesh on the Rohingya issue. The PM made the appreciation when Japanese ambassador Hiroyasu IZUMI called on her office in parliament. While exchanging views the PM reiterated Dhaka's insistence for quick repatriation of the forcibly displaced people to Myanmar.  The Japanese envoy said, Tokyo would keep on its sympathetic stance for Bangladesh on the Rohingya issue and his country wants peaceful solution to the crisis.
 Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina while responding to her question-answer session told parliament yesterday , it is possible to resolve all problems with neighbouring countries through dialogue, no matter how complex those are. The PM said this pointing to her government's success in resolving disputes with India and Myanmar over maritime boundaries. In reply to a query, the Premier told parliament that the trial of August 21 grenade attack case is at the final stage as the prosecution has completed their closing arguments. Replying to another query, the PM said the government had taken steps for restructuring organograms at public offices to create scope for promotion of the lower-grade employees.

Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury has urged the farmers to cultivate local “Nerika” variety during the Aus season as it consumes less water and the government will provide all-out supports to increase the production. The Minister made the urge as she was addressing a press briefing at her ministry office yesterday. The government, she said, will distribute Aus paddy seed and chemical fertilizers worth about Tk 40 crore among the 2.37 lakh small and marginal farmers across the country free of cost to increase the production of the crop.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan has said, law enforcement agencies have taken all the necessary preparations to deal with any kind of chaos and anarchy over today's verdict in Khaleda Zia's graft case. The Minister said this while talking to reporters at the secretariat yesterday. The Minister said, the law enforcement agencies have been kept ready to handle any situation as ensuring security for people is their duty, "It's very natural that the court will pronounce verdict after trial. We have no information about the verdict. Everything depends on court. We'll carry out our duty as per the court order”,the Minister added.

Posts,Telecommunications and Information Technology Minister Mustafa Jabbar has said, computer made by Bangladesh will be exported to Nepal and Nigeria within this month. The Minister said this while addressing the inaugural ceremony of a five-day digital ICT fair-2018 at the Computer City Centre in the capital yesterday.

The main index of Dhaka Stock Exchange, DSEX, settled yesterday at 5,936 points.

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