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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

The ECNEC has approved 10 projects involving a total of Tk. 6,326.23 crore including one to renovate Dhaka-Chattogram four-lane national highway. The approval came from the ECNEC meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair in Dhaka yesterday. A project-Establishment of Axle Load Control Centres at Entry Points of Goods Transport in the Important Highways will also be implemented at a cost of Taka 1,630 crore. The government is planning to establish toll offices on Dhaka-Rangpur, Dhaka-Sylhet, Dhaka-Khulna and Dhaka-Chattogram highways as per the instruction of Prime Minister to introduce toll collection system in the highways along with the existing provision for some prominent bridges.

A 20-member delegation of Bangladesh Awami League led by Presidium Member Abdul Matin Khasru paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on the eve of leaving for China on a visit at the invitation of the Communist Party of China (CPC). The delegation will meet CPC leaders and discuss various issues focusing the Rohingya crisis and their repatriation to Myanmar.

Dhaka is set to hold the two-day long 3rd IORA Ministerial Conference on Blue Economy to promote smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and employment opportunities in the Blue Economy activities along the Indian Ocean belt. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is likely to inaugurate the conference at Hotel InterContinental tomorrow. Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payne arrived Dhaka yesterday to attend the conference. Later, the Australian FM visited the Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar.

Law Minister Anisul Huq at a views exchange meeting organized by Central 14-Party Alliance at AL's Bangabandhu Avenue office in Dhaka yesterday said, the government has decided to form a National Commission to find out the masterminds behind the plot of killing Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The Minister also said that the government is taking all out efforts to bring the fugitive killers of Bangabandhu back home. Bangladesh has already filed a case in Canadian court pleading for handing over Nur Chowdhury. Regarding the repatriation of Rashed Chowdhury from USA, the Law Minister said that the Prime Minister sent a letter to President Donald Trump. The Foreign Office is in constant contact with the US administration and the US is now showing positive attitude about extraditing convict Rashed Chowdhury to Bangladesh, the Minister added.

Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen while interacting with the executive committee members of the Diplomatic Correspondents Association, Bangladesh at his ministry yesterday said, the government will not force Rohingyas to go to Bhashanchar adding that a technical team of the UN is assessing the condition of taking them to the Bhashanchar.


US Ambassador to Bangladesh Earl R Miller while talking to reporters in Sylhet yesterday said, Myanmar must create the conducive environment in that country so that all the Rohingyas can return to their home in a safe, dignified manner and the US is working in partnership with Bangladesh to make sure this happen.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam who is now in the Maldives to attend the 4th Indian Ocean Conference called on Maldivian President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih in Male yesterday. During the meeting, cooperation on ocean and maritime issues were also discussed and the both sides stressed on the need for sustainable harnessing of oceanic resources.

Japan's power generation company, JERA has agreed to acquire stakes in a power project in Bangladesh now under development by Reliance Power. Under the agreement, signed with the India's Reliance Power, it will acquire 49 per cent of the gas-fired thermal power generation project with combined capacity of 750MW that will be set up in Narayanganj's Meghnaghat. The overall construction work progress of 20-kilometre long elevated metro-rail service from Uttara to Motijheel stood at 30.05 per cent now, while 46 per cent work between Uttara and Agargaon has been done, Managing Director of Dhaka Mass Transit Company Ltd. said to media yesterday. Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA) is set to formally launch its 'One Stop Service (OSS) Centre' formally by the end of the current month of September to provide all the necessary services to the investors of the economic zones in a single window.

Bangladesh Bank Yesterday said that the picture of Tk.100 note on Facebook with the photo of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on the left side and the photo of Bangabandhu Satellite on the back is completely fake. The central Bank urged the law enforcement agencies to take necessary measures against this kind of activities on the social media.

Four building owners were fined Tk. 1,30,000 on different charges in anti-mosquito drives conducted by the two city corporations of Dhaka yesterday. DGHS said, the number of new dengue cases is declining steadily and 783 new dengue patients were admitted to different hospitals in the country during the last 24 hours till last morning.

  
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Surath Kumar Sarker  
Principal Information Officer