**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT**

### GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH

### DHAKA

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**News Brief**

President Md. Abdul Hamid has called upon Myanmar government to create a congenial atmosphere to ensure safe return of the displaced Rohingyas to their homeland Rakhine state with dignity. The President made the call when a seven-member delegation led by Myanmar Home Minister Lieutenant General Kyaw Swe met him at Bangabhaban yesterday. The President stressed on the implementation of Kofi Annan Commission's recommendations to end the Rohingya crisis. Mr. Swe said, his country is ready to take Rohingyas back and a repatriation camp was established accordingly. Myanmar government is working to implement the recommendations of Annan Commission gradually in this connection, he added.

Myanmar's Home Minister Lieutenant General Kyaw Swe arrived in Dhaka yesterday on a three-day visit. He will hold a meeting with his Bangladesh counterpart Asaduzzaman Khan today. Apart from the Rohingya crisis, the two sides will discuss the full implementation of the border agreement including halting smuggling of arms and drugs.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who reached Abu Dhabi yesterday morning from Rome concluding her four-day official visit to Italy and Vatican City, is set to return home on Saturday evening after making a stopover in the Abu Dhabi. Earlier, the Premier departed Rome for Abu Dhabi at 10 am local time on Wednesday.

President Md. Abdul Hamid has called upon agricultural universities to conduct research keeping people's food demand and security in mind by 2100. The President made the urge while addressing the new graduates at the convocation of Sylhet Agricultural University on its campus yesterday. The President, in his address, called for increasing production through optimum utilization of sustainable agri-technologies.

 Road, Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader has said, there is no need to worry about the proposed Digital Security Act 2018. He said this to the reporters after attending a view-exchange meeting with the owners, editors and CEOs of print and electronic media outlets at the Bangladesh Press Institute in Dhaka yesterday. Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu chaired the meeting which was also attended by State Minister for Information Tarana Halim. Obaidul Quader said, the Cabinet will take the final decision after the proposed Digital Security Act comes from the law ministry. In the meantime, the matter can be discussed with the stakeholders.

Railway Minister M Mujibul Haq has said, the government is planning to construct circular railway surrounding the Dhaka city for eliminating traffic gridlock in the capital. Under the plan, a feasibility study for constructing circular railway has been approved by the Planning Commission. The Minister said this while replying to a question in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal has said, the government has planned to enhance the coverage of various social safety net programmes in the coming days to increase the number of beneficiaries to one crore. The Minister said this as he was speaking at 'Meet the Press' at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in Dhaka yesterday. He mentioned, around 67 lakh people in the country are already getting the benefits of various social safety net programmes.

Bangladesh has leaped forward to 14th place from 21st as a 'Promising Country for Overseas Business over the Medium-term. This has been reported in the 29th Annual Survey Report of the Japan Bank for International Cooperation on Overseas Business Operations.

Bangladesh High Commission in London has urged the British government to take necessary legal steps against the persons who defamed the portrait of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and attacked on the High Commission.

The 76th birth anniversary of internationally reputed nuclear scientist and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's husband Dr MA Wazed Miah is being celebrated today. Different political and socio-cultural organizations have chalked out programmes in the capital city and Rangpur in observance of his birthday.

The prime index of the Dhaka Stocks Exchange, settled yesterday at 6,050 points.

 **Fazle Rabbi**

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