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**News Brief**

 Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina returned home yesterday wrapping up her five-day official visit to China at the invitation of her Chinese counterpart Li Keqiang. Cabinet members, high civil and military officials were present at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport to receive the Prime Minister. Earlier, the flight carrying the Bangladesh Premier and her entourage departed the Beijing Capital International Airport at 11.05am local time yesterday. The Prime Minister was given a static guard of honour at the airport while Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Luo Zhaohui saw the Premier off there. During the visit, The Chinese President, Prime Minister and other top level leaders conveyed to Bangladesh Prime Minister that the strategic partnership of cooperation established between the two countries in 2016 will be helpful in a big way towards the prosperity and stability in Asia and beyond apart from serving the mutual interest of the two nations. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will brief the media on her visit to China at Ganabhaban at 4 pm tomorrow.

 Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury has stressed on exercising true history of the Liberation War to imbue the new generation with its spirit. The Speaker made the emphasis while addressing a function organized to accord a reception to freedom fighters, sector commanders and artistes at Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh in Dhaka yesterday.

 Agriculture Minister Dr. Mohammad Abdur Razzaque has said, the government is making constant stride to ensure fair price of the agricultural products including paddy and reducing production through various ways including farm mechanization. The Minister said this while inaugurating a conference on Barendra Agro Eco Innovation Research Platform Conference at Shilpakala Academy Auditorium in Rajshahi yesterday.

 Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal has said, all illegal occupants of the river banks will be brought to justice. The Minister made the warning while inaugurating the works of boundary pillars and walkways to protect the river bank at Kamrangirchar in Dhaka yesterday.

 Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud has requested the European Union to share their best practices and guidelines for the print as well as electronic and online media with Bangladesh. The Minister made the request while holding a meeting with the senior officials of the EU in Brussels on Friday. The EU assured the Minister of providing all possible support and cooperation to Bangladesh for further strengthening its print, electronic and online media platforms.

 Education Minister Dr. Dipu Moni has said, the government has set a target of 30 per cent enrolment in technical education by 2030 aiming to transform Bangladesh into an economically developed country. The Minister said this while talking to journalists at the Circuit House in Chandpur yesterday.

 Malaysian Foreign Minister Saifuddin Abdullah arrived on Saturday on a three-day visit to oversee the activities of Malaysian field hospital in Cox's Bazar and Rohingya camps situation on the ground. The Malaysian Foreign Minister will have a meeting with Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momentoday.

 Chief of Staff of Bangladesh Army General Aziz Ahmed left Dhaka for the United States of America on Saturday night. General Aziz Ahmed during the visit is expected to hold meetings with high officials concerned for increasing the number of Bangladeshi troops in UN peacekeeping missions and elevating the representation of Bangladesh in policy-making. Meanwhile, a delegation of 15 young couples of Indian Army arrived in Dhaka yesterday at the invitation of the Chief of General Staff of Bangladesh Army.

Three Chinese companies have submitted a project to the shipping ministry expressing their interest to restore the waterway routes environment-friendly way around the capital. The project costing Tk 140 crore excluding land acquisition will be implemented in the next 15 to 20 years.

 The government has taken necessary initiatives to raise the number of taxpayers to 10 million within the next two years. NBR Chairman Md. Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan said this while speaking at a seminar in Dhaka yesterday.

 Bangladesh House Building Finance Corporation is planning to construct houses in the khas lands by using modern technology for the middle and lower income groups under 'rent to buy' method. BHBFC Managing Director informed this while talking to media yesterday.

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