**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT**

### GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH

### DHAKA

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| **MOST URGENT**  FOR: BANGLADOOT, ALL MISSIONS  MSG: 35/2017  **Date: Wednesday, 15 February 2017** | **FROM: PIO, PID, DHAKA**  Fax: 9540553/9540026  E-mail: [piddhaka@gmail.com](mailto:piddhaka@gmail.com)  [piddhaka@yahoo.com](mailto:piddhaka@yahoo.com)  Web: [www.pressinform.portal.gov.bd](http://www.pressinform.portal.gov.bd) |

**NEWS BRIEF**

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the new division in Comilla will be named as ‘Maynamati Division’. From now on, there will be no division based on the name of the district concerned rather new division would come up with a different name, Planning Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal quoted the Prime Minister as saying at the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) meeting.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said that false graft allegation was brought against Padma Bridge and the World Bank stopped lending loan support on the basis of that allegation. She made the comments in her introductory speech while chairing the weekly ECNEC meeting held at the NEC conference room yesterday.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will leave Dhaka for Munich, Germany tomorrow on a four-day official visit to attend Munich Security Conference (MSC) and bilateral talks with German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Issues related to Rohingya, security, migration, democracy and human rights are going to dominate the discussions during the first ever full-fledged Foreign Secretary-level consultation between Bangladesh and the European Union in Brussels today. The consultation will also highlight good governance, climate change, trade and commerce, and investment, officials of the Foreign Ministry said this to The daily Independent.

Malaysian ship ‘Nautical Aliya’ carrying relief for Rohingyas reached Chittagong port yesterday. Bangladesh Foreign Secretary (Maritime Unit) Rear Admiral Khurshid Alam, Malaysian High Commissioner Nur Ashikin Binte Mohd Taib were present at the Jetty at that time. Later, the relief goods were handed over formally through a ceremony at the jetty.

Foreign Minister AH Mahmud Ali yesterday said to parliament that some 9,640 Bangladeshis are languishing in jails of 38 countries, including India,  the USA, the UK, Australia and different Middle-East states. He said this to the House while responding a written question.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan said members of the Coast Guard are working ceaselessly to curb illegal infiltration, human trafficking, smuggling and piracy in the coastal areas all over the country. The force has engaged in serving the people by ensuring safety and security. He said this to a programme marking the 22nd founding anniversary of Bangladesh Coast Guard and Coast Guard Day 2017 at its headquarters in the capital yesterday.

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of Bangladesh yesterday signed an agreement for a $100 million loan for skill development of young workforce, especially women, to enhance job opportunities, expand economic base, and boost income. The assistance is the second tranche of the $350 million multitranche financing facility (MFF) approved by ADB in 2014 for the Skills for Employment Investment Program (SEIP). The remaining amount from the ADB assistance is expected to be utilized before the MFF period ends in 2024.

Law Minister Anisul Huq said yesterday that the World Bank (WB) is not above the law. But the Bangladesh government cannot sue the WB in view of the contract. Legal action can be taken against the WB by those affected personally, following allegations of corruption in the Padma Bridge project. He made the observations while addressing a ‘meet the press’ programme organised by the Law Reporters' Forum (LRF) at Dhaka Reporters' Unity.

The fourth Indo-Bangla Trade Fair-2017 will begin in the capital from tomorrow aiming to promote bilateral trade relation between two countries. The three-day fair will be held at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel. The announcement came at a press conference held at Dhaka yesterday.

A four-day international yarn and fabric expo begins today in Dhaka with a view to creating a one-stop biggest marketplace of Bangladesh for textile business as well as presenting the latest fabrics and trends. The exposition styled as the eleventh Dhaka International Yarn & Fabric Show 2017 will be held at International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB), which will be concluded on Saturday, said organisers at a press conference at National Press Club on Monday.

## Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States Mohammad Ziauddin met with Congressman Ted S Yoho in Washington DC and sought US support for economic development of Bangladesh. Republican Congressman from Florida, Ted Yoho is a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Asia and the Pacific. The meeting was held on Monday. The Ambassador congratulated the Congressman on his new position as the Chairman of the Asia Pacific region which represents the maximum number of population and generates almost 80 percent of total trade in the world. Ziauddin renewed his call for Duty Free Quota Free (DFQF) market access of Bangladeshi products to the USA along with 13 other Least Developed Countries (LDCs) which are left out from US DFQF scheme, said a PID handout yesterday.

The benchmark index of Dhaka Stock Exchange, DSEX, rose by 0.72 per cent or 40.14 points, to close at 5,598.71 points yesterday.

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