**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT**

### GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH

### DHAKA

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **MOST URGENT**  FOR: BANGLADOOT, ALL MISSIONS  MSG: 05/2017  **Date: Thursday, 05 January 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 called upon everyone to stay vigilant for signs of militant activity in educational institutions. She categorically said the killers of Awami League MP Manzurul Islam Liton must be given stringent punishment. Through videoconferencing, the premier talked to the people of all strata to involve them more in the government's development activities as well as its ongoing campaign against militancy and terrorism.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday laid the foundation stone of 10-storey Dr Wazed International Research and Training Institute at Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur through a videoconference from Ganobhaban. She also laid the foundation stone of a 1000-bed and 10-storey hall, 'Sheikh Hasina Hall', for female students of the university.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday accused Jamaat-e-Islami and anti-liberation forces of killing her party Awami League’s lawmaker Manjurul Islam Liton.“… The killers will be arrested by any means and brought to book,” she told a joint meeting of the Awami League Central Working Committee and Advisory Council at Ganobhaban. Sheikh Hasina, expressed her government’s firm commitment to fight militancy. She said “There will be no room for militancy and violence on the soil of the country.”

President Md. Abdul Hamid said the opinion and proposals of political parties will play a positive role in forming a strong Election Commission (EC). He said this while Bangladesher Samyabadi Dal and The National Awami Party (NAP) yesterday met the President at Bangabhaban and discussed the reformation of the EC.

The country has witnessed 4.44 percent growth in export sector in the first half of the current fiscal year 2016-17 (FY17) compared to the last fiscal year 2015-16 (FY16).According to Export Promotion Bureau (EPB), the country has earned $1,679.81 million during the months July-December of FY17 against $1,608.39 million during the same period of FY16.

After lifting a ban on recruiting Bangladeshi workers, Kuwait has expressed its eagerness to hire workers from Bangladesh. Kuwaiti Labour Ministry has sent a demand letter to Bangladesh Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment Ministry for sending 750 workers for working in the informal sector.

Railway Minister Mujibul Haque has said every district of the country would be brought under rail network. He made this announcement on Tuesday while visiting the construction sites of two important railway bridges being developed at Bhairab and Titas on Dhaka-Chittagong and Dhaka-Sylhet double rail line now under expansion.

State minister for labour and employment Mujibul Haque yesterday said that the government would introduce medical, education and maternity allowances for domestic workers in the country. He said, “ The Prime Minister has mobilized a fund of Tk 200 crore from where the allowances will be allocated for distribution among domestic workers.” He was speaking at a seminar organized by the Domestic Worker’s Rights Network (DWRN).

The government will initiate a Tk 400 crore project in the middle of this year for rehabilitation of the families affected by 1200MW Matarbari coal-fired power project.

The government has decided to rehabilitate 2.10 lakh homeless families by June, 2019 through the ongoing Ashrayan project.

The government is developing housing projects in 64 districts in order to extend housing facilities by 2021 and the project is being materialized by National Housing Authority under the guidelines of the Housing and Public Works Ministry.

Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury formally inaugurated three mobile app-based services launched by the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) to help farmers solve various problems they face during crop production at a function in Dhaka yesterday. The DAE with the support from the Access to Information (a2i) Programme of Prime Minister’s Office developed these mobile phone applications.

Law Minister Anisul Huq said his ministry will request the Supreme Court to reconsider its order every time it asks for relocation of the International Crimes Tribunal, a court entrusted with trying war criminals.

DSEX, the prime index of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) settled yesterday at 5,156.60 points.

**A K M Shameem Chowdhuri**

Principal Information Officer

Ph: 02-9546091