**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT**

### GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH

### DHAKA

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**News Brief**

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina made a courtesy call on President Md. Abdul Hamid at Bangabhaban yesterday. The Premier apprised the President of the outcome of her recent visits to Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom, Australia, India and Canada. The President congratulated the Premier for achieving D. Litt. degree from Kazi Nazrul Islam University at Asansol in India.

Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation Act, 2018 Bill was placed in the Jatiya Sangsad with a provision of fine and jail term for defying BADC notices and damaging its property. Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury placed the bill in the House yesterday with Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury in the chair.

Liberation War Affairs Minister A K M Mozammel Haque informed the parliament that the government is going to build a hate statue to express hatred for anti-liberation forces. The draft design of the statue has already been prepared, the Minister said.

Health Minister Mohammed Nasim has said, 500-bed National Institute of Traumatology & Orthopaedic Rehabilitation will be turned into a 1000-bed one with the inauguration of a new 14-storey building in September. After visiting the new building yesterday the Minister said, the hospital is being expanded at the directive of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to cope with the huge pressure of patients. This will be the Asia's largest orthopaedic hospital, he added.

Planning Minister A H M Mostafa Kamal has said, implementation of mega projects including Padma Bridge will help attain 10 percent economic growth. The Minister was speaking at the Annual Performance Agreement signing programme in Dhaka yesterday. The APA was signed between the Planning Ministry and all entities of the Planning Commission.

The flood situation in the country’s eastern region has showed a slight improvement as the water in the rivers has started receding. Existing flood situation in Moulvibazar district may continue to improve while in Sylhet district it may remain steady in the next 24 hours, said Flood Forecasting Centre.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will hold an extended meeting of Awami League on June 23 at her official residence Ganobhaban.

Bangladesh like other countries in the world is set to observe World Refugee Day today. US Ambassador Marcia Bernicat in a message on the occasion said, the United States stands proudly with Bangladesh to support a policy of protection and accountability. "Bangladesh stands out as a beacon of hope and inspiration and the country has saved the lives of more than 700,000 Rohingyas that fled ethnic cleansing in Burma since August 2017" she added.

The government has taken a big move to issue about three crore higher technology-based e-passports for the citizens of the country aiming to make Bangladeshi passports more safe and secured.

Bangladesh responding to the call of the UN Secretary General’s Spouse Catarina vaz Pinto Guterres participated in the United Nations International Bazaar at East River Plaza of the UN Head Office in New York on Monday.

DSEX, the broader index of the DSE, settled yesterday at 5344.96 points.

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