**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT**

### GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH

### DHAKA

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| **MOST URGENT**  FOR: BANGLADOOT, ALL MISSIONS  MSG: 122/2017  **Date: Tuesday, 20 June 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**

The cabinet approved the draft of the National Online Mass Media Policy, 2017 incorporating a proposal for setting up a National Broadcast Commission to facilitate the operation of online mass media in a well-organised manner. The approval was given at the weekly cabinet meeting at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair. The new draft policy contained detailed guidelines for smooth running of online mass media including radio, TV and newspapers. The cabinet meeting also approved a proposal for an amendment to the Nationalised Private Primary Schools (fixation of conditions for services) Policy 2013. The meeting also gave final nod to the Groundwater Management in Agricultural Activities Bill, 2017. The meeting approved a proposal for ratifying the statute of the Islamic Organisation for Food Security, a specialised organisation under the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation. The Cabinet meeting also approved a proposal for ratifying the Agreement between Bangladesh and Bahrain and Kuwait for the avoidance of double taxation.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has sought Moroccan investment in Bangladesh's economic zones (EZs) for mutual benefits of the two countries. The Premier made the request when newly-appointed Moroccan ambassador to Bangladesh Majid Halim paid a call on her at her Jatiya Sangsad office yesterday. The Moroccan ambassador expressed his country's interest in enhancing economic cooperation with Bangladesh and offered assistance in the areas of tourism, power and renewable energy.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina hosted an Iftar party for the leaders of different political parties at her official residence Ganobhaban yesterday. The PM went round different tables set for the guests, exchanged pleasantries with them and enquired about their well-being.

Outgoing Afghan Ambassador to Bangladesh Abdul Rahim Oraz made a farewell call on President Md. Abdul Hamid at Bangabhaban yesterday. During the meeting, the President said Afghanistan is a Muslim brotherly country of Bangladesh and the existing relations between the two countries are excellent.

Indian President Pranab Mukherjee praised Bangladesh for its spectacular development and enormous achievement over the last few years. The Indian President made the remarks while talking to BCS Freedom Fighters and Mujibnagar Officers and Employees Association Secretary General Muhammad Musa when the latter called on him at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi.

The number of refugees from Myanmar were 490,300 by the end of last year, with Bangladesh hosting the largest number of 276,200, says a global report. Out of the 276,200 refugees, 243,000 are in a refugee-like situation, according to the report published yesterday by UNHCR ahead of the World Refugee Day today.

The Turkish government has expressed condolence over the deaths of Bangladeshi citizens caused by landslides in hill districts, said a press release of the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Liberation War Affairs Minister AKM Mozammel Huq said in parliament that the government would build a statue to express hate towards the Pakistani collaborators of the 1971 Liberation War. He also said Bangalees would never forget the brutality of the Pakistani occupation army and its local collaborators. Minister Haque also informed the house yesterday that the government will construct 8,000 flats across the country for insolvent freedom fighters.

The government launched the 2nd National Strategy for Adolescent Health (NSAH)) 2017-2030. The strategy was launched at a dissemination programme in Dhaka yesterday. DGFP, UNFPA, World Health Organisation and UNICEF with support from the Netherlands embassy organised the programme. Health Minister Mohammed Nasim was present as the chief guest at the programme.

The central bank instructed banks to allow private traders to import rice without any deposit against letters of credit or LC margin, in view to ensure rice supply to local markets in the aftermath of crop losses in recent floods. The Bangladesh Bank in a notice said the new rules will remain in force until December 31, which will allow the traders to import rice first and make the payments afterwards.

DSEX, the prime index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) finished yesterday at 5,479 points.

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