**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT**

### GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH

### DHAKA

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| **MOST URGENT**  FOR: BANGLADOOT, ALL MISSIONS  MSG: 105/2017  **Date: Tuesday, 28 November 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**

President Md. Abdul Hamid has put emphasis on building strong bridges among the Indian Ocean littorals with a collective sense of responsibility and sharing of resources to ensure safety of sea users. He said, Bangladesh navy remains as vigilant guardian in the sea frontier to support the government's blue economy agenda and in the meantime Bangladesh Navy has become a symbol of confidence to all sea users for any emergency need at home and abroad, independently or as a coalition. The President said this while opening Indian Ocean Naval Symposium Multilateral Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise (IMMSAREX)-2017 at Inani Beach, Cox's Bazar. The program will continue till November 29.

The Cabinet has approved the draft of "The Barind Multipurpose Development Authority (BMDA) Law, 2017" aimed at bringing the organisation under a legal structure. The Cabinet also endorsed a proposal to observe December 12 as the National Information and Communication Technology Day to make its Digital Bangladesh concept a memorable one. The approval came at a regular Cabinet meeting held at the PM Office yesterday with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair. Meanwhile, the Cabinet has adopted a resolution congratulating Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on her being chosen as one of the top honest and hard-working leaders in the world. People's and Politics, a research firm of global politics, ranked Sheikh Hasina as the 3rd of the 17 global leaders, selected from leaders of 173 countries. The international research firm also chose the PM, as the fourth most hard-working leader. The Cabinet adopted another resolution greeting British Labour Party MP and granddaughter of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Tulip Rizwana Siddiq as she received an award for 'Labour Newcomer MP of the year' at the annual Patchwork Foundation Awards in Westminster, UK.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has appreciated the role of private sector in country's economic development saying her government is always promoting the sector. The PM said this while receiving blankets from the representatives of different commercial banks of private sector at a function held at the Prime Minister's Office in the capital yesterday.

Pope Francis, the leader of the world's 1.2 billion Catholics, will arrive in Dhaka on November 30 on a three-day state visit at the invitation from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. In the back to back visits in Myanmar and Bangladesh, Pope Francis is set to meet with Aung San Suu Kyi and Myanmar Military General as well as Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith has said the government is striving to further develop insurance sector for ensuring social and economic stability in the country adding, the government will take steps to activate the Bangladesh Insurance Academy and make tolerable the renewal fees of insurance companies. He said this while speaking at a seminar titled "Protecting the Poor: Emerging Micro Insurance Market in the South Asia" at Dhaka Club yesterday.

Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed has said, export of Bangladeshi products to India would be increased at a mentionable rate if the existing trade barriers are removed. The Minister said this while addressing 'Horasis Asia Meeting' at a hotel in Kolkata organized by Switzerland-based organization Horasis in cooperation with the West Bengal Government and Indian Chamber of Commerce. Bangladesh is developing 100 Special Economic Zones where each country would get a separate zone.

Industries Minister Amir Hossain Amu left Dhaka yesterday to join the "Economic Times Asian Business Leaders Conclave" at Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia. Malaysian Prime Minister Mohammad Najib Bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak will inaugurate the conference on November 29. After the conference, the Minister will join the two-day "21st International Conference on Small and Medium Enterprises" at New Delhi on November 30. The Minister is scheduled to return home on December 4.

The United Kingdom (UK) has announced further aid of £12 million for the Rohingya people and urged other countries to come forward with more aid, saying the global funding for them would start to dry up in 100 days. International Development Secretary Penny Mordaunt announced the aid yesterday during her visit to Cox's Bazar. Mr. Mordaunt praised the government of Bangladesh and the local communities for their continued generosity in helping the Rohingya people and urged other countries to follow the UK's lead by promising longer-term support to avert disaster.

The Embassy of Brazil in Dhaka will open a commerce wing to facilitate Bangladesh-Brazil direct trade and solve existing bilateral trade related barriers. The embassy will also take steps to simplify visa processing for Bangladesh knitwear traders for promoting knitwear export to Brazil. The Brazilian Ambassador Joao Tabajara de Oliveira Junior said this during a trade talks with Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers Association in Dhaka yesterday.

Bangladesh has become a member of the Industrial Development Board, a policy-making body, of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The announcement was made yesterday at the 17th session of the General Conference of UNIDO in Vienna, Austria. The conference began yesterday and will continue up to December 1. Bangladesh will serve for the 2017-2021 term, along with five other countries-the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, India, Pakistan and Iran. This will provide Bangladesh scope to contribute in UNIDO's policy-making and programs more actively.

The key index of Dhaka Stock Exchange, DSEX, dropped 0.54 per cent, or 34.42 points, to close at 6,302.45 points yesterday after gaining 55 points in the previous three sessions.

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