**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT**

### GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH

### DHAKA

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**News Brief**

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in London yesterday attended a reception accorded to her by the United Kingdom Chapter Awami League marking Bangladesh's becoming eligible for graduating to a developing country from a least developed one. Speaking on the occasion the PM said, Bangladesh has given shelter to 11 lac Rohingyas in the grounds of humanity.

Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury has said, Bangladesh has graduated to a developing country from the least developed countries for the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The Minister was speaking at a function in Kendua upazila of Netrokuna yesterday. She said, lifestyle of the people has improved remarkably due to implementation of many development programms in different sectors.

Road, Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader has said, awareness among drivers is also very necessary to check road accidents. The Minister said this while talking to journalists after visiting a mobile court in the capital’s Hatirjheel area yesterday.

Social Welfare Minister Rashed Khan Menon has said, lack of awareness and inadequate opportunity are responsible for holding back physically challenged people to be included in the mainstream of society. Addressing at a debate competition at Bangladesh Film Development Corporation in Dhaka yesterday, the Minister said, the government is mulling over introducing inclusive education instead of special education for the physically challenged people as inclusive education would open up more opportunities for them.

Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu has said, the gazette regarding the dearness allowance as recommended by the 9th wage board for journalists would be issued soon after the return of the Prime Minister from London. The Minister was addressing a meeting with reporters at the Dhaka Reporters' Unity yesterday.

Shipping Minister Shajahan Khan yesterday visited the construction site of Bangladesh-India Moitree Bridge over the Feni river at Ramghar in Khagrachari. During the visit the Minister said, the Bangladesh-India land port development work will begin after completion of the construction of the bridge over the Feni river.

Fisheries and Livestock Minister Narayon Chandra Chanda has urged the country's scientists to work for innovating environment-friendly technologies for fish farming. The Minister was addressing a workshop at Krishibid Institution Bangladesh in Dhaka yesterday.

Food Minister Qamrul Islam has said, the government is going to sell nutrition fortified rice at the rate Tk 10 per kg to poor families under the VGD Programme. Speaking at the Nutrition Olympiad at BICC in Dhaka, he said 2 crore 50 lac people of poor families would get the benefit.

State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid has said, Bangladesh could be a marketing hub of Europe. Availability of labour and political commitments would play an important role for expansion of the market in the region. The State Minister was addressing at the 3rd German-Asia Business Dialogue in Berlin. He said, the present government has created an environment for huge investment in Bangladesh.

US Acting Secretary of State John J Sullivan, at a press conference, has condemned the brutal attacks on the Rohingya community in Myanmar. He further said, those responsible for the violations, abuses, and attacks must be held accountable.

The government will bring 4 lac more people under the old age allowance programme in the Social Safety Net scheme in next fiscal year. At present, the government is providing 35 lakh elderly people with Taka 2100 crore under the Social Safety Net programme.

The hearings on appeals over delimitation of different parliamentary seats began at Nirbachan Bhaban in Dhaka yesterday. Chief Election Commissioner K M Nurul Huda, among others, was present in the hearings.

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