**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT**

### GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH

### DHAKA

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| **MOST URGENT**  FOR: BANGLADOOT, ALL MISSIONS  MSG: 71/2017  **Date: Monday, 09 October 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 urged elected representatives at the grassroots to work for their welfare of the people. He made the call at a view-exchange meeting at Mithamian, Kishoreganj yesterday. The President categorically said, the elected representatives must bear in mind the rights of all people who cast their votes for electing them. Later, the President witnessed some development activities of Mithamian upazila.

## The Rohingya issue will dominate at the minister-level meeting to be held this month in Myanmar as Bangladesh expects the return of all Rohingyas living in Bangladesh to their homeland through diplomatic efforts. Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan said this to the media in Dhaka yesterday. Meanwhile,IOM says, as many as 100,000 more people may be waiting to cross into Cox's Bazar from North Rakhine's Buthidaung Townshisp. IOM also said, an estimated 2,000 Rohingyas having fled violence are still arriving in Cox's Bazar everyday.

Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali has said, Bangladesh is now looking at greater economic integration with India's North-east for mutual benefit. He said this while addressing the inaugural session of a two-day festival titled 'NADI 2, the Asian Confluence River Festival' in Dhaka yesterday. BJP General Secretary Ram Madhav, State Minister for Foreign Affairs M Shahriar Alam, Bimstec Secretary General M Shahidul Islam and Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka Harsh Vardhan Shringla, among others, spoke at the opening ceremony.

## The visiting Nepalese Foreign Secretary Shanker Das Bairagi has appreciated the socio-economic development of Bangladesh under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The appreciation came when he paid a courtesy call on Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali at his office yesterday. Bairagi is visiting Bangladesh in connection with the 2nd round of Bilateral Consultations between the foreign secretaries.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) will extend its support to Bangladesh for promoting agricultural by-products as well as agro-based industry. Chief of USDA environmental management division Qiying Zhang gave the assurance when Bangladesh Industries Minister Amir Hossain Amu visited the organisation in Washington yesterday.

The Pacific Resilience Disaster Response Exercise and Exchange (DREE) programme between Bangladesh and the USA has begun. The exercise is being held in Dhaka and Mymensingh from October 8 to 12. DREE is a civil-military disaster preparedness and response initiative taken by the governments of Bangladesh and the USA. USA Ambassador Marcia Bernicat speaking on the occasion said, the event would create an opportunity of exchanging best practices of disaster management between Bangladesh and the USA.

The first four-day long annual BIMSTEC disaster management exercise will start in New Delhi tomorrow with the participation of all of its member states. The main focus of the exercise, to be conducted from October 10 to October 13, is to synchronise the regional efforts on disaster management. About 135 delegates from all BIMSTEC member states including Bangladesh will participate the event.

## Over six billion Euros were committed by public and private actors for the better management of oceans at the European Union-hosted conference in Malta. The European Commission has announced over 550 million of EU-funded initiatives to tackle global ocean challenges, at the 'Our Ocean Conference 2017'. Secretary, Maritime Affairs Unit of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rear Admiral (retd) Md Khurshed Alam represented the government of Bangladesh in this two-day conference. On the sidelines, he also met the Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries of the European Union, Minister of Fisheries of Iceland and Minister of Fisheries of Cambodia.

## The International Apparel Federation (IAF) has assured Bangladesh of extending its support for sustainable RMG sector. IAF President Han Bekke came up with the assurance during his recent meeting with Bangladesh Ambassador to the Netherlands Sheikh Mohammed Belal at the Embassy of Bangladesh in The Hague.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has expressed deep shock at the death of former national footballer and a member of Swadhin Bangla Football team Amalesh Sen.  In a condolence message, the Prime Minister said the National Sports Award-winning footballer played an important role in building public opinion during the great War of Liberation in 1971.

DSEX, the key index of Dhaka Stock Exchange, increased by 0.05 per cent, or 3.18 points, to finish at 6,205 points yesterday.

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