**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT**

### GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH

### DHAKA

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **MOST URGENT**  FOR: BANGLADOOT, ALL MISSIONS  MSG: 120/2017  **Date: Sunday, 18 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**

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina returned home yesterday, wrapping up her three-day bilateral visit to Sweden. A VVIP flight of Biman Bangladesh Airlines carrying the PM and her entourage landed at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport at about 9:15 am. Earlier, the Prime Minister left Arlanda Airport on Friday by a British Airways flight. On her way back home, she made a short stopover in London. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina visited the Scandinavian country at the invitation of its Prime Minister Stefan Löfven. It was the first ever official visit of a Bangladeshi head of government to the country.

Two leading Swedish companies, Investor AB and ABB Sweden, have expressed their keen interest to work for the development of Bangladesh's RMG and power sectors. The offer came when President of Investor Jacob Wallenberg and Vice President of Investor Marcus Wallenberg and CEO of ABB Sweden Johan Soderstrom separately met Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Grand Hotel in Stockholm.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid has been appointed executive committee member of the Commonwealth of Learning. The nomination came through the 34th meeting of the Board of Governors of Commonwealth of Learning being held at Vancouver in Canada. The meeting nominated a five member executive committee on the second day of the meeting yesterday.

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Meher Afroz Chumki said the government would establish 'Joyeeta', a business venture, at every district to enable womenfolk to get deserving profit and play an important role for country's socioeconomic development. She was speaking as the chief guest while inaugurating Bandarban-based Joyeeta at Women's Affairs Directorate in Dhaka yesterday.

The government is set to sign two separate loan agreements on June 21 for construction of Chittagong-Cox's Bazar Railway Line. A total of two contracts would be signed between Bangladesh government and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) worth US$ 300 million at Sher-e-Bangla Nagar for Chittagong-Cox's Bazar Railway Project.

Coastal Association for Social Transformation Trust (COAST) Bangladesh, at UNHCR annual dialogues in Geneva of Switzerland, Friday sought global assistance for the country to cope with the climate change impacts. The event titled "Climate Change: Challenges and Opportunities in the Global Compacts" was held in Geneva International Conference Centre on the eve of ongoing UNHCR Annual Dialogue.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) projected Bangladesh to be the top importing country of cotton across the world in the 2017-18 marketing year. According to the latest forecast made by USDA, the country has already become the largest cotton importer and is going to remain so in the next season beginning on August 1, 2017. In the last year, Bangladesh imported 1.35 million tons of cotton in 2015-16 and expected to import around 1.36 million tons in the ongoing year (2016-17).

All kinds of import and export activities will remain suspended for five days from June 23 to 27 next through Hilli Land Port at Hakimpur upazila in Dinajpur district on the occasion of Eid-ul-fitr festival.

Two Bangladeshi youths will receive Queens Young Leaders Award 2017 with fifty other young people from Commonwealth countries for their contributions to the development of human life on June 29 at Buckingham Palace in London. Among the awardees, Sajid Iqbal will be honoured for his contribution towards the usage of renewable energy in the commercial and household environments. On the other hand, Rahat Hossain will be awarded for improving the emergency and disaster relief service system with training and technology.

Each year American Society for Microbiology (ASM) recognises some renowned scientists for their outstanding contribution in microbiology. This year Professor Samir Kumar Saha, Head of the Department of Microbiology of Dhaka Shishu Hospital got awarded for research in clinical microbiology.

Heaviest rainfall accumulation estimated by NASA's IMERG during the period of June 12 to 14 was located over southeastern Bangladesh, according to www.phys.org/news. The IMERG estimates indicated that rainfall there inducing landslide was more than 510 mm (20 inches). At least 156 people in Bangladesh were killed during the past week by landslides and floods caused by heavy rainfall. NASA calculated the amount of rain using data from satellites.

**Kamrun Nahar**

Principal Information Officer

Ph-02-9546091