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From: PIO, PID, Dhaka  
Fax: 9540553/9540026  
E-mail: piddhaka@gmail.com  
Web: www.pressinform.gov.bd

### News Brief

President Md. Abdul Hamid has directed the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) to ensure proper punishment of the corrupt individuals and not to harass any innocent people anyway. The President gave the directive when a four-member ACC delegation led by its Chairman Iqbal Mahmood submitted its Annual Report-2018 to him at Bangabhaban in Dhaka yesterday. The President also directed the country's anti-graft watchdog to conduct drive against corruption in education, health and other service sectors.

President Md. Abdul Hamid has urged the members of the Buddhist community to play their due role in the country's overall development upholding communal harmony, tradition and the immortal ideology of Lord Buddha. The President made the call while exchanging greetings with the Buddhist community at Bangabhaban yesterday on the occasion of Buddha Purnima, the biggest religious festival of the Buddhists.

The third session of the 11th parliament will begin at 5 pm on June 11. Finance Minister A H M Mustafa Kamal is expected to place the proposed budget for 2019-2020 on June 13. President Md. Abdul Hamid yesterday summoned the session exercising the power bestowed upon him as per article 72(1) of the constitution.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has given Tk 10 lakh for the treatment of Ekushey Padak-winning actor A T M Shamsuzzaman. The PM also took the responsibility of the veteran actor's treatment.

Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud has urged the Islamic scholars to play a vital role in preventing terrorism and militancy from the society. The Minister made the urge while addressing an iftar mahfil hosted by Bangladesh Islami Front in honor of political leaders of different parties and diplomats of different countries at a hotel in Dhaka yesterday.

Awami League's sub-committee on media, publicity and documentation formed to celebrate birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman held a meeting at International Mother Language Institute in Dhaka yesterday. Sub-committee convener and Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud while presiding over the meeting said, a modern media cell will be formed to disseminate the news on birth centenary celebration of the Father of the Nation. Different contents made on Bangabandhu would be run in different media, the Minister added.

Biman Bangladesh Airlines has resumed its Dhaka-Delhi direct flight after five years of suspension. State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Md. Mahub Ali inaugurated the resumption of Dhaka-Delhi flight at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport yesterday.

The United States has expressed its keenness to invest in the country's different sectors, including energy, infrastructure, ICT, LNG and dredging. Assistant Secretary for Global Markets of US Department of Commerce Ian Steff expressed the interest when he called on Private Industry and Investment Adviser to the Prime Minister Salman F. Rahman at his Gulshan office in Dhaka yesterday.

State Minister for Labour and Employment Begum Monnujan Sufian has urged the owners of different sectors including readymade garment to pay salary and bonus to workers before the holy Eid-ul-Fitr. The State Minister made the call while talking to media after a meeting of Core Committee on Crisis Management at her ministry in Dhaka yesterday. The State Minister also urged the owners to give Eid holidays for workers in phases to avoid traffic congestion in the highways.

The sale of advance train tickets for Eid-ul-Fitr holidaymakers from Dhaka to other districts will start from May 22 while bus owners have decided to begin selling of advance ticket from May 15.

The country's poverty rate came down at 21.8 per cent while the poverty rate, as per the lower poverty line or people living in extreme poverty, came down at 11.3 per cent in 2018, according to the latest data disclosed by Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics at a press conference in Dhaka yesterday.

Bangladesh reached the final of the ongoing tri-nation series in Ireland by beating West Indies yesterday. Batting first after winning the toss, West Indies scored 247 and the Tigers chased it in 47.2 overs with five wickets in hand. The two teams will play the final match at the same venue on May 17.

**Faizul Haque**

Sr. Deputy Principal Information Officer (Admin)

Ph-02-9540030