**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT**

### GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH

### DHAKA

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| Most Urgent FOR: BANGLADOOT, ALL MISSIONSMSG: 197/2018 Date: Tuesday, 10 April, 2018  | FROM: PIO, PID, DHAKAFax: 9540553/9540026E-mail: piddhaka@gmail.com piddhaka@yahoo.comWeb: [www.pressinform.gov.bd](http://www.pressinform.gov.bd) |

**News Brief**

The cabinet has given approval to the drafts of the 'Government E-mail Policy-2018,' making it mandatory for civil servants to use official domain during e-mail correspondences. The approval was given in the cabinet meeting held at PMO yesterday with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair. The cabinet also approved the drafts of 'Krishi Biponon Ain-2018', 'Bangladesh Muktijoddha Kalyan Trust Act, 2018', Bangladesh Freedom Fighters' Welfare Trust Act, 2018' and Standard Weights and Measures Act-2018. The cabinet gave nod to the draft of a proposal for ratification of an agreement signed between Bangladesh and Thailand on visa exemption for diplomatic passport holders. The cabinet during the meeting discussed the existing quota system in the civil service.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has urged India to put more pressure on Myanmar to take back over one million Rohingya refugees from Bangladesh. The PM made the call when Indian Foreign Secretary Vijay Keshav Gokhale met her at her Sangshad Bhaban office yesterday. The PM during the call on said, Bangladesh and India have resolved many problems successfully through talks. She expressed the hope to settle the Teesta issue also. Mr Gokhale said, Prime Minister Narendra Modi wants to fulfill all the commitments with Bangladesh.

Bangladesh and India yesterday inked six MoUs to strengthen further cooperation in different areas. The documents were signed following a bilateral meeting between visiting Indian Foreign Secretary Vijay Keshav Gokhale and his Bangladesh counterpart M. Shahidul Haque at State Guesthouse Padma in Dhaka yesterday. The MoUs are on a pipeline between Numaligarh and Parbatipur for importing petroleum, cooperation between Prasar Bharati and Bangladesh BETAR, installation of an ICCR Urdu Chair in Dhaka University, setting up language labs in 500 schools and upgrading different roads in Rangpur city.

The Jatiya Sangsad yesterday passed the 'Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Council (Amendment) Bill, 2018'. Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed responding to a query at the House said, the government has taken a plan to enact an export friendly policy for achieving US$ 60 billion export earnings target from the existing US$ 35 billion within 2021. Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Nurul Islam informed the House, Bangladesh sent 51,98,914 workers to abroad from 2009 to 2017.

Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury has sought Chinese help to resolve the ongoing Rohingya crisis. The Speaker sought the cooperation as the newly appointed Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Zhang Zuo met her at her sangsad office in Dhaka yesterday.

The government plans to impose tax on income of social media sites in the upcoming budget. Finance Minister AMA Muhith said this at a pre-budget meeting with editors, MDs and CEO of print and electronic media at state guest house, Padma in Dhaka yesterday.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader has said, the government would examine the existing quota system in public jobs by May 7. The Minister gave the assurance at a meeting with a delegation of the students protesting against quota system.

The World Bank has termed Bangladesh's eligibility to graduate from the LDCs group an important milestone. The WB Country Director Qimiao Fan made the appreciation while speaking at a function arranged to release a report on the development update of Bangladesh in Dhaka yesterday.

Chattogram Development Authority has launched a mega project involving Taka 5616 crore aiming to mitigate the city's long standing water logging problem. A MoU to this effect was signed with the Engineering Corps of Bangladesh Army yesterday.

 The DSEX, the core index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange, finished yesterday at 5,879.41points.

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