

**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH
DHAKA**

MOST URGENT
FOR: BANGLADOOT, ALL MISSIONS
MSG: 110/2017
Date: Monday, 05 June 2017

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News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, highlighting the importance of the Sundarbans for the country's existence, said whatever project the government takes for development it does that keeping this mangrove forest in mind so that it does not get affected in any way. The Prime Minister was speaking at the function of World Environment Day, Tree Fair and Campaign for Tree Plantation at Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC) in Dhaka yesterday.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday assured of addressing concerns of business community and commoners about some provisions of tax, VAT and excise duty in the proposed budget. "We have proposed a budget, which will be discussed in the Parliament. There might be some problems for some people. We'll look into and resolve those," she said. The Premier came up with the remarks while addressing an iftar party hosted jointly by the Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) and Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) at the National Press Club in the city.

President M Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called upon all to make effective contributions to the preservation of environment and biodiversity along with government efforts. In separate messages on the eve of the World Environment Day-2017, they said this year's theme of the day - 'Connecting People to Nature' is time-befitting.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has expressed her deep shock at the barbaric attack in London. "I am deeply shocked at the barbaric attacks in London Bridge and Borough Market of the central London..." "We strongly condemn such mindless act of cowardice. We stand in solidarity with the people of the UK," she said in a condolence message to British Prime Minister Theresa May yesterday.

Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu said Lalon songs in Hindi would help to make the sub-continent free from communalism, terrorism and discrimination. The Minister said this on Saturday while speaking at the ceremony of presenting first copy of the book titled 'Lalan Shah Fakir Ke Geet', to the President of India Pranab Mukherjee at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi.

The present government has increased climate relevance allocation by 55 percent in last three years to Taka 14,633 crore from Taka 9,404 crore. The government has proposed Taka 14,633 crore for 2017-18 fiscal year that is more Taka 1,000 crore compared with Taka 13,773 crore allocation in FY 2016-17. This was revealed by Finance Minister AMA Muhith while he was placing the proposed budget last week.

The month of May saw the highest remittance inflow of \$1.26 billion in 11 months, according to data from the Bangladesh Bank.

Primary and Mass Education Minister Md Mostafizur Rahman yesterday said the government has recruited 1, 69,635 teachers at primary education level in the past eight years. He told this at a meeting with leaders of Bangladesh Primary Teachers Association in the ministry.

BRAC Onnesha, the nation's first nano-satellite, was launched by SpaceX, FALCON 9 Rocket by its CRS-11 mission to International Space Station (ISS) yesterday. The launch took place from Kennedy Space Center, USA. The same "launch site" was used for Apollo-11 lunar mission, which took humans to achieve its first footprint on the Moon.

The state-owned New Mooring Container Terminal (NCT) of Chittagong Port will begin its full operation in January next. The Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) has already completed all formalities to procure container handling equipment at a cost of Taka 1,200 crore.

State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Meher Afroz Chumki yesterday said the government will impart training to some 61,800 parents as part of raising awareness among the parents for promoting sound health of the children. The State Minister said this as the Chief Guest while she was inaugurating a training of 30 officials of the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA).

Civil Aviation and Tourism Ministry yesterday formed an eight-member committee for framing ground handling regulations for different airports of the country including the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport.

The prime index of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) settled yesterday at 5,443.99 points.

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