|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| National-Seal-of-Bangladesh copy.jpg | PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENTGOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESHDHAKA | en_logo.jpg |
| Most UrgentFor: Bangladoot, All MissionsMSG: 160/2019-20Date: Wednesday, 05 February,2020 | From: PIO, PID, DhakaFax: 9540553/9540026E-mail: piddhaka@gmail.comWeb:[www.pressinform.gov.bd](http://www.pressinform.gov.bd) |

**News Brief**

 Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said, Bangladesh has attained an ability to advance further by competing with any nation of the world and none can pull the country backward any more. The Premier said thisat a receptionaccorded in her honourbyAwami League Italy Chapter at Parco dei Principi Grand Hotel and Spa last evening.She said, we’re implementing 90 percent of our development projects by our own fund, now donors don’t come to give alms to us. Rather they come toprovide assistance mentioning us their development partners. The Prime Minister said, those who grabbed power illegally after theassassination of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman were busy to change their own lot, not thechange the fate of the people.

 Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina reached Romeyesterday afternoon on a four-day official visit to Italy at the invitation of her Italian Counterpart Giuseppe Conte. Minister Plenipotentiary of Italian Foreign Ministry Cristiano Cottafavi and Bangladesh Ambassador to Italy Abdus Sobhan Sikder received the Premier.During the visit, three agreements on cultural exchange, political consultations and cooperation in the diplomatic field are likely to be inked while the Premier will hold a bilateral meeting with Giuseppe Conte today.In the afternoon, the Premier will hold bilateral talks with the Italian Premier and join an official lunch at Palazzo Chigi, the official residence of her Italian Counterpart.She will inaugurate the Chancery Building of Bangladesh Embassy in Rome at the Via Dell’Antartide area this morning.On February 6, Sheikh Hasina will have an audience with Pope Francis.

 President Md. Abdul Hamid arrivedat Kuakatain Patuakhali to attend the second convocation of Patuakhali Science and Technology University slated for today.The President along with his family members and secretariesconcerned visited the Kuakata beach and witnessed the scenario of sunset there.

 RoadTransport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader while speaking at a press briefingat his ministry yesterday said, the Dhaka city elections were held in a free and fair manner but negativecampaign against the EVM use and creating panic among voters contributed to the low-voter turnout.

 Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud has said, the number of daily newspapers in the country is now 1,277 andthe number of dailies with more than one lakh circulation is 48 in the country. He informed this while replying to a question at Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.The Information Minister said, the government has taken an initiative to display documentaries across the country to mark the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.Replying to another question he said, the government is actively considering construction of modern information complex at the district level.

 Information Minister Dr.Hasan Mahmud referring to the big margin win of the AL Mayoral candidates in the recently held Dhaka City Corporation polls said, no political force in the country can defeat the united Awami League. He said this while addressing ameeting of the party’s Rangpur Divisional representatives at AL office in Bangabandhu Avenue in the capital yesterday. The Minister while addressing a separate function on the award giving ceremony of “Nitol-Aayat Newsnow Bangla Excellence Award” at National Museum in Dhaka yesterday called for introducing honesty and morality award to encourage the people practicing moral values to build an enlightened nation.Dr. HasanMahmud said, once Pakistanis used to neglect Bangladesh but now their economists are calling upon their government to follow Bangladesh for developments.

Please Turn Over

-2-

 Prime Minister’s Adviser on Private Sector Industry and Investment Salman F Rahman has said, all the facilities currently enjoyed by the RMG sector should also be given to other potential sectors like agriculture, leather, ICT, pharmaceuticals to facilitate those to grow more. He said this when the Board of Directors of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, led by its President Shams Mahmud, called on him yesterday.

 The Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court has expressed optimism that justice will finally be done to Rohingyas though this is going to be a long, hard and challenging process of investigation.Phakiso Mochochoko, Director of Jurisdiction, Cooperation and Complementarity, told to reporters at a briefing in Dhakayesterday, noting that the investigation has begun already.

 Sonali Bank Limited, HomePay, which enables payment platforms to tap into Bangladesh, signed a MoU with global payments firm Skrill Limited at a function in London on Monday.The collaboration will allow Bangladeshis to use Skrill Money Transfer as a fast and low-cost way to remit money to Bangladesh.State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak and Bangladesh High Commissioner in London Saida Muna Tasneem were present at the event.

 A bilateral meeting was held between visitingBangladesh State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak and UK Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sports Matt Warman at the Palace of Westminster in Londonon Monday.Terming the Bangladesh’s progress in the ICT sector a remarkable one,Warman said the UK will provide all-out support for strengthening Bangladesh’s position in digital economy globally.

 Use of mask and other personal precautions like hand sanitizer over the panic of corona virus in the country is unnecessary, Principal Scientific Officer of Institute ofEpidemiology Disease Control & Research Dr. ASM Alamgir said yesterday. He urged people not to spread any kind of rumour over the deadly virus.Bangladesh has advised all the airlines that fly between Bangladesh and China to make health clearance mandatory from the government health administration of China while carrying passengers from China with valid visa.

 A High Court bench in a hearing yesterday directed the University Grants Commission to submit a report within three months after investigating how PhD and equivalent degrees are approved by public and private universities in the country.

**Surath Kumar Sarker**

Principal Information Officer

 Phone- 9546091