**PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT**

### GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH

### DHAKA

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **MOST URGENT** FOR: BANGLADOOT, ALL MISSIONSMSG: 113/2017 **Date: Monday, 11 December 2017**  |  **FROM: PIO, PID, DHAKA**Fax: 9540553/9540026E-mail: piddhaka@gmail.com piddhaka@yahoo.comWeb: [www.pressinform.portal.gov.bd](http://www.pressinform.portal.gov.bd) |

**News Brief**

President Md. Abdul Hamid will leave Dhaka for Istanbul, Turkey today on a three-day official visit to attend the Extra-ordinary Islamic summit of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). OIC President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has convended the summit for heads of states and governments of the OIC member countries over the Jerusalem issue. As a member of Al-Quds Committee of the OIC, Bangladesh will take part in the summit.

 Bangladesh Ambassador to South Korea, Abida Islam made a courtesy call on to President Md. Abdul Hamid at Bangabhaban yesterday. During the meeting, the President said, South Korea is one of the important partners in Bangladesh's socio-economic development and advised the Bangladeshi envoy to take initiatives of attracting Korean investors for more investment here using trade and investment opportunities of the country.

 Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed her commitment to lighten up each and every house of the country by producing electricity from different sources and said, through this the children of the country would get access to read and learn through modern education. The Premier added, every area of the country will be developed as we believe in balanced development. The Prime Minister said this while inaugurating the 100 percent electricity supply programme and four power plants through a videoconference from her official residence Ganabhaban.

 Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed the optimism that the ICT sector will be the biggest contributor to the country's foreign currency earning in near future saying we want to give training to our children towards that end. The Prime Minister said this while formally inaugurating the newly-built' Sheikh Hasina Software Technology Park' in Jessore through a videoconference from her official residence Ganabhaban. The Software Technology Park is expected to generate jobs for around 12,000 youths.

 Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina leaves for Paris today on a three-day official visit to join the One planet Summit. French President Emmanuel Macron, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres and World Bank President Jim Yong Kim jointly invited Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for the visit. During the visit, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to hold bilateral talks with French President. She is expected to return home on December 14.

 Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith said, the countrymen's demand is more than the revenue collection of the government adding this is the high time to change attitude of the people. He said, the number of taxpayers has increased from 14 lakh to near 30 lakh. The Minister came up with this remark while addressing a seminar yesterday held in the city organised by National Board of Revenue to make the National Vat Day and Vat week-2017.

 Commerce Minister Tofail Ahmed has urged the least developed countries (LDCs) to work in combine for implementing the decisions taken in the 10th WTO Ministerial Meeting. The Minister made the call on Saturday at the LDCs Ministerial Meeting held prior to the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference at Argentine’s capital Buenos Aires.

 Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu assured television and radio artists that the government would take steps to enhance their royalties saying of placing “a proposal to the Finance Ministry in this regard soon. The Minister told this to a delegation of Bangladesh Television-Betar Shilpi Sangstha when they met him at his office yesterday.

 According to a new World Bank analysis, Bangladesh is losing one percent GDP every year due to air pollution, which is a key barrier to the country’s vision to become an upper-middle income country. The preliminary findings of the report ‘Country Environment Assessment for Bangladesh’ were discussed at a workshop at a city hotel yesterday. Environment and Forests Minister Anwar Hossain Manju delivered the keynote speech.

The government yesterday signed a power purchase agreement with local company Summit Gazipur ll Power Ltd. for implementing a power project at Gazipur. The plant will supply 300 MW of electricity for a period of 15 years. Bangladesh Power Development Board Secretary and Summit Gazipur ll Power Ltd. Managing Director signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organizations at Biddyut Bhaban. State Minister for Power and Energy Nasrul Hamid attended the programme as the Chief Guest.

 DSEX, the prime index of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) settled yesterday at 6,204.43 points.

**Kamrun Nahar**

 Principal Information Officer

 Ph-02-9546091