

Dipu Moni reaches Saudi Arabia

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, who reached Saudi Arabia yesterday morning for a five-day visit, will hold official talks with her counterpart Prince Saud Al Faisal today.

She will brief the Saudi foreign minister on steps taken by the government and progress of the investigation into the killing of Khalaf Al Ali, a Saudi embassy official who was murdered in Dhaka on March 6, official sources said.

Dipu Moni is also expected to discuss the entire range of bilateral issues, including opening of import of manpower from Bangladesh.



PHOTO: PMO
Newly-appointed Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Li Jun calls on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office in the city yesterday.

PM for making 'Kunming Initiative' a success

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said Bangladesh and China could work together to make the 'Kunming Initiative', including Bangladesh-China-Myanmar road link, a success.

She also hoped that China would remain responsive to some of Bangladesh concerns to reduce the trade imbalance between the two countries to some extent.

The prime minister said this when newly-appointed Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Li Jun met her at her office.

PM's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad briefed reporters after the meeting.

Hasina invited more Chinese investments in textile, agro-processing, energy and power, pharmaceutical, communications and infrastructure development saying that the Chinese entrepreneurs could avail of excellent

opportunities on offer for foreign investment.

She also said Bangladesh attaches great importance to its friendly relations with China.

Issues relating to pending projects like direct road link, communication satellite, deep seaport, new friendship bridge and the proposed Padma Bridge also came up for discussion at the meeting.

Hasina said the present government emphasised further advancing the Comprehensive Partnership of Cooperation with China.

She expressed her happiness over the continued Chinese assistance and support for various key development projects like power, agriculture, infrastructure and telecommunications in Bangladesh.

Hasina also voiced satisfaction over the steady growth of bilateral trade though the trade imbalance is heavily tilted against Bangladesh.

She recalled her successful visit to China in March 2010 as well as the tour of the Chinese Vice-President to Bangladesh.

Hasina reiterated Bangladesh's steadfast support to 'One China Policy' considering Tibet and Taiwan as the integral parts of mainland China.

The envoy paid rich tributes to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and recalled the great leader's visit to China.

He also highly praised the visionary and dynamic leadership of Sheikh Hasina and said Bangladesh has achieved tremendous success in socioeconomic development due to various pragmatic steps of the present government.

Ambassador at-Large M Ziauddin, Prime Minister's Office (PMO) Secretary Molla Waheeduzzaman and Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad were present on the occasion.

14-party rally in Barisal today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ruling Awami League-led 14-party alliance will hold a grand rally today in Barisal to protest against what the alliance leaders say are BNP-Jamaat's conspiracies against the war crimes trial and violence in the name of anti-government movements.

The rally, with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina as chief guest, will be held at Bangabandhu Udyan in Barisal town at 3:00pm.

Coordinator of the 14-party alliance Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, who will chair the rally, urged all its leaders and workers and secular-progressive and democratic forces of the country to attend the rally.

The 14-party combine will continue to hold similar grand rallies in other divisional headquarters this month to press home its demand for immediate trial of war criminals.

Court summons 8 QUBEE officials on April 5

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday summoned eight officials of broadband internet service company QUBEE, asking them to appear before it on April 5, hours after two criminal cases were filed against them for allegedly providing false information to the Joint Stock Company.

Nurul Absar, company secretary of Teleport Bangladesh Limited, which owns 30 percent stake in the WiMAX QUBEE, filed the cases with the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court of Dhaka against the accused.

The accused are QUBEE Chairman Sanjib Ahuja, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Jerry Mobbs, Chief Financial Officer and Company Secretary DS Faisal Hyder, direc-

tors Damian Reid, Martin Harriman, Paul Gregory Franklin and Stephen Gerard Olive, and Pakistani National Imran Hussain.

Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Shahdat Hossain issued the order after the complainant filed the cases against the accused. In the case statements, Nurul Absar alleged that the accused in collusion with others and with malafide intention provided false information and statements in various reports and documents of the company violating provision of the law in Bangladesh.

The accused also submitted the balance sheet and the profit and the loss of the company for the year 2009 to the Registrar of Joint Stock Company without taking proper approval of the Board of Directors.

মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনার সময় উপযোগী পদক্ষেপে বাংলাদেশের সমুদ্র সীমানা জয়ে প্রাণঢালা অভিনন্দন

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