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### Newsbrief

The nation is set to celebrate the 27th anniversary of Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) Peace Accord today. President Mohammed Shahabuddin and Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus yesterday issued separate messages marking the completion of 27 years of the signing of the historic agreement. Both the President and the Chief Adviser greeted all people in the Chattogram hill districts on the occasion of completion of 27 years of the covenant. In his message, the President said, the hill districts of Rangamati, Bandarban and Khagrachari are a region rich in natural resources and have immense potentials for development. In another message, Chief Adviser said, on this day in 1997, the agreement was signed between the Government of Bangladesh and the Parbatya Chattogram Jana Sanghati Samiti (PCJSS). It was a political agreement also known as the Peace Accord.

Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus said, Center for Policy Dialogue (CPD)'s research and public awareness activities played a huge role in creating the mind-set for the recent student uprising. The Chief Adviser also said, the research organization has always been involved in establishing a democratic, just and accountable society. The Chief Adviser made the remark in a video message played at a programme organised in Dhaka yesterday, marking the 30th anniversary of CPD.

An average of US\$16 bn were illicitly siphoned off from Bangladesh every year during Sheikh Hasina's corrupt autocracy, leaving the country in a state of plunder when she fled away after a popular mass uprising, a White Paper on the state of the economy during her rule said yesterday. The Committee submitted its report to Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus at his Tejgaon office, saying they were horrified by the level of corruption, plunder and statistical manipulation conducted by Hasina regime. Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, a top Economist and the distinguished fellow of the Dhaka-based think tank Centre for Policy Dialogue, headed the committee. He led his team at the handover ceremony.

Information and Broadcasting Adviser Md. Nahid Islam said, the Palestinian people's fight for their rights was one of the key inspirations behind the July Uprising. The Adviser made the remarks when Palestinian Ambassador to Bangladesh Yusuf SY Ramadan visited his office in Dhaka yesterday.

Liberation War Affairs Advisor to the Interim Government Freedom Fighter Farooq-e-Azam, Bir Pratik said, the interim government will accomplish all of its commitments from reforms to holding a free and fair election. The Adviser told journalists while visiting the Kollapathar Shaheed Cemetery to pay tribute to the Liberation War martyrs in Kasba, Brahmanbaria yesterday.

Primary and Mass Education Adviser Professor Dr. Bidhan Ranjan Roy Podder said, the loss of martyr Abu Sayeed cannot be compensated in exchange of anything. The Adviser told journalists after visiting the home of Abu Sayeed at Pirganj district, Rangpur yesterday. The Adviser assured of providing government assistance from the foundation, launched in the name of Abu Sayeed. Abu Sayeed was brutally killed in the July-August uprising.

The government is committed to bring those, who have left the entire country in a terrible condition by looting public money to justice. Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam said this while speaking at a press briefing at Foreign Service Academy yesterday.

Chief of Army Staff General Waker-Uz-Zaman accorded a reception to the gallantry award holder valiant freedom fighters of Bangladesh Army and awarded peace-time medals to the Army personnel. The Army Chief handed over mementos and conferred peace-time awards to the recipients marking the Armed Forces Day-2014, according to a press release of the Inter-Services Public Relations yesterday.

Inspector General of Police (IGP) Baharul Alam visited the people received injuries during Anti-Discrimination Students Movement at the National Institute of Traumatology & Orthopedic Rehabilitation (NITOR) in the city. The IGP talked to the injured and enquired about their treatment and talked to the on-duty physicians about the progress of their treatment, according to a press release of the Police Headquarters yesterday.

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Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Acting Chairman Tarique Rahman called for forging national unity to end political vengeance and open a new chapter in history, where no one's life or family will be destroyed due to political differences. The BNP Acting Chairman said this in a post on his verified X Handle as well as Facebook accounts yesterday.

Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir expressed satisfaction over the High Court verdict that acquitted party's Acting Chairman Tarique Rahman and all others convicted by the lower court in two cases over August 21 grenade attack. The BNP Secretary General said this in a statement from London yesterday. The BNP Secretary General is now in London on a 10-day visit along with his spouse.

Mexican government extended visa application facilities for Bangladeshi nationals, simplifying the process for obtaining visa to visit Mexico. Previously, Bangladeshi citizens used to require to approach the Mexican Embassy in New Delhi for visa applications. Under the newly announced facilities, Bangladeshi nationals can now submit their visa applications at any Mexican Embassy or Consulate in the Asia-Pacific region or other locations worldwide, according to Foreign Ministry's press release yesterday.

Huge properties have been found in the United Kingdom (UK) belonging to the close circle of ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The circle, included former Ministers, Politicians and Businessmen, have an accumulated investment of approximate over 40 crore pound (approximately Tk 6,000 crore) or much more in the UK housing sector, according to a finding of joint investigation by British newspaper The Observer and Berlin-based anti-corruption organization Transparency International. The findings, published in The Guardian on Saturday, where investigators indicated that these properties were purchased with money laundered from Bangladesh through hundi instead of repaying bank loans.

Six dengue patients died while 882 were admitted to different hospitals in the country during the past 24 hours, according to the Directorate General of Health Services yesterday.

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