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News Brief

The National Economic Council with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair yesterday approved a Taka 2,02,721 crore ADP outlay for the next fiscal. The transport sector received the highest ADP allocation of Taka 52,806 crore or 26.05 per cent of the ADP. While presiding over the meeting, the Prime Minister directed the authorities concerned to complete the projects within the stipulated timeframe and find out the reasons for those projects which could not be completed within the stipulated timeframe.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina referring to Bangladesh's graduation to a developing country has urged all to work in unison to establish the country as developed and prosperous one by maintaining the trend of uplift. The Premier made the urge at her speech at an iftar mahfil arranged in honour of professionals and civil society figures at Ganabhaban yesterday.

A delegation led by the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in Bangladesh Mia Seppo called on Jatiya Sangsad Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury at her office yesterday. While exchanging views with the members of delegation also attended by Envoys of Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, US, UK and other high officials, the Speaker expressed her optimism that the UN bodies and other countries will extend their cooperation for continuation of democracy and establishing human rights in Bangladesh.

Agriculture Minister Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque has said, the government will spend Taka 3,000 crore as subsidy for the mechanization of agriculture as finding agricultural labour is a problem now-a-days. The Minister said this while addressing a function at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council auditorium in Dhaka yesterday. The Minister said, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will do everything needed for the development of agriculture and the farmers as the country has attained autarky in food production under her dynamic leadership.

Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud has called upon all departments under the ministry to work utmost sincerity in projecting the development activities of the government to the people. The Minister made the call while addressing a function in the ministry yesterday marking the joining of newly appointed State Minister for Information Dr. Murad Hasan. The State Minister in his address seeking cooperation from all said, he wants to work as per the directives of the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen has rejected media reports that Bangladesh halted visas for Pakistanis. The Minister briefing a press conference at his ministry yesterday, however, said, the Pakistan authorities is delaying in issuing visas to Bangladeshi diplomats to be posted there.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Zahid Maleque has said, the government led by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in Bangladesh upgraded all 64 district hospitals with 150 per cent increase in beds and modern equipment to provide medicare to 160 million people. The Minister said this while addressing the 72nd World Health Assembly in Geneva of Switzerland yesterday.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs M Shahriar Alam has said, the government will not tolerate any illegal practice in migration sector as it follows a zero-tolerance policy against such illicit practice. The Minister gave the warning at his speech at BRAC Centre Inn in Dhaka yesterday.

State Minister for Social Welfare Sharif Ahmed has said, the government is thinking of amending the existing statutes to ensure equal rights of men and women to their ancestral property. The State Minister said this while addressing a function arranged for giving awards to the journalists for their reports on women empowerment at the National Press Club in Dhaka yesterday.

The Supreme Court administration has clarified its notice served on May 16 that barred reporting on sub-judice matters. The new notice issued yesterday said that the reports tarnishing the image and dignity of the court and influence the trial proceedings are unexpected.

Bangladesh Railway begins advance ticket sale from today at six points of Dhaka city for the home bound people during Eid-ul-Fitr.

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