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News Brief

President Md. Abdul Hamid has asked the universities and others concerned to create efficient and specialized technology experts to face the challenges of the Fourth Industrialization Revolution (4IR) and cyber risks. The President made the call while addressing the concluding session of the six-day Digital Service Design and Planning Lab at the Osmani Smrity Auditorium in Dhaka yesterday. The President also asked the University Grants Commission and universities for quick implementation of 'Integrated University Information Management Platform', including introducing 'e-Governance,' at all universities in line with the Digital Bangladesh concept of the incumbent government.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has launched the much-awaited electronic passport along with the automated border control management programme, saying that it (e-passport) is a gift for the nation in the 'Mujib Barsho'. The PM speaking at a function organized on the occasion at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Dhaka yesterday also said, e-gate is going to be incorporated with e-passport and once e-passport and e-gate are introduced, the immigration and passport services will be easier, smooth and international standard ones.

Prime Minister and Leader of the House Sheikh Hasina while replying to a question at the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday said, her government's commitment to ensuring fair price of crops and other agricultural products in the interest of the farmers. The Leader of the House warned that stern action would be taken if someone is involved in creating artificial crisis of essential commodities in the market. Finance Minister A H M Mustafa Kamal during the parliament session yesterday presented a list of individuals and corporations who defaulted on their loans. As of November 2019, there were 8,238 defaulters with debts totalling Tk 96,986.38 crore in the country. Of that amount, Tk 25,836.04 crore has been paid back. The Parliament yesterday passed the Bangladesh Tariff Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2020 aiming to strengthen the commission further and expand its activities.

Newly appointed High Commissioner of Brunei in Dhaka Haji Haris bin Othman paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her Sangsad Bhaban office yesterday. The Envoy sought cooperation from Bangladesh to expand agricultural sector of his country. The Prime Minister said, Bangladesh can share its experience with Brunei about its success in food grains and vegetable production.

The newly-elected central working committee and advisory council of Bangladesh Awami League led by its President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will go to Tungipara in Gopalganj on Friday to pay homage to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has congratulated Bangladesh Ambassador to the Netherlands Sheikh Mohammed Belal on his election as the Managing Director of the Common Fund for Commodities (CFC), an UN affiliated international financial organisation. The PM extended the congratulations when Ambassador Belal paid a courtesy call on her at her office yesterday.

The International Court of Justice today will deliver its order on the request for provisional measures, made by Gambia in its genocide case against Myanmar. According to ICJ, a public sitting will take place at 10am local time at the Peace Palace in The Hague, during which ICJ President Judge Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf will read out the order.

Please Turn Over

Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud has said, BNP is trying to mislead the people of the country by giving false and fabricated information. The Minister said this while addressing a civic mourning meeting of former Military Secretary to the Prime Minister Major General Miah Muhammad Zainul Abedin at Lohagara upazila in Chattogram yesterday. Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader also addressed the function.

Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen has said, establishment of safe, orderly and regular migration is a Bangladesh government's political priority as per election manifesto of ruling Awami League. The Minister said this while addressing a policy forum on 'Road to Implementing Global Compact on Migration' at Ecuadorian capital Quito on Tuesday.

Industries Minister Nurul Majid Mahmud Humayun has called upon the Indian entrepreneurs to invest in the special economic zones in Bangladesh where the country is providing all sorts of infrastructure and policy support to local and foreign investors. The Minister made the call while speaking at the opening of the 'INDEE Bangladesh 2020' exhibition in Dhaka yesterday. Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Riva Ganguly also attended the function.

In a major boost to power sector, the government has undertaken a scheme for setting up 16 power plants having 19,100 MW electricity generation capacity in the country. State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid said this to the media in Dhaka yesterday. Currently, the country's power generation capacity reaches 22,787 MW.

The demolition work of the BGMEA Bhaban has started following the order of the Supreme Court. Housing and Public Works Minister S M Rezaul Karim inaugurated the demolition work of the building yesterday.

Chief Election Commissioner K M Nurul Huda has asked law enforcers to help hold the two city corporation polls in free and fair manner. The CEC warned that stern action would be taken against those who neglected their duties during the polls. The CEC said this while addressing a meeting with law enforcing agencies held at Nirbachan Bhaban in the capital yesterday. EC Secretary Md. Alamgir at the meeting said, 40,000 personnel of law enforcement agencies will be deployed in the polls. Meanwhile, the High Court yesterday ordered the authorities concerned to stop production and display of laminated posters immediately in electoral areas of Dhaka North City Corporation and Dhaka South City Corporation.

A Dhaka court yesterday ordered the authorities concerned to publish newspaper notices in two national dailies asking former Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha and 10 others to appear before it in a case filed for misappropriating and laundering about Tk 4 crore from the Farmers Bank in 2016.

Former Brazilian goalkeeper Julio Cesar arrived in Dhaka yesterday for a two-day visit as a FIFA Ambassador for the ongoing Bangabandhu Gold Cup International Football Tournament. The former Inter Milan goalkeeper will pay homage to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by placing wreath at his portrait at Dhanmondi in Dhaka this morning.

Bangladesh and Burundi will face each other in the second semifinal of the Bangabandhu Gold Cup International Football tournament at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in Dhaka today.



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