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News Brief

Durga Puja, the biggest religious festival of the Hindu community, begins today with Maha Shashthi puja at temples across the country with due religious fervour. In separate messages, President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday conveyed greetings to the Hindu community people on this occasion. The President said, Durga Puja is closely related to traditional culture and heritage of Bangladesh as Hindu community of this soil has been celebrating Durga Puja with massive fanfare and enthusiasm for long. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in her message, said, Durga Puja is not only a festival of the Hindu community, but also is now a universal festival.

The International Day of Older Persons will be observed in the country today like elsewhere across the globe with the theme 'The Resilience of Older Persons in a Changing World'. On the eve of the day, President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina issued separate messages greeting the country's all senior citizens and wished sound health and peaceful life for them. The Head of the State, in his message, said, to ensure a dignified, poverty-free, functional, healthy and secure family and social life for the elderly persons, the government has enacted the National Policy on Older Persons-2013 and the Parent's Care Act, 2013. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in her message, said, it will be possible to reach the desired goal if various development organizations and private organizations come forward for the welfare of the elderly people along with the government.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina called upon the Bangladeshi expatriates to depict the misrule of the BNP government that included corruption, irregularities and atrocities against opponents alongside the country's current overall development scenario. The Prime Minister said, Bangladesh is marching ahead towards prosperity and getting the developing country's status due to having democratic process in the country for a long time. The Premier said this in a view exchange meeting with Bangladeshi expatriates in Washington DC, the USA on Thursday.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina invited Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman to visit Bangladesh. Ambassador of Bangladesh to Saudi Arabia Dr. Mohammad Javed Patwary handed over the invitation letter to the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia Waleed El Khereiji at his Ministry's office in Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia, on Thursday.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said, the Awami league (AL) was born in the soil and that is why its roots have deepened into the soil. The Minister told this at a discussion arranged by AL's relief and social welfare subcommittee on the occasion of the birthday of AL President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Bangla Academy auditorium yesterday.

Later, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader urged party leaders and workers to resist communal forces during Durga Puja. He said this in a meeting with the puja celebration committee and Sanatan religious leaders at the Awami League president's political office at Dhanmondi in the capital yesterday.

Agriculture Minister Abdur Razzak said, BNP must have a peaceful assembly, march-meeting, otherwise they cannot defend themselves with a stick. The Minister said this while addressing as the chief guest at the city's Awami League's triennial conference at Shahid Smriti Municipal Park in Tangail last afternoon.

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Information and Broadcasting Dr. Hasan Mahmud urged the people of Rangunia to keep their doors open for him in the next national elections as he was beside them in the past. The Minister said this while distributing checks and assistance among the needy people of Rangunia Upazila last evening.

Meanwhile, Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud came down heavily on BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir for his comments that "Pakistani regime was better". He said, BNP disregarded national standard and showed disrespect to the Liberation War, independence and sovereignty. The Minister told journalists after a cheque distributing ceremony held at MA Aziz Stadium in Chattogram yesterday.

State Minister for Culture KM Khalid MP on Thursday in Los Pinos, Mexico City, participating in the UNESCO World Conference, MONDIACULT 2022, received a courtesy call from Guatemala's Vice Minister for Cultural and Natural Heritage, Mario Roberto Maldonado Samayoa. After exchanging pleasantries, the State Minister extended his best wishes and congratulations to the Vice Minister of Guatemala on the 201st anniversary of the country's independence.

Indonesia is committed to strengthen its friendly relation and comprehensive partnership with Bangladesh in the next 50 years and beyond. Indonesian Ambassador to Bangladesh Heru Hartanto Subolo told this while addressing a reception, hosted by the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Dhaka on the occasion of celebration of its 77th Independence Day on Thursday.

National Girl Child Day-2022 was observed yesterday across the country aiming to create mass awareness for ensuring empowerment of girl children. This time the theme of the day was 'Pledge of Time, Rights of the Girl Child'. On the occasion of the day, the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs organised a comprehensive programme across the country.

Bangladesh's export-import activities with India, Nepal and Bhutan via the Banglabandha land port will remain suspended for 10 days, on the occasion of Durga puja and Eid-e-Miladunnabi. Banglabandha Import-Exporter Group and Phulbari Exporters and Importers Welfare Association of India have taken the decision to keep trading via the land port shut from Friday to October 9, Banglabandha port authorities said yesterday.

According to the Directorate General of Health Services, a total of 240 dengue patients were admitted to different hospitals across the country during the past 24 hours (till 8am yesterday).

Meanwhile, Bangladesh yesterday reported one Covid-19 death while it recorded 708 coronavirus positive cases during the same period, a daily statement of the Directorate General of Health Services said.


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