



Most Urgent
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News Brief

The ECNEC yesterday approved five projects involving Tk 1,266 crore, including a Taka 246-crore one to develop hilsa resources in the country. The ECNEC meeting virtually with ECNEC Chairperson and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair also approved other projects titled 'Establishment of 25-bed Shanti Nibash in 8 Government Shishu Paribars' at a cost of Tk 73.99 crore 'Upgrading Digpait-Sarishabari-Tarakandi Road of Jamalpur' involving Tk 376.56 crore, 'Construction of BGB's 73 composites/ modern observation posts (BOP) in border areas' project at a cost of Tk 233.52 crore and 'Establishment of 40 Technical Training Centres in 40 upazilas and Institute of Marine Technology in Chattogram' (1st revised) project, with an additional cost of Tk 335.78 crore.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina while delivering a statement virtually at the special session of the 75th United Nations General Assembly in New York yesterday said, Bangladesh is committed to upholding peace across the world and it is currently the leading troops and police-contributing country in all peace operations. The Prime Minister also mentioned that as many as 150 of Bangladesh's peacekeepers sacrificed their lives to secure peace in conflict-ravaged countries in the world. The Premier will virtually address the UNGA general debate on September 26.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, also the chair of the Climate Vulnerable Forum-CVF, in a write-up published in the british daily 'The Guardian' yesterday said, the climate crisis and Covid-19 desperately need international cooperation, adding that no country should turn its back on the rest of the world at this time. At the next UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties, countries must commit to enhancing their nationally determined contributions, the Premier said.

Bangladesh has sent medicine and other medical supplies to Nepal to help the country combat the ongoing pandemic under the SAARC COVID-19 emergency fund as a gesture of friendship. Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen handed over those to Nepal Ambassador to Bangladesh Dr. Bongshidhar Mishra at the Foreign Ministry yesterday. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has provided 1.5 million US dollar to the fund from Bangladesh.

Bangladesh has requested the Saudi government to extend the tenure of 'Iqama'-valid work permit and visa of Bangladeshi expatriates for three more months so that workers stuck here can return to the Gulf country. Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen told the media that Bangladesh embassy in Saudi Arabia has given a letter to the Saudi Foreign ministry in this regard. Following a protest by migrant workers amid a shortage of tickets to Saudi Arabia, the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh yesterday said, it would permit Saudi Airlines to operate more flights to the country. Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia has decided to allow flights from Dhaka from 1st October. As per another development, Saudi Arabia will gradually resume the year-round umrah pilgrimage for Muslims from October 4, the interior ministry of the kingdom said yesterday, seven months after it was suspended because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The Newly appointed Ambassador of Bangladesh to Germany M Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan paid a virtual courtesy call on Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury yesterday. During the meeting, the Speaker stressed the need for coordinated effort in attracting investment from Germany.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal while attending a programme at Police Staff College in Mirpur yesterday said, action will be taken against the former VP of DUCSU Nurul Haque Nur as per the law in a rape case filed against him. Meanwhile, police have lodged another case against Nurul Haque Nur under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act and Digital Security Act.

Cabinet Secretary Khandker Anwarul Islam attending an inter-ministerial meeting yesterday said, the government is not thinking of lockdown again regarding the probable second phase of corona infection. A work plan will be formulated in this regard, he said. About reopening educational institutions, he said the Education ministry has been assigned to take a decision over the issue.

The Prime Minister's Office has taken an initiative to preserve all the notifications to execute the Prime Minister's directives to fight the Covid-19 pandemic, compiled under the supervision of the PMO Secretary Md. Tofazzel Hossain Miah, to deal with other disasters like Coronavirus pandemic in the future using the experience. The total volume of 1,976 pages turned out into a five-volume book. In this connection, Premier's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim said, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been tirelessly working for the country and its people ignoring her health risk amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

The number of Covid-19 deaths crossed the 5,000 mark yesterday, raising the death toll from the pandemic to 5,007, as Bangladesh recorded 28 more fatalities from the novel coronavirus, in a daily count yesterday. At the same time recovery count rose to 2,60,790 after another 2,073 patients were discharged from the hospitals during the period. The country also saw further rise in coronavirus cases with the detection of 1,557 new cases taking the total number of cases to 3,52,178. A total of 14,164 samples were tested across the country during the time.

Ministry of Women and Children Affairs would be observing the World Children's Day on October 5 and Children Right Week from October 5 to October 11 with elaborate programmes. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will virtually attend the main event on October 6. Meanwhile, National Girl Child Day would also be observed in district and upazila levels on September 30.

South Korea through KOICA will contribute US\$5.86 million to International Organization of Migration for a five-year project from 2020 to 2024 to address human trafficking problem in Bangladesh. In addition, Korea is providing US\$500,000 to the IOM Bangladesh Office this year for the implementation of its programmes under the 2020 Joint Response Plan for the Rohingya crisis, said the Korean Embassy in Dhaka.

BEPZA has signed US\$ 56.33 million new investment agreement with seven companies; five foreign and two local, during corona pandemic, a BEPZA press release said yesterday.

The Internal Resources Division of the Ministry of Finance yesterday issued a gazette notification withdrawing the five per cent duty imposed on onion imports, which will be effective until March 31, 2021.

One more victim of Narayanganj mosque AC blast succumbed to death at Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery yesterday, raising the death toll to 34.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has expressed deep shock and sorrow at the death of Fisheries and Livestock Minister S M Rezaul Karim's mother Majeda Begum. The Premier also condoled the death of one of the members of Swadhin Bangla Football Team and former national footballer A K M Nawsheruzzaman.

Press Minister at the High Commission of Bangladesh in London, UK, Md. Ashequn Nabi Chowdhury has been reappointed to the same post for two years more on contractual basis.

Dhaka South City Corporation filed five cases and collected fines of Tk 50,000 from different areas through identifying the breeding grounds of Aedes mosquitoes, evicting illegal installations and removing illegal cables yesterday.



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