



Most Urgent  
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From: PIO, PID, Dhaka  
Fax: 55100553/55100026  
E-mail: [piddhaka@gmail.com](mailto:piddhaka@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.pressinform.gov.bd](http://www.pressinform.gov.bd)

### Newsbrief

A red carpet was rolled out to accord a warm reception to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina as she arrived in Bangkok yesterday on a six-day official visit to Thailand at the invitation of her Thai counterpart Srettha Thavisin. On her arrival at Don Mueang International Airport, Bangkok, the Premier was received by Puangpet Chunlaiad, Minister attached to the Thai Prime Minister's Office. The PM was given a guard of honour and a 19-round gunsalute at the airport. During her visit, the Bangladesh Premier will hold bilateral talks with PM Thavisin and also attend the 80th Session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. Bangladesh and Thailand will sign a number of cooperation documents including a letter of intent on negotiations for a free trade agreement between the two countries. The Premier is expected to return home on April 29.

Prime Minister and Awami League (AL) President Sheikh Hasina yesterday expressed profound shock and sorrow at the death of Gopalganj district AL Labour Secretary and former elected Mayor of Gopalganj Municipality Rezaul Haque Shikder Raju. In a message of condolence, the PM prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul of Raju and conveyed deep sympathy to the bereaved family.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister and Awami League (AL) General Secretary Obaidul Quader said, necessary actions will be taken if the relatives of ruling party Lawmakers and Ministers participate in the upazila polls ignoring the party decision. The Minister said this at a press briefing at the AL President's Dhanmondi political office in Dhaka yesterday. The Minister also said, there are scopes for the candidates to withdraw their candidacy till the last day before holding the election.

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Anisul Huq emphasized the need for a world-class judicial academy for an efficient judiciary in the country. The Minister said this to the officials of Law and Justice Division while addressing a workshop on finalizing a draft of Annual Performance Agreement (APA) 2024-25 at the Ministry yesterday. The Minister asked the legal aid officers to hold regular meetings with Chairmen and members of their own union councils to increase the periphery of legal aid.

The Minister for Religious Affairs Md. Faridul Haque Khan said, Bangladesh's Hajj management will be one of the smartest systems in the world in the future. The government has introduced information technology in Hajj management as part of building a developed and prosperous smart Bangladesh. The Minister said this while inaugurating Hajj Training -2024 at the conference room of Dhaka Hajj Office in the capital yesterday. The Minister also said, the aim of the training program is to help people perform hajj properly. Skilled trainers have been selected for the program.

Textiles and Jute Minister Jahangir Kabir Nanak said, the government will form a jute council for the development of the jute industries and the jute sector. The Minister said this while speaking at the annual general meeting of Bangladesh Jute Mills Association (BJMA) at Samson H. Chowdhury Centre at Dhaka Club in the capital yesterday. The Minister also said, the government is giving all-out supports to the jute sector. The Minister urged the BJMA leaders to help stop the use of polythene bags in the country.

State Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mohammad Ali Arafat, now on a visit to Mauritius, urged the Indian Ocean country to invest in the special economic zone in Bangladesh. The State Minister made the call in a bilateral meeting with Mauritius Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade Minister Maneesh Gobin in Port Louis, said a press release, received in Dhaka yesterday. Different bilateral issues, including trade and investments as well as the matters of anthropological and cultural cooperation were discussed in the meeting. The State Minister invited the Mauritius Foreign Minister to visit Bangladesh.

State Minister for Education Begum Shamsun Nahar Chapa said, women should be made skilled in the ICT sector for the progress of the society and the country. The State Minister said this while speaking at the discussion titled 'Empowering girls with ICT skills and employment: challenges and opportunities' at

Muzaffar Ahmed Auditorium of Dhaka University yesterday. The State Minister also said, keeping in mind about the future employment opportunities and needs, a vocational education system is being developed for women.

Mayor of Dhaka South City Corporation Barrister Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh warned authorities of under construction buildings to stop their works if Aedes larvae is found at the construction sites. The Mayor said this to the journalists after visiting the renovation works of Dr. Kazi Bashir Auditorium at Gulistan in Dhaka yesterday. The Mayor urged all developer organizations and REHAB to play their due role in destroying breeding sources of the mosquito-borne disease.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Finance yesterday discussed the issue of providing non-financial stimulus alongside the ongoing financial stimulus to infuse dynamism into the trend of sending remittances through the legal banking channel. In this regard, the committee discussed the issue of providing Smart Cards to remitters and their families so that they can avail of various facilities. These were discussed at the 2nd meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Finance held at Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday with the committee Chairman AHM Mustafa Kamal in the chair.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Health and Family Welfare Ministry recommended completing all activities under different programmes in the health sector properly. The Parliamentary committee made the recommendations at the first meeting held at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday, an official release said.

Three newly appointed judges of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court (SC) will take oath today, said a Supreme Court notification yesterday. Chief Justice Obaidul Hassan will formally administer the oath of office to the three newly appointed judges at 10:30 am at the Supreme Court judges' lounge. The three new apex court judges are - Justice Muhammad Abdul Hafiz, Justice Md. Shahinur Islam and Justice Kashefa Hussain.

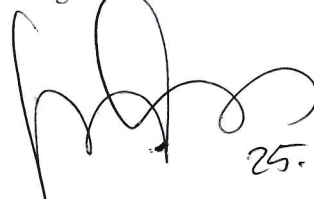
The High Court asked the concerned parties to submit a list showing how many Rohingyas have been made voters fraudulently in Cox's Bazar. At the time, the High Court also ordered to exclude 35 Rohingyas from the existing voter list. A High Court Division Bench consisting of Justice Naima Haider and Justice Kazi Zeenat Haque passed the order yesterday following the preliminary hearing of a writ petition in this regard.

UK High Commissioner to Bangladesh Sarah Cooke said, the United Kingdom is committed to playing a supportive role in transforming Bangladesh into an aviation hub. The Envoy remarked during a meeting with Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Mohammad Faruk Khan at his residence in the capital yesterday, said at a press release. In response, the Minister welcomed the UK's friendly cooperation in successfully transforming Bangladesh into an aviation hub.

Election Commissioner Md. Alamgir said, lawmakers are prohibited from participating in election campaigns. The Commissioner said this during at a discussion session at Tangail Upazila Parishad in Tangail yesterday. He also said, if a candidate or their supporter commits acts of assault against another candidate or supporter, or engages in arson, both of which are criminal offences, the punishment will be significantly more severe.

A total of 173 Bangladeshi nationals imprisoned in Rakhine returned to Bangladesh from Myanmar by sea yesterday while 288 Myanmar security personnel who fled here due to conflict in other side of border will be repatriated by a naval ship sent by Naypyidaw, said a Foreign Ministry's press release.

DSEX, the key index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange, decreased by 54.63 points, or 0.96 per cent, to close at 5,578.97 points on the day after losing 41.25 points in the previous trading session.



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**Md. Shahinoor Miah**  
Principal Information Officer (Acting)  
Phone-55100811