



Most Urgent  
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## News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina sought Russian support and cooperation to set up another nuclear power plant in the country's southern region, as the Russian State Atomic Energy Corporation, ROSATOM's Director General Alexey Likhachev called on her at Ganabhaban yesterday. ROSATOM provided technical and financial support in setting up country's first ever nuclear power plant, Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant-RNPP in Pabna. Laying utmost emphasis on the security issues, the Premier urged the ROSATOM DG to train up local people so they can run the RNPP. Alexey Likhachev said, Bangladesh will become a country enriched with nuclear energy and power by 2023, adding their cooperation to Bangladesh's power sector will continue. He also presented the technical and security aspects of the RNPP before the Prime Minister. Alexey Likhachev praised the Prime Minister highly for her support towards the implementation of RNPP.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina virtually witnessed a power point presentation on the master plan of Dhaka University, for its infrastructure development including construction of a world-class library to make the campus area more artistic and spectacular, joining from Ganabhaban yesterday. The Premier expressed pleasure at the master plan. The PM also witnessed a presentation on the design of Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council Complex.

President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in separate condolence messages, expressed profound shock and sorrow at the death of Ekushey Padak winning eminent Actor, Playwright, Director and Teacher Dr. Enamul Haque who breathed his last at a city hospital yesterday at the age of 77. Number of Ministers, State Ministers other eminent personalities also condoled Dr. Enamul Haque's death.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate metro rail, Padma Bridge, Bus Traffic Transit, Gazipur-Tongi four-lane road project and Karnaphuli Tunnel next year. Moreover, some 10 flyovers will be built in the country, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said this while addressing the inaugural function of a conference of five units of Mohammadpur's Ward-19 AL in the capital yesterday. Turning to politics, the Minister said, the tune of separation is now being played in the BNP. The tune of division is being played in the 20-party alliance too, he said. He said, there is no democracy in BNP. "How will they establish democracy in the country?" he questioned. Issuing a warning to the AL leaders and workers, he instructed them not to allow terrorists, extortionists, land grabbers, drug dealers and wrongdoers in the party.

The incumbent government is working relentlessly to remove all export barriers and increase the exports of local agricultural products, as the country has huge potentials to export vegetables, potatoes and fruits as well as processed food items. Agriculture Minister Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque said this at a view-exchange meeting at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council-BARC at Farmgate yesterday, adding, the country has a surplus in various crops and food now. In another development, the Minister said, the onion price would be brought under control within next 20 days. When the summer onions and imported ones will come to local markets, its price will decline and will be under control, he said while talking to reporters at a research review workshop at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute-BARI on Sunday.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud said, Jatiya Press Club-JPC is an institution of journalists and it is a national institute. It is not proper to hold meetings at the club alike a political party office which Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir and his party-BNP did on Sunday, tarnishing the sanctity and image of JPC. Replying to a query of newsmen at his ministry yesterday, over a call of movement by BNP, the Minister said, the countrymen would never support BNP for their petrol bomb attacks, corruption and for creating 'Bangla Bhai' and 'Shayekh Abdur Rahman'. About the digitalization of cable networking system, Dr. Hasan said, most of the works of digitalization at Dhaka and Chattogram have been completed. The full digitalization system would be done from November 1, he added. About a survey by a publication of South Asian region on COVID-19 situation, the Minister said, the WHO has praised the contribution of the Premier to combating the pandemic. Besides, different international newspapers and media praised the role of the Premier, he added.

Meanwhile, JPC President Farida Yasmin condemned the news published in different newspapers claiming that the JPC leaders held a videoconferencing with BNP's acting vice-Chairman and convicted fugitive Tareque Rahman. But, she said, JPC leaders did not hold any videoconferencing with the fugitive convicted at all and that's why using the name of the JPC is totally unethical. "It is a part of deep-rooted conspiracy," Farida in a statement said. However, holding videoconferencing with convicted Tareque Rahman under the banner of another organization on October 10 is totally illegal, she said.

The Asian Development Bank would provide both financial and technical assistance to the government for implementing "Amar Gram Amar Shohor" initiative which aims to reach all the amenities of cities and towns at village level. The newly appointed ADB Country Director Edimon Ginting and the outgoing ADB President Manmohan Parkash said this after a meeting with Local Government Minister Md. Tazul Islam at his ministry. Terming ADB as a trusted development partner of Bangladesh, the Minister hoped that the lending agency would continue their support to Bangladesh in future.

There is no reason to get panicked over onion as there is sufficient stock of onion in the country while the supply chain is also normal, Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi assured this yesterday while addressing a press briefing virtually at his ministry after a meeting convened to review the stock, supply and import situation of essential items and also to make stable the supply chain of those essential items. He added, onion is also being imported from China and India regularly. He also cautioned that the government would take tough stance if anyone tries to make excessive profit through market manipulation. There is a stock of five lac tons of local onion while the TCB is selling onion at Taka 30 per KG through some 400 trucks across the country, he informed.

Environment, Forests and Climate Change Minister Md. Shahab Uddin said, Bangladesh calls upon the countries having greater responsibilities and significant capabilities, particularly G20 nations, to lead the global efforts to achieve climate goals. He was virtually addressing the LDC Ministerial Meeting at Thimphu of Bhutan yesterday. Bangladesh has enhanced both unconditional and conditional contributions amounting to 89.47 million tons CO2 equivalent, which is 21.85 per cent emission reductions from Business as Usual by 2030 in its updated NDCs submitted in August 26th this year, he informed. He said, Bangladesh underscores the need for enhancing the capacity of LDCs for the effective participation of Article 6 mechanisms of Paris Agreement and it feels that the world leaders must determine a common time frame for NDCs, which is consistent and compatible to five-year unique cycle of NDC communication and global stocktaking under the Paris Agreement.

South Korean Ambassador to Bangladesh Lee Jang-keun said, his country has been identifying some potential sectors in Bangladesh, including infrastructure, pharmaceutical and ICT, beyond the RMG, to create further bilateral commercial ties. He was talking to diplomatic correspondents after visiting Panam city and Baro Sardar Bari in Sonargaon at the invitation of Korean Youngone Corporation yesterday. The Ambassador said that many Korean companies would be interested in working with Bangladesh in nuclear energy generation. The Ambassador said, he is focusing on Bangladesh's young generation to further strengthen the relations between Dhaka and Seoul as the youth are source of a better and brighter future.

Bangladesh government is planning to set up a panoramic museum in Meherpur like the Panorama 1453 Historical Museum of Turkey, which will showcase the country's War of Liberation and the life of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Ministry of Liberation War Affairs Secretary Khaja Miah said this during an interview given to Turkish state-run news agency Anadolu during his recent visit to the country. He sought Turkey's assistance in setting up the museum, a press release said yesterday.

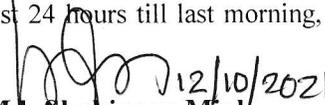
The five-day 'Sharadiyo Durgotsav', the biggest religious festival of Hindu community, began yesterday with Sashthi Puja. Meanwhile, Director General of RAB Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun said, there is no security threat or danger of any kind of sabotage during the Durga Puja as RAB has set up an overall security blanket in Dhaka and elsewhere across the country. He was talking to newsmen after inspecting the overall security measures at the Banani Puja Mandap.

Police and Armed Police Battalion-APBn detained 12 suspected Rohingya criminals in two raids in Ukhaia Upazila of Cox's Bazar yesterday. Of them, five are suspected members of Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army-ARSA. The suspects were reportedly preparing for a robbery.

Ambassador of Switzerland to Bangladesh Nathalie Chuard paid a courtesy call on Senior Secretary of the Ministry of Defense Dr. Md. Abu Hena Mostofa Kamal at Defense Ministry yesterday. During the meeting, they discussed various issues including defense cooperation between the two countries.

Bangladesh has won four awards, including one silver award, in the 3-day 'International Blockchain Olympiad Award (IBCOL) 2021' competition, hosted by Bangladesh. The awards were handed over at the concluding function at ICT Tower in the city on Sunday night. Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi, State Minister for ICT Division Zunaid Ahmed Palak attended the program, jointly organized by the ICT Division of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Computer Council, Blockchain Olympiad Bangladesh and Technohaven Company Limited.

The country yesterday recorded 11 fatalities from COVID-19, taking the total death toll to 27,699. With 599 fresh cases, the number of infections surged to 15,62,958. The positivity rate stood at 2.58 per cent, as 23,193 samples were tested during the time. At the same time, the recovery count rose to 15,24,467, DGHS disclosed this information in a press release yesterday. Besides, 207 dengue patients got hospitalized in the last 24 hours till last morning, the DGHS informed.

  
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