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News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has asked the health ministry officials to ensure healthcare service for every citizen. The Prime Minister gave the directive while addressing the officials of the health ministry yesterday as part of her plan to visit every ministry after assuming office for the fourth time. The Premier asked the health officials to conduct a survey to ascertain the number of beds, doctors and other facilities required for hospitals in every upazila and district.

Newly appointed Chief of Bangladesh Naval Staff Abu Mozaffar Mohiuddin Mohammad Aurangzeb Chowdhury was adorned with the rank of Vice Admiral in presence of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Ganabhaban in Dhaka yesterday. The Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina congratulated Vice Admiral Aurangzeb Chowdhury for taking the command of Bangladesh Navy and wished him all successes.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Australian Premier Scott Morrison yesterday congratulated Sheikh Hasina for her reelection as the Bangladesh Prime Minister for the fourth term. In a congratulatory letter, Shinzo Abe said, he is convinced that Sheikh Hasina will continue to lead the path of democratic and economic development in Bangladesh. Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison in his congratulatory letter said, his country would continue to work with Bangladesh to support the growth and stability. Chairman of Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina Dr. Denis Zvizdic also congratulated Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday.

Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud has said, the ninth wage board award for journalists would be announced in the shortest possible time. The Minister said this as he was speaking at the biennial conference of Chattogram Press Club held at the Bangabandhu Conference Hall in the port city yesterday. The Minister underscored the need for a well-equipped policy to make all online portals accountable.

Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi has said, cruise ship for tourists between Bangladesh and India would begin in March. The Minister told to the media after a meeting with acting Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka Dr. Adarsh Swaika at his secretariat office yesterday.

Railways Minister Nurul Islam Sujon has said the Rail line project of Dohazari-Cox's Bazar-Gumdum will extend to China-Malaysia and Thailand to connect entire Asia. The Minister said this while exchanges views with high officials of Railway in Chattogram yesterday. After the completion of Dhaka-Chattogram High speed train project, passengers can reached their destination within 57 minutes, the Minister added.

Chinese Ambassador Zhang Zuo has said, his country is willing to play a constructive role to repatriate the displaced Rohingyas from Bangladesh to Myanmar. The Chinese Envoy said this while paying a courtesy call on Foreign Minister A.K. Abdul Momen at the Foreign Ministry in Dhaka yesterday.

Awami League nominated candidate Younus Ali Sarker was elected by defeating his nearest candidate Dilara Khandoker in the Jatiya Sangsad Election of Gaibandha-3 seat held yesterday. The election had been postponed earlier following the death of Jatiya Oikyafront candidate Dr. TIM Fazle Rabbi Chowdhury.

DSEX, the key index of Dhaka Stock Exchange, lost 0.18 per cent, or 10.56 points, to close at 5,939.45 points yesterday.

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