



PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
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News Brief

The cabinet has approved in principle a draft of the Local Government (City Corporation) (Amendment) Act, 2020, keeping a provision to hold elections to the city corporations within three months instead of the existing six months before expiry of their tenures. The Cabinet meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina virtually presiding over yesterday also gave consent to a proposal to celebrate August 8 every year as the birthday of Bangamata Sheikh Fazilatunnesa Mujib at the state-level. The Cabinet also approved in principle the draft of Bangladesh Biman Corporation (Repeal) Act, 2020 and the Drone Registration and Flying Guideline, 2020. The cabinet also gave consent to the draft of Preferential Trade Agreement to be signed between Bangladesh and Bhutan, while it ratified the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-Border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said, Bangladesh is keen to boost its relationship with Turkey for mutual benefits as it is deeply rooted in shared history, faith and traditions based on trust and confidence. The Premier said this while virtually opening newly-constructed Bangladesh Chancery Complex in Ankara yesterday. The Prime Minister sought further role of the Turkish government in solving the protracted Rohingya crisis. Bangladesh Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen and his Turkish counterpart Mevlut Cavusoglu spoke at the function. The Foreign Minister along with his Turkish counterpart placed wreaths at the bust of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at the newly-built Chancery Complex.

Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Riva Ganguly Das called on Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban in Dhaka yesterday. They discussed the changes in global situation and lifestyle due to the ongoing coronavirus epidemic. The Envoy praised the Government of Bangladesh for successfully carrying out all the activities virtually, keeping the fact in mind that people need to stay home to keep themselves safe.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader virtually addressing a meeting on development of roads in three hilly districts yesterday said, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina opened the golden door of development in Chattogram Hill Tracts region through implementation of the CHT Peace Accord. Obaidul Quader said, under the supervision of Bangladesh Army, construction work of around 317 kilometer roads along frontiers of three hilly districts of Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarban is going on.

Bangladesh yesterday recorded 26 more fatalities from the novel coronavirus in a daily count, raising the death toll from the pandemic to 4,759. At the same time recovery count rose to 2,43,155 after another 2,512 patients were discharged from the hospitals during the period. The country also saw further rise in coronavirus cases with the detection of 1,812 new cases taking the total number of cases to 3,39,332.

Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud in a condolence message yesterday expressed deep shock at the death of veteran actor Sadek Bacchu who passed away at a hospital in Dhaka yesterday at the age of 65. Sadek Bacchu was tested Covid-19 positive.

State Minister for Disaster Management and Relief Md Enamur Rahman while attending a workshop on National plan for disaster management at Bangabandhu International Conference Center in Dhaka yesterday said, the government is going to purchase rescue equipment worth Tk 2,200 crore to fight against different natural disasters.

State Minister for Shipping Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury in an interview with media yesterday said, the government will strengthen its monitoring over unfit river vessels to put an end to accidents on waterways.

The Press Information Department will be responsible for registering the online news portals until the Broadcasting Commission is formed. In this regard, the Ministry of Information issued an order yesterday. The order also includes registration, establishment and management fees for news websites.

Bangladesh received 922.10 million US dollars as remittance in just 10 days from September 1-10, which is almost double compared to the corresponding period in last year 2019. According to Bangladesh Bank data, the country received \$534 million during the same period last year while \$572 million in the first 10 days of August last.

Bangladesh is going to export 1,450 tonnes of hilsa to India on the eve of Durga Puja, Commerce Ministry sources informed media yesterday saying the ministry will allow the hilsa export to India until October 10. Meanwhile, India has prohibited the export of all varieties of onion except in cut, sliced or powdered form.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board said, Sri Lanka tour is not possible with the terms and conditions given by the Sri Lanka Cricket –SLC. The board already let the SLC know their decision and hopes that they would get the reply very soon. Sri Lanka made it mandatory that the visiting team would have to stay quarantine for 14 days and during this period they would have to strictly confine them into the hotel room.

Shahjalal University of Science and Technology has decided to include the historic March 7 speech of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in the syllabus of all departments. The decision was taken at an online meeting of the Academic Council of the university on Sunday.

‘Joy Bangla Telemedicine App’ is to be launched today under the auspices of Bangladesh Awami League’s science and technology affairs sub-committee to reach healthcare services free of cost among people through mobile application.

Dr. Ruhul Abid, a Bangladeshi-American professor at Brown University Alpert Medical School in the USA, and his nonprofit organisation ‘Health and Education for All’ were nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

All the prisons across the country have been put on high alert after some unidentified miscreants issued threats to take away militant prisoners from jails, media quoting a letter signed by Inspector General of Prisons said this.

The National Board of Revenue has cancelled this year’s income tax fair considering public health risks posed by the COVID-19 outbreak, NRB sources said.

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet in a statement in Geneva yesterday said, action must be taken to properly remedy the serious violations the Rohingya have suffered, and include them into the life of their country.


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