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News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paid rich tributes to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and four national leaders marking the Jail Killing Day by placing wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu in front of Bangabandhu Memorial Museum at Dhanmondi in Dhaka this morning. Wreaths will also be placed at the graves of the martyrs of August 15 and the three national leaders Syed Nazrul Islam, Tajuddin Ahmed and Captain Mansur Ali at the Banani Graveyard in Dhaka city in the morning. Special prayers will be offered and milad mahfil will be held there. To pay homage to AHM Quamaruzzaman, an identical programme will also be held at his grave in Rajshahi in observance of the day. A discussion meeting will be held at Krishibid Institution auditorium in the capital at 3pm this afternoon. AL President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will chair the meeting as the chief guest.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has stressed the need for strengthening the cooperative movement activities across the country to ensure the overall development. The Premier made the emphasis while inaugurating the 48th National Cooperative Day programme at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Dhaka yesterday. The Prime Minister in her address pleaded for utilizing the modern information technology in cooperative management system to ensure the country's development as any developed cooperative management system is considered as a benefit-yielding mechanism. Sheikh Hasina said, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman encouraged cooperative-based production and distribution management in all sectors including agriculture and land management, industrial initiatives and agricultural credit. Earlier, the Premier handed over the National Cooperative Award of 2018 to 10 cooperative societies and individuals in different categories for their contributions to the sector.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said, her government has created a scope of using banks by the people and both the state-owned and private banks are getting its benefits. The Premier made the remarks while receiving blankets from a delegation of Bangladesh Association of Banks at Ganabhaban in Dhaka yesterday. Thirty six banks under the BAB donated 27 lakh pieces of blankets to the Prime Minister's Relief and Welfare Fund through the function. Earlier, the PM gave financial assistance of Taka 2.80 crore to the Ansar-VDP members who died while performing duties in the last general elections and upazila polls, as well as valiant freedom fighters and the August 21 grenade attack victims and some party leaders and workers.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader has said, discipline will come to the roads after the full implementation of the new Road Transport Act. The Minister also assured that cases will not be lodged in the next seven days under the new Road and Transport Act that came into effect from Friday. The Minister said this while talking to journalists after visiting the activities of a mobile court on Dhaka-Chattogram Highway in Signboard area of Narayanganj yesterday. The mobile court of Bangladesh Road Transport Authority was carrying out efforts to enforce the Road Transport Act 2018.

Swadhinata Foundation organized the discussion and screening of a documentary on the life and works of National Professor Rafiqul Islam at National Museum in Dhaka yesterday. Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud while addressing the function urged the new generation to follow the life and ideals of National Professor Rafiqul Islam. The Minister said, those working relentlessly for building a developed nation for the future generation should be honoured.

A 14-member Indian delegation led by Speaker of Tripura Legislative Assembly Rehati Mohan Das paid a courtesy call on Information Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud at his official residence in the capital yesterday. The Indian delegation during the meeting discussed issues of bilateral interest and expressed identical views of continuing mutual co-operation to strengthen the existing friendship between the two countries.

Foreign Minister Dr A K Abdul Momen has sought cooperation of India to take steps for mounting strong pressure on Myanmar to resolve the Rohingya crisis. The Minister made the call while addressing the concluding session of the India-Bangladesh Friendship Dialogue in Cox's Bazar yesterday. The ninth round of the Dialogue began in the resort town on Friday, aiming to go for investing in a huge way to further strengthen relations between the two countries and create employment opportunities.

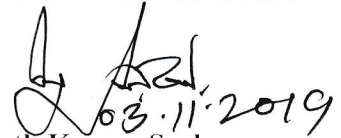
JSC and JDC Examinations began yesterday with with a total of 26, 61,682 examinees are taking part. Education Minister Dr Dipu Moni visiting JSC and JDC examinations centre at Zinzira PM Pilot High School and College in Keraniganj upazila yesterday expressed the hope that there would be no question paper leak during this year's JSC and equivalent examinations. The Minister talking to reporters also said, the gangs who spread question leak rumors are now under the radar of intelligence agencies.

Finance Minister A H M Mustafa Kamal has underscored the need for optimum use of the country's limited resources to yield maximum benefits. The Minister made the emphasis at the concluding session of a workshop on the State Owned Enterprises and Corporations at the Prime Minister's Office in Dhaka yesterday. The Minister urged all concerned to put in their utmost efforts to minimize the gap between the public and private sectors. The Minister also suggested addressing the mismatches and distortions in the financial and banking sectors to simplify the process for rendering services. Meanwhile Planning Minister M A Mannan addressing at a seminar at Hotel Intercontinental in Dhaka yesterday underscored the need for joint efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Private sector can play a crucial role in this regard, the Minister said adding NGOs are also very important for building future Bangladesh.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Zahid Maleque while addressing at a programme marking 'National Voluntary Blood Donation and Posthumous Eye Donation Day-2019' at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University in Dhaka yesterday urged all for taking combined efforts for raising of mass awareness to popularize voluntary blood donation and posthumous eye donation in the country. The Minister said, it is good for health to donate blood regularly and people should also come forward to donate their eyes after death to give a blind people to back their eyesight.

State Minister for Disaster Management and Relief Dr. Md. Enamur Rahman has said, the government is planning to formulate national manuscript for homeless people due to climate change and national disasters. The Minister was speaking at a seminar titled, 'The management of displacement due to climate change and national disasters affairs draft and suggestions of civic society' held in the city yesterday.

The pace and magnitude of terrorist attacks in Bangladesh has continued to decline amid a complex terrorist landscape and the rise of ethnically and racially driven terrorism worldwide in 2018, says the US Department of State. In its Country Report on Terrorism in 2018 released on Friday, the State Department highlights the zero-tolerance policy adopted by the Bangladesh government to counter violent extremism.



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