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### News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has called upon the international community to adopt a time-befitting climate action plan and implement all provisions of Paris Agreement and other relevant global instruments to stop further degradation of environment. The Prime Minister made the call while speaking at the general roundtable at the COP25 in Madrid yesterday. Pointing out that time is ticking fast to the point of no return the Premier said, the world urgently needs to limit temperature increase to 1.5<sup>o</sup>C and avoid the worst impacts of climate change, by cutting 45 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, and achieving carbon neutrality by 2050. In spite of being a non-emitter and being severely constrained in terms of resources and choices, the Prime Minister said, Bangladesh is doing its best to enhance its resilience. She said, Bangladesh has prepared a plan to achieve 30% of the total energy from renewable sources by 2041. Sheikh Hasina said, the presence of 1.1 million Rohingyas has caused an environmental and social havoc in an environmentally critical area, Cox's Bazar, with loss of forest, hills, biodiversity and local livelihood. The Bangladesh Prime Minister also addressed an event titled 'Action for Survival: Vulnerable Nations' in the conference yesterday. She urged all nations to join their hands to combat climate change to secure the children's future as the phenomenon emerged as an "existential threat" for every country, exposing some of them like Bangladesh to grave dangers. Earlier the Prime Minister joined the opening session of the COP25, known as the UN Climate Change Conference at Feria de Madrid yesterday. On her arrival at the venue, she was received by Spanish President Pedro Sanchez.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina urged the Dutch government to create pressure on Myanmar to take back their Rohingya nationals from Bangladesh as she held a meeting with Netherlands Prime Minister Mark Rutte on the sidelines of COP25 in Madrid yesterday. The Bangladesh Premier requested the Netherlands to put some pressure on Myanmar when their State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi will visit the country next week to attend hearing of a lawsuit on torture on the Rohingyas lodged by the OIC in the International Court of Justice. Sheikh Hasina thanked the Netherlands for raising voice by extending political support and emergency aid to 1.2 million Rohingyas. Mentioning that the Dutch government has helped adopt Bangladesh's Delta Plan-2100, Sheikh Hasina sought more expertise from the Netherlands on the water management. Mark Rutte invited the Bangladesh Premier to the Climate Adaptation Summit to be held in the Netherlands on October 22 next year. Sheikh Hasina invited the Dutch Premier to attend the birth centenary programmes of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman next year. Later, President of the European Council Charles Michel called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. They discussed various issues, including Rohingya problem and climate change.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has agreed to take over the charge of the chair of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) next year. The Premier has accepted a proposal of Marshall Islands President Hilda Heine, the current chair of the CVF, in this regard on the opening day of the COP25, in Madrid yesterday. Sheikh Hasina said, she is ready to take over the charge of the chair of the CVF if everybody endorses this.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has reaffirmed to continue her government's ongoing drive against terrorism, militancy, narcotics and corruption, saying that this "sickness" of the society will have to be rooted out. The Premier addressing a reception accorded to her by Bangladesh Embassy in Spain at Hotel Villa Magna in Madrid on Sunday evening also said,

Bangladesh became champions in graft for five times in a row during the BNP-Jamaat government. She vowed to continue the country's indomitable progress so that Bangladesh never needs to look behind. The PM returns home tonight ending her 3-day visit to Spain.

Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury has said, the present government has taken elaborate agriculture-friendly programmes, including distribution of cost-free fertilizers and seeds among small and marginal farmers. The Speaker said this while addressing a function at Pirganj in Rangpur yesterday.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader has said, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has started purging drive inside the party aiming to form committees involving dedicated leaders, removing the hybrid ones from the party. He said this while addressing the triennial council of the District Awami League in Patuakhali yesterday.

Information Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud has said, the government has decided to start registering the online news portal from next week, adding steps would be taken against those which will not get registration. He made the announcement while speaking at a press briefing at his ministry in Dhaka yesterday. He also said discipline has been established in the electronic media sector following the government's different steps. The Minister said, some television channels are airing foreign TV serials dubbed in Bangla which is not acceptable. A preview committee has been formed to oversee the matter, he added. Dr Hasan Mahmud said, airing Bangladeshi advertisements in foreign channels has been stopped.

State Minister for Information Dr Murad Hasan while addressing a programme at Dhaka University yesterday urged all concerned to make people aware against human trafficking. He said, the government is trying to inform the common people in this regard through short messaging service on their cell phones, social media and through different visual media.

The authorities in Saudi Arabia have given assurance to ensure the protection of Bangladeshi female workers in that country. Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment secretary Md Salim Reza informed this to the media in Dhaka yesterday. The Saudi government will install comprehensive database system for the protection of Bangladeshi women workers following the decision taken at a joint technical committee meeting between the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment and the Saudi Ministry of Labour and Social Development in Riyadh on November 27, Md Salim Reza added.

Dipu Chakma won the first gold medal for Bangladesh in the ongoing 13th South Asian Games in Nepal in the taekwondo poomsae event 29-plus-year category yesterday. Meanwhile, Alameen won the second gold for Bangladesh at a Karate event in the SA games this morning.



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