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News Brief

The ECNEC yesterday approved 10 development projects involving Taka 6,967 crore, including modernization of 21 metre-gauge diesel-electric locomotives of Bangladesh Railway. The approval came at the weekly meeting of the ECNEC at the NEC Conference Room in city's Sher-e-Banglanagar with ECNEC Chairperson and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair. During the meeting, the Premier directed the railway authorities to repair risky and damaged bridges quickly on the railway routes across the country. The PM also asked the ministries of Finance and Sports to set up a special fund to provide financial assistance for athletes.

Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Zhang Zuo has said, China will play a constructive role in resolving the Rohingya crisis. The Envoy said this when he paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her Jatiya Sangsad Office last afternoon. During the call on, the Prime Minister urged China to persuade Myanmar to take back their nationals from Bangladesh. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen also sought China's support to convince Myanmar to start repatriation of Rohingya refugees from Bangladesh when the Chinese Ambassador called on him at his ministry yesterday.

President Md. Abdul Hamid has sought a significant role from Thailand and Brunei Darussalam in repatriating Rohingyas from Bangladesh peacefully. The President sought their role in this regard when Envoys of the two countries met him at Bangabhaban yesterday to present their credentials.

President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina through separate messages have greeted all the students, teachers and guardians of all educational institutions across the country on the occasion of National Education Week-2019 which begins today.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina donated Taka 15 crore to Khulna Child Hospital as seed money for free treatment of its patients and other purposes at Ganabhaban yesterday. The Premier also gave financial assistance of Tk 82 lac to four persons.

Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury has said, Bangladesh has occupied a prominent position in the international arena due to the country's economic and political stability and the role of the lawmakers is significant for achieving the status. The Speaker made the remarks when a delegation of IMF led by the Division Chief of Asia and Pacific Department Daisaku Kihara called on her at Parliament Secretariat yesterday.

The government is likely to make dope test mandatory for government job to prevent drug abuse and the job aspirants must have to face an intoxicant test in future before entering job. Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal made the disclosure while briefing media at his ministry yesterday.

Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud has said, Bogura by-election proved that fair and neutral election is possible using EVMs. The Minister said this at the International Mother Language Institute in the capital after attending a meeting of the national implementation committee formed marking Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's birth centenary celebration. Information Secretary Abdul Malek, among others was present at the meeting.

Education Minister Dr. Dipu Moni while replying to a tabled question yesterday at the Jatiya Sangsad said that the government distributed around 295.01 crore textbooks free of cost among the pre-primary and secondary level students in the last 10 years. Social Welfare Minister Nuruzzaman Ahmed in reply to a question tabled at the House yesterday said, the government has a plan of setting up a school for children with disabilities at each upazila across the country.

Bangladesh has strongly condemned the attack on Abha International Airport of the Saudi Arabia by Houthis on June 23. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent a condemnation letter to the KSA in this regard.

The first Hajj flight of Biman Bangladesh Airlines will depart Dhaka for Jeddah at 7:15 am on July 4.

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