



Most Urgent
For: Bangladoot, All Missions
MSG: 98/2021-22
Date: Monday, 11 October 2021

From: PIO, PID, Dhaka
Fax: 9540553/9540026
E-mail: pidhaka@gmail.com
Web: www.pressinform.gov.bd

News Brief

The government is mulling setting up of another nuclear power plant in the southern region to meet the increased demand for electricity which was a prerequisite to ensure country's overall development. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina made the disclosure as she inaugurated the reactor pressure vessel installation work of the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant-RNPP, joining virtually from Ganabhaban yesterday. The Premier, called the day as "very important" for the country and herself as well, as the reactor pressure vessels have been installed in the nuclear power plant while the nation is celebrating the country's golden jubilee of independence and 101st birth anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The Prime Minister said, the government has been working to build Bangladesh as a prosperous one so the future generation can celebrate the country's 100th year of independence in a developed and modern technology-based country.

Durga Puja, the greatest religious festival of Hindu community, begins today with Maha Shashthi Puja at temples and puja mandaps across the country with due religious solemnity. Tight security measures have already been taken in and around all puja mandaps in the capital and elsewhere in the country.

President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in separate messages felicitated the Hindu community on the occasion of Durga Puja. In his message, the President said, apart from a religious festival, Durga Puja plays an important role in creating unity and mutual harmony among the countrymen. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in her message said that Durga Puja is not only a festival of the Hindu community, rather today it has turned into a universal festival.

Over the past five decades, Bangladesh has transformed itself from being a 'Basket Case' to one of the fastest growing economies in the world, International Chamber of Commerce Bangladesh-ICCB said this at its current news bulletin released yesterday. Spelling out the success stories of the country, the ICCB said, the country is the second-largest RMG exporter globally earning over \$35 billion a year from exports. A number of pharmaceutical companies have also started exporting medicines to 119 developed and developing countries. The country also exports leather products, handicrafts, agro-products, ocean going vessels, software etc. The total yearly export earning was \$ 38.76b in FY21. Bangladesh achieved lower middle-income country status in 2015 and is on track to leave the United Nations' Least Developed Countries' list, it added. With a GDP of over \$305 billion, Bangladesh currently is the world's 41st largest economy and forecasts suggest that the size of the economy could be doubled in not too distant future, it said.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader at a regular press briefing yesterday criticizing the role of BNP said, BNP is now looking for democracy in the country despite having no democracy within the party, adding that the party is autocratic in nature whether it is in power or in opposition. The Minister further said, BNP knows that there is no alternative to election for changing of power. Whatever BNP says publicly, it would participate in election, he hoped. Local level BNP men are taking part in Union Parishad elections without party label, he said.

Agriculture Minister Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque has urged agriculture scientists to work hard for innovating disaster-tolerant crop varieties and new technologies aiming to ensure the country's future food security. He made the call while speaking at a research review workshop at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute-BARI yesterday.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud congratulating this year's two Nobel Peace Prize-winning journalists- Maria Ressa of the Philippines and Dmitry Muratov of Russia said, country, society and the state are benefitted if a journalist works fearlessly by maintaining objectivity. The Minister was talking to newsmen after handing over the key of a vehicle to Brahmanbaria Press Club at an auditorium of Dhaka Club in the capital yesterday. Earlier in the function, Dr. Hasan said, journalists have the power to publish miseries of people. Journalists from marginal level can play a pivotal role to this end and can benefit the country, the society and the state, he added. State Minister for Information and Broadcasting Dr. Md. Murad Hassan, also spoke at the function.

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Anisul Huq said, the government is working to stop misuse of Digital Security Act-DSA. While talking to newsmen at Dhaka Reporters' Unity yesterday, the Minister reiterated that the next Election Commission would be formed through search committee.

Swiss entrepreneurs have expressed their interest to invest in Bangladesh's leather industry. Ambassador of Switzerland in Dhaka Nathalie Chuard expressed his country's interest in this regard while meeting with Industries Minister Nurul Majid Mahmud Humayun at the latter's office yesterday. During the meeting, the Envoy handed over to the Minister a letter from a tannery industry based in Zurich, Switzerland, and expressed interest in visiting tannery in Savar. The Industries Minister said that Central Effluent Treatment Plant-CETP is being constructed in the tannery industrial city of Savar.

The government is planning to vaccinate children aged between 12 and 17 years as the World Health Organization has agreed on Pfizer jabs for this age group, Health Minister Zahid Maleque said this at a press briefing at the Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons-BCPS in the capital yesterday. In this case, children will be allowed to complete their registration using birth registration certificate, he added. The Minister further said, eight crore people will be vaccinated by December and January as the country intensified its efforts to collect required quantity of COVID-19 jabs.

Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi terming China as a "great friend" of Bangladesh emphasized on enhancing bilateral relations between Bangladesh and China, especially boosting the trade relations in the days to come. The Minister was addressing a function jointly organized by the Bangladesh China Chamber of Commerce and Industry-BCCCI and the Economic Reporters' Forum-ERF, at the ERF auditorium in the capital yesterday. Chinese Ambassador to Dhaka Li Jiming virtually attending the function said that Bangladesh has made remarkable achievements in economic development and also in different socio-economic fields over the last 50 years while the country attained the Millennium Development Goals ahead of the schedule. "I'm also sure that Bangladesh is going to graduate from the LDCs by 2026 and also could be among the top 25 economies by 2030," he added.

Environment, Forests and Climate Change Minister Md. Shahab Uddin said, the government will improve the forest management ensuring the participation of locals in forest conservation under the Sustainable Forest and Livelihood-SUFAL Project. The project will help increase the amount of green coverage to 24 per cent from the current 22.37 per cent in the country, he added. The Minister was addressing the final meeting of the "Community Operations Manual" finalization under the SUFAL project at his ministry yesterday.

Turkish Ambassador in Dhaka Mustafa Osman Turan expressed his country's keenness to invest in the railway sector in Bangladesh, when he paid a courtesy call on Railways Minister Md. Nurul Islam Sujan at Rail Bhaban in the city yesterday. The Minister mentioned that there are many projects which are being implemented currently in the railway sector and more projects would be taken in the future.

Bangladesh has made a lot of progress now as compared to 12 years ago. The country has advanced in many national and international indicators. In many cases, it has surpassed the neighboring countries. All those successes are made possible under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Imran Ahmad made the remarks while addressing a discussion on the occasion of 'Durga Festival' at the Gowainghat Upazila Parishad auditorium in Sylhet yesterday. Later, the Minister addressing a discussion organized by Gowainghat Upazila Administration on the occasion of the 75th birth anniversary of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina with the participation of school-students, called upon the students to be patriotic just as like the Premier Sheikh Hasina.

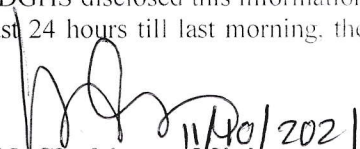
Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry-DCCI President Rizwan Rahman said, automotive industry in Bangladesh could be an emerging investment destination for Japanese entrepreneurs. The DCCI President said this recently during a bilateral business meeting with the Ambassador of Japan to Bangladesh ITO Naoki held at DCCI in the city. During the meeting, Rizwan Rahman opined that Japan can play a vital role for skill development in Bangladesh and share technical know-how and train Bangladeshi entrepreneurs. ITO Naoki said that Bangladesh have been able to send a strong message to the world in terms of keeping positive GDP growth even in the pandemic. He also said that Bangladesh can be the China Plus One investment destination for Japanese companies, he added.

State Minister for Information and Broadcasting Dr. Md. Murad Hassan underscored the need for collective efforts to heal the mentally sick people by giving proper treatment and extending cooperation, saying that they are afraid of visiting physicians. The State Minister was addressing a discussion and award giving ceremony arranged marking the World Mental Health Day-2021, at Kobi Sufia Kamal Auditorium in National Museum yesterday. Earlier, at a view-exchange meeting with journalists at his ministry the State Minister said, the government will formulate a law to ensure transparency and accountability in the country's e-commerce sector. About clean-feed, he said, mobile courts are being conducted across the country to enforce the law regarding clean-feed broadcasting of foreign channels.

Five Rohingyas were arrested yesterday with arms and drugs during a joint operation by the Armed Police Battalion (APBN) and Ukhia Police in Cox's Bazar's Ukhia Rohingya camp.

After a long period of closure, the residential halls of Dhaka University got reopened for the students of all years yesterday. The halls had been shut due to Coronavirus outbreak since March 18 of the last year.

The country yesterday recorded 14 fatalities from COVID-19, taking the total death toll to 27,688. With 481 fresh cases, the number of infections surged to 15,62,359. The positivity rate stood at 2.36 per cent, as 20,355 samples were tested during the time. At the same time, the recovery count rose to 15,23,833, DGHS disclosed this information in a press release yesterday. Besides, 211 dengue patients got hospitalized in the last 24 hours till last morning, the DGHS informed.


Md. Shahinoor Miah

Principal Information Officer (Acting)

Phone- 9546091