

PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH DHAKA

PID

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

Most Urgent For: Bangladoot, All Missions MSG: 165/2020-21 Date: Monday, 15 February 2021

News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has asked all concerned to conduct more research on medical sciences particularly on cancer as the people could get the desired healthcare services in the country. The Premier made the call while virtually laying foundation stone of the Kumudini International Institute of Medical Sciences and Cancer Research from Ganabhaban yesterday. The Premier said that her government has set a target to establish a medical university in each division, adding that once the universities are built, the scope in conducting researches on medical sciences would increase. Highlighting the government steps to ensure health care to all, the Premier added, several countries have expressed interest to provide Covid-19 vaccines to Bangladesh and the country will receive those to ensure vaccination up to rural level.

The government has brought coronavirus vaccines to save human lives. Everyone should take the vaccine as it is fully safe. Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury said these after receiving the vaccine at the medical center of Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

Liberation War Affairs Minister A K M Moazammel Haque said, the government "has evidence" that former military ruler and BNP founder Ziaur Rahman was "involved" with the assassination of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and it will be proved to the public soon. The Minister made the remarks while talking to reporters at his ministry yesterday.

. Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said, there is no scope of government changeover without polls in democratic system and parliamentary elections will be held in due time as per the constitution. He made the remarks while virtually addressing the council of AL's Tarash upazila, Sirajganj unit yesterday. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has the courage to accept the people's verdict in polls. Noting that now there is no issue in the country to wage movement, he said, now BNP makes people and police as their opponents and they are making their ill attempts to get involved in conflicts deliberately.

Bangladesh is now self-sufficient in cereal food production under the present government led by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina after coming to power in 2008, Agriculture Minister Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque said, adding that all the Millennium Development Goals-MDGs have been fulfilled by 2015 and poverty came down to 21 per cent under her dynamic leadership. He was addressing while an orientation training program of the newly appointed 38th BCS Agriculture cadre officials at the city's Krishibid Institution, Bangladesh yesterday. The Minister also said, the officials who are committed to work with due sincerity and dedication facing adverse situations would be awarded by the government.

Bangladesh Coast Guard will be equipped with sophisticated patrol vessels, hovercrafts and other modern vessels to make the force stronger, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan said this while addressing the 26th founding anniversary of the force at its headquarters in the city yesterday.

Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud said, freedom and accountability both are the most crucial in the advancement of mass media. The press council was formed so that media can refrain itself from publishing false and untrue information, he said, addressing a discussion at Press Council auditorium in the city yesterday marking the 'Bangladesh Press Council Day'. The Minister said, everyone should keep in mind that accountability comes along with freedom and it should be ensured that one's freedom does not infringe on another's independence and interfere

with other's freedom of expression. He said, the government is working to amend Press Council act to increase its power so that the council can play an active role in ensuring both freedom of the press and accountability. State Minister for Information Dr. Md. Murad Hasan, Information Secretary Khaja Mia, among others, addressed the discussion.

Local Government Minister Md. Tajul Islam while addressing a workshop on sewerage management, arranged by Dhaka North City Corporation at a city hotel yesterday urged city dwellers not to dump sewages into canals and other water bodies aiming to keep Dhaka city clean.

Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen hoped that the Payra port officials and staff will work sincerely to ensure modern services as like other modern ports in the world. Dr. Momen expressed the optimism as a delegation of his ministry led by him visited Payra port on Saturday. State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam, Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen joined him.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Zahid Maleque urged all people to receive COVID-19 vaccines, as vaccine is the only remedy to eradicate COVID-19 pandemic from the country. He made the call after visiting 300-capacity COVID-19 dedicated hospital at Khanpur in Narayanganj city yesterday. The Minister said, all sorts of rumors have been proved false as

people are thronging the designated hospitals to take vaccines.

Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Md. Shahab Uddin said, no one in the country will remain homeless adding that the people who have lost their houses for climate change and helpless and poor people will get houses. He was speaking in the oath-taking ceremony of the newly elected mayor and councilor of Baralekha municipality and inauguration of solar street lamp project of the municipality in Moulvibazar district yesterday.

State Minister for Public Administration Farhad Hossain said, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina allocated Taka 1000 crore more for development of historic Mujibnagar. He said this in a function on the occasion of inaugurating construction works of a bridge over the river Bhairab in

Mujibnagar upazila in Meherpur yesterday.

Civil Aviation and Tourism Ministry has secured the first position in National Integrity Strategy Action Plan and Monitoring Structure report of the year 2019-20 with 94.75 marks,

evaluated by the Cabinet Division.

Meanwhile, with the death of 08 more people yesterday, the number of deaths from Covid-19 in Bangladesh rose to 8,274. At the same time recovery count rose to 4,87,229, DGHS disclosed this information in a press release yesterday. With the detection of 326 new cases, the total number of Covid-19 cases rose to 5,40,592. A total of 1,69,353 people were administered COVID-19 vaccines across the country yesterday. Till yesterday, the number of vaccine receivers is 9,06,03.

A Dhaka court yesterday adjourned the hearing till March 3 of a case against former Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha and 10 others for allegedly embezzling Taka four crore from the then Farmers Bank and laundering the money abroad.

Around 3,500 Rohingyas would be shifted to the Bhasan Char Island under Noakhali

district today and tomorrow on their own will.

Education ministry has extended the ongoing closure of educational institutions till February 28 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. However, Qawmi madrasas will be exempt from this directive, according to a notification, sent by the Ministry of Education.

Cinema hall owners will get Taka 1000 crore long-term soft loans at low interest, at 5 per cent under the refinancing scheme of Bangladesh Bank to construct modern cinema halls and also to renovate the old ones, a BB circular said yesterday.

> Surath Kumar Sarker Principal Information Officer Phone- 9546091