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News Brief

The ECNEC has approved 12 development projects with an outlay of Taka 7,866 crore, including one for dredging and embankment protection of the Padma River. The approval came at ECNEC meeting yesterday with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

The nation is observing today the 88th birth anniversary of Bangamata Sheikh Fazilatunnesa Mujib, wife of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gave separate messages on the occasion. The PM is expected to attend a discussion arranged marking the day at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the capital this morning.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday visited the National Institute of Ophthalmology and Hospital in Dhaka to see an Awami Sechchasebak League leader and four students injured in miscreants' attack during the students' movement for safe road. The Premier directed the authorities concerned to take necessary steps to send the injured abroad, if needed, for their better treatment.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has renewed her call to the international community, including Japan, to persuade Myanmar to take back their Rohingya nationals from Bangladesh. The PM made the urge while Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono called on her in Dhaka yesterday.

Jatiya Sangsad Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury has said, Bangladesh is on the super highway of information technology under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The Speaker said this when United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Youth Jayathma Wickramanayake met her at Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

Foreign Minister A H Mahmood Ali has said, Bangladesh and Japan have shared some proposals for the safe and sustainable return of the Rohingyas to Myanmar. Mr. Mahmood said this in a joint press statement after holding a bilateral meeting with his Japanese counterpart Taro Kono in Dhaka yesterday.

Non-Resident Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to Bangladesh Dr Sabit Subasic paid a farewell call on Foreign Minister Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali at his office in Dhaka yesterday. During the meeting, the FM sought support of the country in the repatriation of Rohingyas to their homeland.

Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu has said, the statements of the US Embassy and the UN office in Dhaka were devoid of diplomatic norms and demanded their withdrawal. A written response of the government in this regard will be sent to the US Embassy and UN office in Dhaka, he added.

Chief Election Commissioner K M Nurul Huda has said, schedule of the next Jatiya Sangsad election will be announced in October while polls will be held in late December or early January. The CEC said this while briefing media at Electoral Training Institute in Dhaka yesterday.

DSEX, the key index of the DSE, advanced by 0.53 per cent, or 28.47 points, to close at 5,381.88 points yesterday.

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