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News Brief

President Md. Abdul Hamid urged the Chinese government to continue their support over the repatriation of Rohingyas to Myanmar in a peaceful and dignified manner as the newly appointed Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh Li Jiming met him at Bangabhaban yesterday to present his credentials.

Bangkok has assured Dhaka of continued support for expeditious repatriation of the Rohingya people to Myanmar. The assurance came when newly appointed Ambassador of Thailand to Bangladesh Arunrung Phothong Humphreys paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the PMO in Dhaka yesterday. During the meeting, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said, Bangladesh gives importance to the South East Asian countries, especially for trade and business. Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader while speaking at a discussion at the BSMMU yesterday marking the 44th martyrdom anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman alleged that some international NGOs are hatching conspiracies in favour of Myanmar over the Rohingya issue. Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen will brief the diplomats and representatives of the UN agencies about the latest situation over the Rohingya issue at 4pm today at State guesthouse Padma.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has put emphasis on planned development of villages to ensure civic amenities alongside protecting bio-diversity as dreamt by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, in line with the election manifesto of her party. The PM was speaking while witnessing a presentation by LGED Chief Engineer held at the PMO yesterday on Land Acquisition and Biodiversity Preservation Plan in adjacent areas of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Memorial Complex at Tungipara in Gopalganj.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said, all the television channels in Bangladesh are enjoying full freedom when a delegation of the Association of Television Channel Owners (ATCO) met her at the PMO yesterday. The ATCO leaders said, they have been sincerely working with the authorities concerned to start the full transmission of all the private television channels using the Bangabandhu Satellite-1 from 1st October. Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud, PM's Adviser Salman Fazlur Rahman and Information Secretary Abdul Malek were present on the occasion.

Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud while exchanging views with the members of Broadcast Journalists Center at his ministry yesterday said, a taskforce would be formed for the digitalization of the broadcast media to ensure the interest of the country's media and its employees. The Minister also said, the media workers (service and condition) act will be sent to Parliament soon.

Bridges Division Secretary Khandker Anwarul Islam has been appointed as the new Cabinet Secretary. The government also appointed Chief of CID Mohammad Shafiqul Islam as the new Commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police. Additional Inspector-General of Police Chowdhury Abdullah Al Mamun has been appointed as new CID Chief.

The government has short listed 17 companies for buying LNG to meet the growing demand of energy in the country. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Finance Minister A H M Mustafa Kamal yesterday approved a draft of Master Sale and Purchase Agreement in this regard. The meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Public Procurement also approved a proposal for the appointment of Saif Powertec Limited as operator of the Chattogram Container Terminal.

The Election Commission (EC) is going to start registration process for providing Bangladeshi expatriates with NID cards from September this year. The registration will start with Bangladeshi expatriates living in Singapore. EC Secretary Md. Alamgir disclosed the information at a briefing at his office yesterday

DGHS has said, a total of 1,157 new dengue patients were admitted to different hospitals in the past 24 hours till 8am last morning. Among them, 551 patients were hospitalized in Dhaka.

Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi while briefing reporters at his ministry yesterday on return from his four-day visit to Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay said, during the visit leaders in those countries showed interest in signing Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Bangladesh. The Minister said, MERCOSUR members will discuss Bangladesh's proposals in December and take a decision.

State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak while addressing a workshop titled 'India-Bangladesh Cooperation and Prospects' at Sheikh Hasina Software Technology Park in Jashore yesterday said, with the help of India, government will construct 12 hi-tech parks in the country within next four years and after the completion of the parks, 30 thousands of youths will be trained as skilled IT manpower. Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Riva Ganguly Das was present as the Guest of Honor at the workshop.

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