



PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
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News Brief

China and Russia have once again stood beside Myanmar while India and Japan refrained from standing against them as a draft resolution on the situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities was adopted 130-9 by the UN General Assembly. Belarus, Cambodia, Laos, Philippines, Vietnam, Zimbabwe and Myanmar themselves voted against the resolution.

Oman has appreciated the Bangladesh government's decision of relocating some of the Rohingyas from Cox's Bazar to Bhasan Char terming the new place 'conducive and safe' for living. The Head of Mission of Embassy of Sultanate of Oman Ta'eebsalim 'Abdullah Al 'Alawi made the observation during his farewell call on Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen at his official residence recently.

Order for procuring Oxford's vaccine for nearly six crore people has been confirmed and more orders will be made in steps accordingly. Oxford's vaccine will be available at a maximum cost of US\$ 5-BDT 425. Three crore doses of the vaccine would be available. Of these, 50 lac doses will come in the first shipment within this month. Health Minister Zahid Maleque states this at a views-exchange meeting with journalists in Manikganj yesterday.

President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in separate condolence messages expressed profound shock and sorrow at the death of valiant freedom fighter and President of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad Ayesha Khanam who died at a hospital in the city last morning at the age of 74. Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury also condoled her death.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader while virtually exchanging views with the BRTA officials yesterday, called upon BNP to return to the positive trend of politics in the New Year. Castigating BNP's announcement of ousting the government through mass-movement in the New Year, the Minister said, the people now laugh at BNP's announcement of movement as there is no issue of waging mass-upsurge in the country now. The Minister also said, actions will be taken against vehicle owners and workers if they carry passengers more than their seating capacities.

Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud said, BNP is habituated to opening a complain box if any election comes in the country. The Minister was addressing a press briefing after visiting the development works of Port Connecting Road run by Chattogram City Corporation-CCC at city's Olonker circle area last morning. He opined that just like other technology-dependent elections, the CCC election also going to be free and fair by using EVM. He also added that a project is underway to reduce water logging in the port city at a cost of US\$1 billion.

Local Government Minister Md. Tajul Islam said, about 30 lac job opportunities will be created at Mirsarai Economic Zone as he was distributing LED lights to CCC, received as a grant from the Chinese Government, at a function in the city yesterday.

Social Welfare Minister Nuruzzaman Ahmed called upon the people to stand by the helpless and backward people with love following the ideology of Bangabandhu. He was addressing a programme to mark the National Social Service Day-2021 at the Department of Social Services Auditorium, Agargaon in the city yesterday. The Minister also said, the Prime Minister will inaugurate the distribution of allowances through G2P on January 14. At present 112 upazilas have come under 100 per cent allowance, hopefully soon all the upazilas of the country will come under 100 per cent allowance, he said.

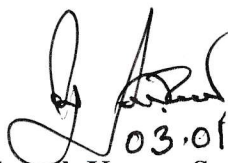
Mongla Port, the second largest sea harbor of the country, witnessed at least 117 foreign ship anchoring in last December breaking all previous records, said official sources. In February 2019, MPA witnessed at least 100 foreign ship anchoring and 106 foreign ship anchoring in November, 2020.

Bangladesh's cotton imports grew by about 9 per cent to 75 lac bales in the 2019-20 marketing year despite the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, according to data from the United States Department of Agriculture-USDA.

Indian onion imports through the Hili land ports of Dinajpur resumed yesterday, after 108 days as the Indian government on Monday lifted the export ban of the important ingredient. The price of onions has already dropped to Taka 10-15 per kilogram, according to the data provided by Trading Corporation of Bangladesh.

The 26th edition of the month-long Dhaka International Trade Fair-DITF would be held on March 17 this year at the newly built Bangladesh-China Friendship Exhibition Centre, situated on 20-acres of land in Purbachal following the direction of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The Export Promotion Bureau has taken all measures in this regard, sources said.

The number of death from Covid-19 in Bangladesh rose to 7,599 yesterday with the death of 23 more people. At the same time recovery count rose to 4,59,620, Directorate General of Health Services-DGHS disclosed this information in a press release yesterday. With the detection of 684 new cases, the lowest since May 9, the total number of Covid-19 cases rose to 5,15,184.



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