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### News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said, the government will do whatever is necessary to improve the medical science in the country. The Prime Minister said this when the medical team comprising Bangladeshi and Hungarian doctors who carried out the operation of conjoined twins, Rabeya and Rukaya at the CMH in Dhaka called on her at Ganabhaban on Friday.

Bangladeshi Embassies in Hague, Washington D.C., Tashkent, Consulate General of Bangladesh in New York, Bangladesh High Commissions in London, Singapore and Canberra and Deputy High Commission of Bangladesh in Kolkata and other missions abroad observed the National Mourning Day and 44th martyrdom anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in befitting manners with due solemnity. Permanent mission of Bangladesh to the United Nations in New York also arranged a discussion at the UN Headquarters in Washington D.C. on Thursday marking the 44th martyrdom anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family members. Diplomats at the discussion recalled the contribution of Bangabandhu and termed Bangabandhu a 'Friend of the World'. Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud while addressing a National Mourning Day programme in the National Press Club yesterday called for formation of an independent commission for an in-depth inquiry into the plot of Bangabandhu killing. Social Welfare Minister Nuruzzaman Ahmed while paying tributes to Bangabandhu by placing wreaths at his mazar in Tungipara of Gopalganj yesterday said, a total of 17 lac widows will enjoy widow-allowance in the current financial year while the number of allowances for elderly people will be increased from 40 lac to 44 lac and disability allowance to cent per cent under the purview of the safety net programme.

Indian External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar is scheduled to arrive in Dhaka tomorrow on a courtesy visit. Bilateral issues, however, will also come up during his meetings with the Bangladeshi leaders. The Indian FM is likely to discuss agendas and to finalise the groundwork ahead of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to New Delhi in October. The Bangladesh Premier will attend India Economic Summit of World Economic Forum to be held in New Delhi on October 3-4, a diplomatic source said.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader while attending an anti-terrorism rally marking the anniversary of countrywide series bombings on August 17 in 2005 yesterday in front of AL central office at Bangabandhu Avenue called upon party leaders and workers to remain alert against 'conspiracies of BNP-Jamaat clique'.

An MoU was signed at the headquarters of Bangladesh Scouts in the capital yesterday by nine agencies, departments and ministries to build a 'Clean Bangladesh'. At the signing function, Local Government Minister Tajul Islam also launched an app 'Stop Dengue', which would map the breeding grounds of mosquitoes. DGHS said, as many as 40 dengue patients have died across the country from January 1 till August 15. A total of 1,460 dengue patients have been admitted to different hospitals across the country in the last 24 hours till 8am of last morning. Among them, 621 patients were admitted in Dhaka. The next seven days would be challenging for dengue control, DGHS added.


Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud while addressing a function at National Press Club in Dhaka yesterday said, the government is determined to track down the alleged syndicate that is 'playing games' with the price of rawhides and skins of animals sacrificed on Eid-ul-Adha. Industries Secretary Md. Abdul Halim while exchanging views with the different stakeholders of the tannery industry at the Savar Tannery Industrial City yesterday said, the Central Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) at Savar Tannery Industrial City is fully operational for purifying chemical waste.

The first return Hajj flight from Saudi Arabia arrived at Dhaka's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport yesterday carrying 335 hajjis. The dedicated return Hajj flights of two carriers - Biman Bangladesh Airlines and Saudi Arabian Airlines will continue until September 15 this year.

A delegation of Myanmar's Independent Commission of Enquiry led by former Japanese Ambassador Kenzo Oshima arrived in Dhaka yesterday to investigate allegations of human rights violations against the Rohingyas. The delegation will meet officials of the foreign ministry, other government and UN agencies, as well as visit the Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar. The visiting delegation will prepare the groundwork for the Evidence Collection and Verification Team which will come to Bangladesh later and talk to the Rohingyas. The proposed Rohingya repatriation is expected to start on August 22.

Fire Service and Civil Defence yesterday formed a three-member committee to investigate the devastating fire at the Chalantika slum in Mirpur section-7 in the capital on Friday. The probe committee had been asked to submit its report within 15 working days. Meanwhile, DNCC Mayor Atiqul Islam after visiting the slum area yesterday said, all the fundamental assistance would continue for fire victims of the Chalantika slum. He also visited the temporary shelter centre of the homeless people at 'Bangabandhu Bidiyaniketan' and ensured proper supply of food, drinking water and mobile toilets for the homeless people.

Country's exports to South Asian nations, especially to SAARC countries have increased by more than 35 per cent to US\$1.41 billion in the last fiscal year (FY19) as against US\$1.04 billion in the previous fiscal, according to Export Promotion Bureau.

  
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