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News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has asked the ministries to undertake development projects on a priority basis for implementation of the annual budget properly and accelerating the country's uplift. She also directed the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) officials to monitor further the work of the ministries so that the work is done properly. The Premier gave the directive while exchanging Eid greetings with officials of the PMO in Dhaka yesterday. The Premier put emphasis on keeping the houses, offices and their surrounding areas neat and clean to fight the dengue menace effectively. A milad and doa mahfil was held at the PMO after Zohr prayers yesterday marking the 44th martyrdom anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the National Mourning Day.

Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud at a discussion on the National Mourning Day at Tathya Bhaban in Dhaka yesterday reiterated his stance for formation of a commission for an in-depth inquiry into the Bangabandhu killing. Department of Films and Publications, Mass Communication Department and Bangladesh Film Censor Board jointly organized the discussion. State Minister for Information Dr. Murad Hasan and Information Secretary Abdul Malek also took part in the discussion. Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Anisul Huq while addressing a discussion organized by his ministry marking National Mourning Day said, Bangabandhu never tried to do anything for himself. Whatever he did, did for the people of Bangladesh and that is his greatness.

Indian External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar arrives Dhaka today on a three-day official visit. The Indian Foreign Minister will visit the Bangabandhu Museum on Dhanmondi Road No. 32 tomorrow to pay respect to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Bangladesh Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen and S Jaishankar will hold a bilateral meeting at the State Guest House Padma at 11am on the same day. Dr. S Jaishankar is scheduled to call on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on the day.

Merchants have resumed the sales of rawhides of sacrificed animals to tanners retreating from their earlier decision, paving the way for solution to the crisis the leather industry has been facing since the Eid-ul-Adha. Bangladesh Hide and Skin Merchants Association President Mohammad Delwar Hossain announced this after a tri-party meeting at the Commerce Ministry in Dhaka yesterday. Industries Minister Nurul Majid Mahmud Humayun while talking to the journalists after the tri-party meeting said, there is no crisis in the tannery industry and it is moving forward by contributing to the country's economy.

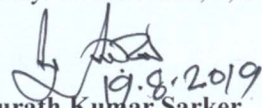
Agriculture Minister Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque has said, the government has kept an allotment of Tk 120 crore for providing supports to the flood affected people so that they can recover their losses. While exchanging Eid greetings with the ministry officials at the Secretariat yesterday the Minister also said, the flood-affected farmers and people across the country will be given free fertilizers, seeds and necessary cash supports for the next Robi crops cultivation. The amount of crops damaged in the recent flood would not be more than Tk 200 crore, the Minister added.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Zahid Maleque while speaking at a view-exchange meeting with the 'Bangladesh Awami League Dengue Prevention and Treatment Monitoring Cell' at the Secretariat yesterday asked the authorities concerned to intensify efforts of controlling aedes mosquitoes and continuing cleanliness drives in the city to protect the city dwellers from the mosquito menace. DGHS said, a total of 1,706 dengue patients have been admitted to different hospitals across the country in the last 24 hours till 8am of last morning. Among them, 734 patients were admitted in Dhaka.

The visiting delegation of Myanmar's Independent Commission of Enquiry led by former Japanese Ambassador Kenzo Oshima yesterday met Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen and discussed the Rohingya issue. The Commission is tasked to investigate the allegations of human rights violations in Rakhine with a view to seeking accountability and formulating recommendations on steps to be taken to ensure peace and stability in Rakhine. A meeting of the national task force for Rohingya repatriation chaired by Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner Md. Abul Kalam was held yesterday at the Office of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commission (RRRC) in Cox's Bazar. The RRRC said, they have been making preparations centring around the repatriation of the first batch of the Rohingyas on August 22. Two transit camps at Keruntali and Ghumdhum points along the frontiers are being repaired to this end. Bangladesh has sent a list of 22,000 Rohingyas to Myanmar so far and Myanmar has given approval of repatriating 3,300 Rohingyas from the list. Foreign Secretary Shahidul Haque talking to reporters after attending a discussion on Rohingya Crisis at BISS said, the repatriation process of Rohingyas to Myanmar is always on the table and may start any time.

State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid while talking to media said, the government has undertaken various projects including short, mid and long term projects to fulfill energy demand in the country by increasing domestic production and importing energy from abroad for making the country a developed one. Currently power generation capacity reached to 22,059 MW and system loss brought down to 11.87 per cent.

The travel and tourism sector contributed 3.9 per cent of the total employment in Bangladesh in 2018, the World Travel and Tourism Council unveiled this in its report, 'Annual Research: Key Highlights', published recently. In this sector, 2,414,400 jobs were created in Bangladesh in 2018. It is expected to reach 3,155,300 by 2019.


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