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News Brief

Bangladesh clinched their first-ever ICC Under-19 World Cup title as they thrashed India by three wickets in Potchefstroom, South Africa yesterday. Bangladesh scored 170 runs for 7 wickets to claim the much-coveted title as rain reduced the target after India batting first were all out for 177 runs in 47.2 overs. Young Tigers' captain Akbar Ali who was adjudged the player of the match steered Bangladesh to the historic victory with his 43-run unbeaten knock. President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in separate messages greeted the country's young Tigers over the victory.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has asked the armed forces to enforce a vigil against some existing social menaces like corruption, drugs and terrorism alongside their routine duties, saying her government would continue to follow zero tolerance policy to eliminate the curses. The Premier gave the directive while addressing the graduation ceremony of Defence Services Command and Staff College at Mirpur Cantonment in Dhaka yesterday. A total of 235 army, navy and air force officers of Bangladesh and 21 other countries got graduation degree in this programme. Meanwhile, French Air Chief General d'armee aerienne Philippe Lavigne met Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban office in Dhaka yesterday. The Prime Minister described Bangladesh's relations with France as a wonderful one and recalled with gratitude its contributions during the Liberation War of Bangladesh. The French Air Chief appreciated the Bangladeshi peacekeepers deployed in different countries.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader came down heavily on Gono Forum President Dr. Kamal Hossain saying that his offensive language against the government hurt the people and the politicians as well. He said this while speaking at the opening ceremony of three repaired old bridges- Old Kanchpur, Meghna and Gumti bridges on the Dhaka-Chattogram highway yesterday. About the bail of BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, Quader said she is not a political prisoner, so there is no scope to release her from jail politically.

Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud has said, opposition coalition Jatiya Oikya Front, including one of its partners BNP, virtually emerged as fallen political forces as they tried to drag down the government. He said this while inaugurating a workshop on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's 10 initiatives for Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha district correspondents at Press Institute of Bangladesh in the capital yesterday. He sought enhanced media focus on development to infuse momentum to the country's progress. Information Secretary Kamrun Nahar was also present at the function. Meanwhile, Dhaka Union of Journalists leaders submitted a seven-point demand including taking measures to stop attacks on journalists while performing duties to the Information Minister at his ministry yesterday.

Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal has said, three state owned banks such as Agrani, Janata and Bangladesh Development Bank will join stock market and enlist them with the bourse in October this year. He made the disclosure while speaking at a meeting at his ministry in Dhaka yesterday.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee report on Bangladesh Lighthouse Bill, 2020 for maintaining and controlling the lighthouses set up in different coastal regions was placed in the Jatiya Sangsad in Dhaka yesterday. Meanwhile, Health and Family Welfare Minister Zahid Malik yesterday informed the House that the government remained tough against production and marketing of fake medicine in local markets considering the safety of public

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health interest. Replying to a question he said, there are about 50,500 differently-abled children in the country. State Minister for Shipping Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury informed the Jatiya Sangsad that the government under a dredging master plan is working to make 10,000 kilometers routes navigable through excavating 178 rivers.

Food Minister Sadhan Chandra Majumder while addressing a views-exchange meeting on Amon paddy procurement in Bogura yesterday said, the government will procure paddy from farmers through app in next Boro season to make the process more transparent.

Local Government Minister Md. Tajul Islam speaking at a workshop in the capital yesterday said, rooms should be created for educated and respectable persons to get elected as local government representatives. He also said, local government institutions should be taken to a prestigious place so that educated people become interested in participating in local body elections.

Railways Minister Nurul Islam Sujon while talking to journalists after visiting Bangladesh Railways' abandoned ropeway infrastructure at Companiganj upazila in Sylhet yesterday said, the construction work for Sylhet-Akhaura rail track will start soon.

State Minister for Water Resources Zaheed Farooque while visiting the flood control embankment on the Manu River in Kulaura upazila of Moulvibazar said, the work of a government project involving Taka 1002 crore will begin soon to protect the entire district from flood.

Chief of Army Staff General Aziz Ahmed met Nepalese Assistant Prime Minister and Defence Minister Ishwor Pokharel and Nepalese Army Chief General Purna Chandra Thapa in Kathmandu yesterday. During the meeting, the Army Chief discussed exchanging trainings, goodwill visits and mutual support between the armies of the two countries.

A Bangladeshi national has been infected with coronavirus in Singapore. Bangladesh High Commissioner to Singapore Md Mustafizur Rahman confirmed the case while talking to media last night. Due to the Singapore policy, they did not yet disclose the name and the details of the infected person, the High Commissioner added.

Officials from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) have agreed to expeditiously finalize the passenger and cargo protocols for the implementation of the BBIN Motor Vehicle Agreement. The consensus reached at an official level meeting of the four BBIN countries at New Delhi yesterday.

World Bank Group and WEConnect International in cooperation with the Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi) at a function in Dhaka yesterday launched a project to help 1,200 women-owned businesses of the country connect with potential large local and multinational corporate buyers.


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