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News Brief

President Md. Abdul Hamid has urged the participants of National Defence Course (NDC) and Armed Forces War Course (AFWC) to contribute more to the country's overall development by facing challenges with efficiency. The President made the urge while addressing the concluding session of the NDC and AFWC course-2018 at Sheikh Hasina Complex at Mirpur Cantonment in Dhaka yesterday. The President in his address said, the country is proceeding towards development in line with Vision-2021, Vision-2041 and Delta Plan-2100.

President Md. Abdul Hamid has urged affluent people, different institutions, agencies and corporate houses along with the government to arrange different tournaments which would help bring more success in national and international sports. The President made the call while speaking at the prize-giving ceremony of the "Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman National Gold Cup Football tournament (U-17)" final match held at Bangabandhu National in Dhaka yesterday. Rangpur Division emerged champions in the tournament beating Rajshahi Division by 2-1 goals.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said, there was a time when the northern region was described as a monga-prone area but those bad days have gone as her government has implemented various development programmes. The Premier said this while addressing two separate election rallies at Taraganj and Pirganj in Rangpur yesterday. While talking about the development of Rangpur, the Prime Minister said, her government has constructed the Bangabandhu Bridge, Teesta Bridge while the work on upgrading Dhaka-Rangpur Highway into a four-lane one is underway.

The results of the school certificate examinations for fifth and eighth graders will be published today. Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid and Primary and Mass Education Minister Mostafizur Rahman would handover copies of the results to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Ganabhaban this morning. The Prime Minister would also inaugurate distribution of free textbooks for the academic year of 2019.

Election Commissioner Mahub Talukder has asked polling officials to discharge their duties neutrally treating all candidates equally in the 11th parliamentary election. The Election Commissioner gave the directive at a views-exchange meeting with polling officials and members of law enforcement agencies in Sylhet yesterday.

The 10-day long Armed forces deployment begins today across the country aimed at maintaining law and order before and after the polls of the 11th parliamentary elections. Under the initiative, the Army will be deployed at 389 upazilas. Besides, members of Bangladesh Navy and Border Guard Bangladesh will be deployed respectively at eighteen coastal and eighty-seven border upzilas.

The Election Commission has issued a guideline for journalists while covering the election slated for December 30. More than a dozen directives including a bar on the journalists from using motorcycles to collect news are stated in the guideline. Journalists and election observers, however, can travel on vehicles with the stickers provided by the EC.

DSEX, the key index of Dhaka Stock Exchange added 0.31 per cent or 16.46 points to close at 5,281.78 points yesterday.

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