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News Brief

Outgoing Bhutanese Ambassador to Bangladesh Sonam Tobden Rabgye paid a farewell call on President Md. Abdul Hamid at Bangabhaban yesterday. During the meeting, the President laid emphasis on strengthening the bilateral relations between the two friendly countries for exploring the trade and business potentials. The President expressed his gratitude to the Bhutanese government and its people for being the first state to recognize Bangladesh as an Independent state after the War of Liberation in 1971.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina left London for home last afternoon wrapping up her official visit to the UK. Bangladesh High Commissioner to the UK Saida Muna Tasneem saw the Premier off at the airport. The flight is scheduled to land at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka this morning.

Bangladesh and India have decided to work together to combat border smuggling and strengthen cooperation to make border management more effective. The decision came at the 7th round of Home Minister level talks held in New Delhi yesterday. The visiting Bangladesh Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal led the 16-member Bangladesh delegation while his Indian counterpart Amit Shah led the Indian delegation to the talks. The Indian Home Minister assured Bangladesh of extending all out support for ensuring safe and dignified repatriation of Myanmar citizens who took shelter in Bangladesh after being persecuted by the Myanmar army.

The nation is observing the 89th birth anniversary of Bangamata Sheikh Fazilatunnesa Mujib, wife of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, in a befitting manner today. To mark the day, a discussion will be held at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre this morning. Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury will attend the discussion as the chief guest. Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud addressing a discussion marking the birth anniversary of Bangamata Begum Fazilatunnesa Mujib at Jatiya Press Club yesterday said, Bangabandhu took many important decisions in consultation with her in difficult times. Bangamata considered the whole country as her family. When Bangabandhu was in jail, she ran her family as well as the party, the Minister added.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader addressing a cleanliness drive on Mirpur Majar Road in the capital yesterday said, effective mosquito repellent will reach Dhaka within two to four days aiming to control dengue. Mr. Quader said, as per the directives of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the cleanliness drives and awareness programmes will continue as long as aedes and dengue are not controlled. Local Government Minister Md. Tazul Islam talking to media in his ministry yesterday informed that the government has allocated Tk 51.5 crore to help the city corporations and municipalities fight mosquitoes. Dhaka North City Corporation Mayor Atiul Islam at a press conference at Nagar Bhabhan yesterday said, two new pesticides will be sprayed from today to control the Aedes mosquitoes. Dhaka South City Corporation Mayor Sayeed Khokon while presiding over a meeting on cleanliness drive yesterday said, DSCC would dispose of the wastes of sacrificial animals within 24 hours to keep the city clean and prevent environment pollution. DGHS said, a total of 2,428 patients were admitted to different hospitals across the country during the last 24 hours. Currently, 8,707 patients are undergoing treatment at different hospitals across the country. A total of 23 people died while 23,610 people returned home from hospital since January last.

Commerce Ministry has announced US\$ 54 billion export target for the current fiscal year 2019-20, where product export would contribute US\$ 45.5 billion and service sector US\$ 8.5 billion. Growth at product export has been projected 12.25 per cent and at service sector 34.1 per cent, said Senior Secretary of Commerce Ministry Md. Mofizul Islam at a press briefing at the ministry yesterday.

The government yesterday approved a proposal to purchase a Vehicle Mounted Data Interceptor for the National Telecommunication Monitoring Centre (NTMC) for the sake of national security. The approval came from a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs held at the Cabinet Division with Finance Minister A H M Mustafa Kamal in the chair. The KfW Development Bank of Germany will provide 90 million Euro to Bangladesh for implementing the Climate-change adapted drinking water resources management Dhaka (Saidabad Phase III) project. In this regard, a tripartite agreement for the project was signed at Economic Relations Division in Dhaka yesterday. Bangladesh, for the first time, is going to participate at the 'WorldSkills Competition 2019', scheduled to be held during August 22-27 at Kazan in Russia.


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