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## Newsbrief

President Mohammed Shahabuddin and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday greeted the countrymen and the Muslim Ummah across the world on the occasion of the holy Shab-e-Qadr or Lailatul Qadr to be observed tonight. In separate messages, they prayed for continuous peace, progress and prosperity of the country, the whole world and the Muslim Ummah. President Mohammed Shahabuddin, in his message, said, Lailatul Qadr is a holy night for the entire mankind which is better than thousands of nights. Thousands of people across the world have been passing days amid miseries due to corona pandemic, conflicts and wars and urged all to pray to Almighty Allah for the forgiveness, blessings, prosperity and welfare to all on this glorious night, the President added. In her message, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said, on this night of the month of fasting, the Almighty Allah sent down the holy Qur'an to the world as a guide for mankind. Almighty Allah has given a unique status to the night, while infinite mercy and blessings of Allah pour in mankind on the night, the Prime Minister added.

The holy Shab-e-Qadr, also known as Lailatul Qadr (the Night of Decree) when the first verses of the holy Quran were revealed to Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH), will be observed across the country today (Saturday) night. President Mohammed Shahabuddin and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina greeted the countrymen and the Muslim Ummah across the world on the occasion. Tomorrow Sunday will be a public holiday. Newspapers will publish special articles while state-run Bangladesh Betar, Bangladesh Television and private television channels will telecast special programmes highlighting the significance of Lailatul Qadr.

Awami League (AL) General Secretary and Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said, the government has taken strict stance against terrorist activities prevailing in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT). The Minister said this while speaking at an Eid gift distribution ceremony at Manik Mia Avenue in the capital yesterday. A small ethnic group has started some armed activities in the CHT. This ethnic group is not found in Rangamati and Khagrachari, but it is only found in Bandarban, the Minister added. Hoping that the situation will get normal soon and there is no reason to think that the entire CHT will be in turmoil due to the armed activities of these ethic people. Some parties in Bangladesh also have failed to foil the last general elections and failed in waging movement, the Minister further added.

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Anisul Huq shrugged off BNP's anti-India campaign, saying the party is facing existence crisis. The Minister told replying to a query of journalists on BNP's recent anti-India campaign, in Kasba, Brahmanbaria yesterday.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal will visit Bandarban today to inspect the overall situation there as law enforcers on Thursday rescued Sonali Bank's Manager Nizam Uddin within 48 hours after abduction, Home Ministry confirmed yesterday.

Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Saber Hossain Chowdhury warned that terrorists, oppressors of people, extortionists and land grabbers would not be spared. The Environment Minister made the remarks while addressing an Eid gift distribution ceremony at Golarbari Bridge, Nandipara in Dhaka yesterday. The government has stood by the underprivileged and deprived people and essential commodities including rice, dal, potato, oil, semai, saree and lungi are being distributed among the people in need, the Minister added.

State Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology Zunaid Ahmed Palak said, government will implement a project to turn the Betbunia Ground Station and Bangabandhu Satellite Ground Station into a museum. He said this while visiting Betbunia Ground Station and Bangabandhu Satellite Ground Station in Kawkhali Upazila in Rangamati yesterday.

The holy Jum'atul-Wida, the last Friday of the holy month of Ramadan, was observed across the country yesterday with due solemnity and religious fervour. The biggest Jum'atul-Wida congregation was held at Baitul Mukarram National Mosque in the capital yesterday. Besides, Muslim devotees across the country joined the Juma prayers in congregations at different mosques on the day.

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