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News Brief

The Election Commission has issued a circular finalising a list of 40,199 polling centres in the 300 seats of the next parliamentary election scheduled to be held on December 30 this year.

Election Commissioner Mahbub Talukder has said, the Election Commission will scrutinize each appeal filed by the candidates whose nomination papers have been scrapped. The Election Commissioner said this to the media at the Nirbachan Bhaban yesterday. Election Commission will continue receiving appeals till today. The EC will hear and dispose of the appeals on December 6, 7 and 8. A total of 234 candidates have appealed to the Election Commission against cancellation of their nomination papers.

Election Commissioner Kabita Khanam has asserted that the Election Commission is committed to create safe and congenial atmosphere for the female voters in the upcoming 11th Parliamentary Election. She said this while inaugurating a two-day workshop titled 'Gender and Election' in Rajshahi yesterday.

The 55th death anniversary of the champion of democracy and one of the greatest leaders of undivided India Hussain Shaheed Suhrawardy will be observed in the country today in a befitting manner. President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina have issued separate messages on the eve of the day.

Finance Minister A M A Muhith has said, the process of starting a business in Bangladesh is now easier than before. The government is introducing a full-fledged 'One-Stop Service Centre' in the next month, he added. The Minister was addressing a meeting of Bangladesh Investment Development Authority at the Hotel Inter-Continental in Dhaka yesterday.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister and Awami League General Secretary Obaidul Quader has said, the final list of the grand alliance candidates for the upcoming Jatiya Sangsad polls will be declared in a day or two. The Minister said this to the media at the AL President's political office at Dhanmondi yesterday.

Planning Minister A H M Mustafa Kamal has urged the UK's private sector to invest in Bangladesh's power, rail and education sectors capitalizing its investment-friendly environment. The Planning Minister made the urge when a UK delegation led by Her Majesty's Trade Commissioner for India and South Asia Crispin Simon met him at his office yesterday. During the meeting, Simon lauded highly the private sector of the country alongside praising the government's trade policy and the steps towards attracting more foreign direct investment.

Outgoing Italian Ambassador in Dhaka Mario Palma has expressed sincere appreciation for Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's sympathetic but strong leadership role in taking the terrorists of Holey Artisan attack to task. The Ambassador said this while paying a farewell call on Foreign Minister A H Mahmood Ali at his ministry yesterday. During the meeting, the minister hoped that both countries would continue to build up more benefits out of the strong understanding that exists between the two countries.

US Ambassador in Dhaka Earl R Miller has visited makeshift camps in Cox's Bazar and Bandarban where a huge number of displaced Rohingya people took shelter. Talking to reporters after the visit, Miller said Bangladesh has set an example by sheltering the huge number of Rohingya people. The US government will continue its support to Bangladesh in resolving the Rohingya crisis, he added.

DSEX, the key index of Dhaka Stock Exchange, advanced by 0.92 per cent, or 48.87 points, to close at 5,345.42 points yesterday.

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