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News Brief

President Md. Abdul Hamid has called upon the judges to take appropriate steps on how to ensure justice for litigants by reducing their sufferings at the prevailing situation. The President made the call while receiving Bangladesh Supreme Court's Annual Report-2019, submitted by a judges' delegation of both Supreme Court and High Court Division, led by Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain, at Bangabhaban last evening. The President hoped that the judiciary would be able to make independence meaningful by ensuring justice at all levels and reaching its benefits at the doorsteps ahead of golden jubilee of country's independence.

Members of the Parliament in the House stressed the need for implementing the ideology and philosophy of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to build the country as 'Sonar Bangla' as the general discussion over the resolution to pay tribute to Bangabandhu on the occasion of Mujib Barsha went on yesterday in presence of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in a condolence message sent to King of Bahrain Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, expressed deep shock at the death of Bahrain's PM Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, one of the world's longest-serving Prime Ministers, who died yesterday while undergoing treatment at a Mayo Clinic hospital in the United States at the age of 84.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader while addressing a virtual press briefing at his official residence yesterday said, the only political strategy of BNP is to oppose the government on all issues. About BNP Secretary General's comments on judiciary, he said, in recent incidents, some Awami League-AL leaders and activists have been sentenced and are getting punished as the government does not intervene in anything, which proves that the judiciary is working independently along with the Anti-Corruption Commission.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal said, those responsible for the death of Senior ASP Anisul Karim will be brought to justice, as he was talking to reporters at his ministry yesterday. So far, 11 people, including three top-level officials of the hospital, were arrested in this connection, the Minister added. In this connection DG of DGHS Abul Bashar Mohammad Khurshid Alam yesterday after a meeting with Health Minister Zahid Maleque said, the government is going to start inspecting approved and unapproved private hospitals and diagnostic centers across the country on an urgent basis. Meanwhile, the Health ministry sources said, the government is going to shut down around 3,000 unapproved hospitals, clinics, diagnostic centers and blood banks across the country, including the capital. Around 13,000 private hospitals, clinics, diagnostics centers and blood banks of the country have so far applied for online registration, the sources added.

Digital centers serve 6 million people per month across the country. Around 6,500 digital centers also create earning source for 13 thousands entrepreneurs. Marking the 10 years of establishment of union digital centres, Local Government Minister Md. Tajul Islam talking to media yesterday said, Bangladesh has established the 'magical touch' of digital centers as Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been leading the country towards knowledge economy through decentralize of services across the country.

Education Minister Dr. Dipu Moni at a discussion yesterday said, 'We are working to decide whether we will reopen on the 15th of November, or extend the shutdown further, or restart classes on a limited scale for some grades in view of the prevailing situation of coronavirus infection.' The Department of Secondary and Higher Education said, extra fees cannot be collected from the students of educational institutions along with the monthly fees; instructions are being issued in this regard this week.

German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier has praised the remarkable socio-economic progress achieved by Bangladesh under Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's dynamic leadership. He also mentioned the recent report of IMF projecting per capita GDP growth of Bangladesh at a rate higher than India. The President also praised Bangladesh for tackling Covid-19 pandemic at a reasonable level. The German President made the remarks when newly appointed Bangladesh Ambassador to Germany Md. Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan presented his credentials yesterday.

Though Britain has left the European Union through Brexit, the UK's Generalised Scheme of Preferences-GSP will cover all the same countries including Bangladesh that are currently eligible for trade preferences under the EU's GSP, according to Department for International Trade, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.

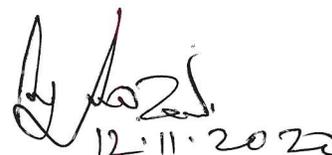
The number of deaths from Covid-19 in Bangladesh rose to 6,127 yesterday with the death of 19 more people. At the same time recovery count rose to 3,43,131. Ruling Awami League MP Mahbubul Alam Hanif, also the party's Joint General Secretary, has tested positive for Covid-19 and is being treated at his home in Dhaka. Freedom fighter and Ekushey Padak winner magician Jewel Aich, who recently contracted Covid-19, is being treated at the Intensive Care Unit of the Combined Military Hospital in the capital. Russia's Sputnik V vaccine is 92 per cent effective at protecting people from COVID-19 according to interim trial results, the country's sovereign wealth fund said yesterday.

Anti-Corruption Commission-ACC yesterday filed a case against four people, including Laxmipur-2 independent MP Mohammad Shahid Islam, currently in Kuwait jail and his wife Salina Islam MP, on charges of money laundering and amassing illegal wealth. ACC Commissioner Dr. Mozammel Haque Khan has said that 20 more MPs will soon face legal action for graft and irregularities. The High Court has summoned all documents related to a decade-old case that convicted MP Haji Selim of accumulating wealth by illegal means.

Specialized barges carrying Russian-made nuclear reactors and generators, key components of the first unit of Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant reached the Padma river port in the project area on Tuesday. A 20-member delegation led by Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen will visit the project today.

The Bangladesh Road Transport Authority called a meeting to be held today to find a way to bring the huge number of public transport drivers under the dope test as per the directive of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, as drug addiction is considered one of the major reasons behind road accidents.

The by-elections of Dhaka-18 and Sirajganj-1 constituencies are being held today by using Electronic Voting Machines-EVMs.



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