



Most Urgent  
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### News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has called for a concerted global action to ensure a safe and secure environment for students during the ongoing coronavirus crisis. The Premier was delivering a video message on the first-ever observance of the “International Day to Protect Education from Attack” on virtual platform yesterday. Highlighting various measures taken by her government to offset the pandemic impact on the education sector, the PM said, televised and online learning for the students has been launched while monetary support for the students is being continued. The event organized by the United Nations was also addressed by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina while taking part in the question-answer session in the Parliament yesterday said, those involved in the attack on Ghoraghat UNO Wahida Khanam must be punished as investigation is underway to unearth the real cause and the masterminds behind the heinous act. The Premier also said, as part of her government’s initiative to provide home to every homeless person and home along with land to every landless person marking the “Mujib Borsho”, so far 118,213 families have been rehabilitated at 2,704 villages across the country under the Adarsha Gram and Guchagram projects while some 319,140 families have so far been rehabilitated under the Ashrayan Project.

The Chandpur Science and Technology University bill, 2020 was passed in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday. Besides, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman University Kishoreganj Bill, 2020 was also passed in the House.

Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury while virtually addressing a function yesterday said, innovation is crucial to revive the post pandemic economy. The Speaker also stated that PM Sheikh Hasina has announced incentive packages in various sectors including small and medium enterprises to reduce financial losses.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader yesterday while attending a virtual review meeting on the progress of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Tunnel being constructed beneath the Karnaphuli River in Chattogram said, the excavation and ring installation works of a 2.5-km tube out of two beneath the river has already been completed. Excavation of another tube is expected to begin in November next, he added. The Minister said, about 58 per cent work of the tunnel project has so far been completed. adding that after the construction of this tunnel, Chattogram would be “One City Two Towns” like Shanghai of China.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan while talking to newsmen at his ministry yesterday about the probe report on the investigation into the murder of Major (retd) Sinha said that if the court wants the report, it would be given to the court. The government will make every effort to ensure that an impartial report goes to the judges, he said.

Finance Minister A H M Mustafa Kamal has stressed the need for undertaking a well-coordinated global operations to face the COVID-19 crisis where the United Nations can play a pioneering role. In this tough journey, he said the G-7, G-20, OECD and international financial institutions can also play their due role. The Finance Minister was addressing a virtual meeting of the Finance Ministers organised by the United Nations held yesterday.

Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen and his Hungarian counterpart Peter Szijjarto will hold a bilateral meeting this afternoon at the State Guesthouse Padma to find out further opportunities for trade and investment cooperation between the two nations, followed by a joint press briefing. The Hungarian Minister arrived in Bangladesh in the early hours today. This morning, Szijjarto is scheduled to visit the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Memorial Museum to pay tribute to his memories by placing floral wreath on his portrait.

Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Imran Ahmad informed the parliament yesterday that the country's remittance flow is witnessing upward despite COVID-19 pandemic amounting US\$ 4.56 billion in the last three months from June to August, which was 1.5 per cent more compared to the last year during the period. Around 7.5 million Bangladeshi are working abroad where only 1.11 lakh migrant workers so far have returned home, he added. The Minister also said, the government so far has donated Taka 13 crore as assistance for extending financial aid to the jobless migrant workers. The government has taken a project of Taka 400 crore for the welfare of the jobless migrant workers, he added.

Permanent Representative of Bangladesh in the UN Rabab Fatima addressing the UNICEF Board meeting in New York on Tuesday highlighted the dire consequences the children facing across the globe due to the COVID-19 pandemic and stressed on innovative solutions for tackling this crisis.

Bangladesh yesterday recorded 41 more fatalities from the novel coronavirus in a daily count, raising the death toll from the pandemic to 4,593. At the same time recovery count rose to 2,30,804 after another 2,995 patients were discharged from the hospitals during the period. The country also saw further rise in coronavirus cases with the detection of 1,827 new cases taking the total number of cases to 3,31,078.

The High Court yesterday ordered Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Company Limited to give Taka 5 lakh within the next seven days as initial compensation to each of the victims of recent blast and fire in the Narayanganj mosque. The court also issued a rule asking authorities concerned to explain in four weeks as to why it shall not pass order to give Taka 50 lakh to the families of each victim.

In the first verdict under the Torture and Custodial Death (Prevention) Act, a Dhaka court yesterday sentenced three policemen to life term imprisonment and two police informants to seven years' jail in a case filed over the custodial death of Ishtiaque Hossain Jonny on February 7, 2014 in the Pallabi Police Station.

Parliamentary standing committees on Forests, Environment and Climate Change and Women and Children Affairs ministries have been reformed with ruling party lawmakers Saber Hossen Chowdhury and Meher Afroz Chumki respectively appointed as its Chairmen.

Information Secretary Kamrun Nahar while inaugurating a two-day workshop in 'Tathya Bhaban' on Circuit House road yesterday urged the media personnel to create mass awareness to make Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's development efforts a success.

Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, High Commission of India, Dhaka, organised a virtual poem recitation event titled 'Tribute to Bangabandhu-Kobir Konthey Kobita (Poems by Poets)' on Tuesday evening. Renowned Bangladeshi poets recited self-composed poems paying tribute to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The pre-registration activities of the intending pilgrims for performing the next year's holy Hajj will continue throughout this year, a notification of the Ministry of Religious Affairs said yesterday.

At least 10 passengers drowned while 12 others remained missing in a trawler capsized in the Gumai River of Kalmakanda upazila in Netrakona district yesterday.

Overall flood situation in the Ganges basin remained steady yesterday. Of the 30 river points monitored in the basin, water levels receded at 19 points while increased at nine points and remained steady at two points, according to data of Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre.

  
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