



Most Urgent
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News Brief

President Md. Abdul Hamid has asked university authorities to work with more devotion to ensure quality education and research activities on the campuses when the Vice-Chancellor of Cumilla University Professor Dr. Emran Kabir Chowdhury and Founder & Chairperson of BRAC University Sir Fazle Hasan Abed separately called on him at Bangabhaban yesterday.

The ECNEC has approved 12 development projects, including one for data centre protection, with an outlay of Taka 3,470 crore. The approval came at a regular ECNEC meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair yesterday. The PM in her address on the occasion asked the authorities concerned to take action against officials responsible for wrong assessments in formulation of development projects of the government. The Prime Minister also directed the authorities concerned to set up daycare centers at large government buildings. The first month of the current fiscal year 2019-20, July registered 1.84 per cent implementation of the ADP. In amount, the implementation was Taka 3,951 crore which was Taka 1,027 crore or 0.57 per cent in the previous fiscal, said Planning Minister M A Mannan after ECNEC meeting yesterday.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has formally invited his Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina for a bilateral official visit to India in the first week of October next. Visiting Indian External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar handed over the invitation letter of Narendra Modi to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina when he paid a courtesy call on the Premier at Ganabhaban yesterday. During the meeting, Jaishankar expressed their interest in enhancing cooperation in energy sector, especially in the hydroelectricity project. The Premier said, India can use Bangladesh's Chattogram, Mongla and Paira ports for boosting trade and commerce. She particularly mentioned the solution of the land boundary dispute between the two countries. Earlier, the Indian External Affairs Minister visited the Bangabandhu Museum at Dhanmondi in the morning and placed a wreath at the portrait of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Visiting Indian External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar at a bilateral meeting with his Bangladesh counterpart Dr. A K Abdul Momen in Dhaka yesterday reiterated India's support to Bangladesh for sustainable repatriation of Rohingyas. About the water sharing issue, Dr. Jaishankar said, India is eager to resolve the water sharing issues involving all common rivers of Bangladesh and India through a mutually beneficial formula. Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen while talking to reporters at his office yesterday said, both Bangladesh and Myanmar are 'fully ready' to resume the repatriation of Rohingyas to their homeland but some Rohingya leaders and NGOs are reportedly discouraging them to return. Representatives of the UN and Bangladesh authorities started consultation with over 3,000 Rohingyas yesterday to take their consent whether they want to return to their homeland. As part of a fresh repatriation bid, representatives from UNHCR and Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commission went to see the Rohingyas at Shalbagan camp in Cox's Bazar's Teknaf and asked them to attend the interviews.

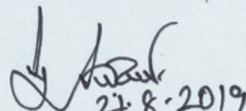
A UN team will visit Bangladesh from August 21 to 23 to carry out a study on the use of the sterile insect technique to control the Aedes aegypti mosquito population. The Experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN and the World Health Organization are included in this team. DSCC Mayor Sayeed Khokon while inspecting a cleanliness programme at the DMCH marking World Mosquito Day yesterday said, the number of dengue infected patients is going down. Cleanliness operations have been carried out in 58,747 houses till last Monday. DSCC is going all-out to control the dengue outbreak by the first week of September, the Mayor said adding that DSCC has destroyed almost 1,200 Aedes mosquito-breeding grounds. Meanwhile, the DNCC has launched a 20-day 'combing operation' to destroy Aedes mosquitoes and their breeding grounds. DNCC Mayor Atiqul Islam while launching the operation said, owners will be fined if Aedes larvae are found in their houses. Meanwhile DGHS has said, a total of 6,470 dengue patients were being treated for the virus at different hospitals in the country yesterday, marking a drop by 263 from a day earlier. A total of 1,572 patients diagnosed with dengue were admitted to hospitals throughout the country in the 24 hours till last morning, down from 1,760 the previous day.

Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury at a discussion marking Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's 44th martyrdom anniversary and National Mourning Day at an auditorium of the Supreme Court Bar Association in Dhaka yesterday said, all the masterminds both local and international of Bangabandhu killing should be unmasked to bring them to justice. Liberation War Affairs' Minister A K M Mozammel Huq while speaking at a meeting and doa mahfil yesterday organized by the Ministry of Shipping to mark the Day said, direct killers of Bangabandhu have been tried. Masterminds behind the killing will also be tried. Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Anisul Huq while addressing a similar function yesterday organized by Dhaka Bar Association marking the Day said, the present government did not give up on bringing back the fugitive killers of Bangabandhu. Marking the Day, Press Information Department also organized a discussion programme and doa mahfil yesterday at the PID conference room of the Secretariat with State Minister for Information Ministry Dr. Murad Hasan as the Chief Discussant.

The nation is observing today the 15th anniversary of the gruesome grenade attack on an Awami League anti-terrorism rally attended by the Party Chief Sheikh Hasina in the capital on August 21 in 2004. Though Sheikh Hasina narrowly escaped, 24 people including AL Women Affairs Secretary Ivy Rahman were killed and scores others including Sheikh Hasina herself were injured at the attack.

Finance Minister A H M Mustafa Kamal while briefing the Head and Chief Executives of 15 South Korean business houses in Seoul yesterday invited the Korean businessmen to come up with investment in Bangladesh saying that the country is offering most attractive investment incentives to the foreigners in many sectors.

Export earnings in July increased by 8.55 per cent, totalling USD 3.88 billion, compared to the same month in the previous fiscal year, according to the Export Promotion Bureau.


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