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News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has directed the authorities concerned to bring insurance activities under technology based automation system and settle insurance claims of clients quickly to restore the people's faith in the sector. The Premier gave the directive while addressing the first-ever National Insurance Day at Bangabandhu International Conference Center in Dhaka yesterday. The Prime Minister said, the 1st March was declared as the "National Insurance Day" as on the day Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman joined the then Alpha Insurance as regional chief of East Pakistan in 1960. She said, Bangabandhu conducted his political activities throughout the country in the name of boosting its activities at the grassroots by taking the advantage of being an insurance employee. She said, Bangladesh Bank and Insurance Development and Controlling Authority are going to introduce "Bangabandhu Education Insurance" for the school students. Sheikh Hasina said, the government constituted the Insurance Development and Controlling Authority, 2010. The Prime Minister distributed Bima Padak among five recipients for their contribution in the insurance sector of the country.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has congratulated Muhyiddin Yassin who was sworn-in as the new Malaysian Premier. The Bangladesh Premier in her congratulatory message said, since independence in 1971, Bangladesh has found Malaysia as a trusted partner and stakeholder in a wide range of issues. Sheikh Hasina also said, Bangladesh hopes that Malaysia would continue its political pressure on Myanmar for the full repatriation of the Rohingyas from Bangladesh at the earliest. The Prime Minister invited her Malaysian counterpart to visit Bangladesh during the Mujib Year, marking the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has received souvenirs like t-shirts, mugs and posters of the upcoming "Joy Bangla Concert-2020" arranged by Young Bangla, an initiative of the Centre for Research and Information to be held on March 7. Trustee of CRI and State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid Bipu handed over the souvenirs to the Premier at Ganabhaban yesterday.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to arrive in Dhaka on March 17 to join the mega event of birth centenary celebration of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen yesterday informed media that during the visit, the Indian Premier is scheduled to have bilateral talks with his Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina. Meanwhile, Indian Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla will arrive in Dhaka today to finalise programmes of Narendra Modi's upcoming visit.

Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury has said, media of Bangladesh is passing its golden epoch. She said this while addressing the 3rd founding anniversary Nagorik Television in Dhaka yesterday. The Speaker urged authorities of the television channels to create a work-friendly and positive atmosphere for the newsmen.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader addressing the triennial council of Rajshahi unit of AL yesterday called for strengthening the party aimed at taking the country forward. All the party units and associate bodies will be reshuffled with only the devoted ones, he added. Addressing the meeting Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud said, the present BNP's politics has centered to the illness of Khaleda Zia and skype of Tarque Rahman. Dr. Hasan Mahmud also said, adverse and derogatory behaviors of party

leaders and workers are more harmful for AL than those of the opponent BNP. So, all the party leaders and workers should remain alert in this regard, he added.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal talking to journalists after attending a discussion in Meherpur yesterday reiterated that the issue of graft convicted BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia's bail is totally a matter of court. Referring to her medical treatment in prison, he said all necessary facilities, including medical checkup and treatment, are being provided to Begum Zia in the highest treatment centre of the country.

Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen has said, Bangladesh would like to take a leadership role among all the Muslim countries by projecting itself as a land of opportunities and growth possibilities. He said this while launching OIC Youth Capital website – www.dhakaoyc2020.org at State guest house Padma in Dhaka yesterday. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the yearlong celebration programme of “OIC Youth Capital 2020” on April 12 to be attended by more than 150 youth representatives from 57 member states of the IOC.

The National Tuberculosis Control Programme of the government and BRAC have jointly taken a unique approach for TB detection through high-tech mobile x-ray vans. Health and Family Welfare Minister Zahid Maleque inaugurated the mobile x-ray vans at a function at Hatirjheel in the capital yesterday. The vans will begin detecting TB among people in different slum areas, garment factories and prisons at free of cost.

Local Government Minister Md. Tajul Islam addressing a views-exchange meeting at CIRDP auditorium in Dhaka yesterday underscored the need for ensuring coordination between elected local government representatives and administration to help continue the country's development endeavours.

National Voters' Day is being observed in the country today. The Election Commission is celebrating the day through various events in Dhaka and also at district and upazila levels.

Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen speaking at a seminar marking ASEM Day said, the participating states in the Asia-Europe Meeting should put stronger pressure on Myanmar to create a conducive environment so that the forcibly displaced Rohingyas can go back to their homelands in a safe, voluntary and dignified manner.

IEDCR at a press conference in Dhaka yesterday urged the people, who recently returned home from the coronavirus affected countries, to stay inside their residences for a few days. IEDCR suggested using masks for the returnees from the coronavirus-affected countries on their way to their residences from airports.

The government-imposed total ban on fishing Hilsha and other species of fishes for two months came into effect yesterday. The ban will be strictly maintained in six sanctuaries in the country.


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