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News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will address a press conference today at 4pm from Ganabhaban to brief the media about her recently-concluded visit to the United States to attend the 76th United Nations General Assembly-UNGA. The Premier paid an official visit to New York in USA during September 19-24 to attend the 76th UNGA sessions and other high level events. She returned home on October 1 after visiting Washington DC from September 25 to 30. During her stay in New York, the Premier addressed the general debate of the 76th session of the UNGA on September 24 in Bangla, following the footprint of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is likely to inaugurate the installation work of Reactor Pressure Vessel (RPV) at unit-1 of the under-construction Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant in Pabna on 10th of this month. Science and Technology Minister Architect Yeafesh Osman confirmed this to media yesterday.

The government will form a neutral Election Commission through the search committee as the caretaker government system has been annulled following the verdict of the Supreme Court, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said this while distributing deeds of plots among those who lost their land due to Padma Multipurpose Bridge Project, at the rehabilitation site in Munshiganj yesterday. Turning to the Padma Bridge, he informed that the carpeting work on the main structure of Padma Bridge will begin in the first week of November. Noting that Padma Bridge will be opened for vehicular movement by June 2022, he said, the work progress of main structure of the bridge is now around 95 per cent while progress of river training stood at 85.25 per cent. Overall progress of Padma Bridge construction project is 88 per cent, he added.

The killers of Rohingya leader Md. Mohibullah will be brought to justice soon, investigation is underway to find out real cause of the killing, Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal said this to newsmen after a meeting on Sharadiyo Durgo Utsab security arrangements at his ministry yesterday. Mohibullah was vocal for sending the Rohingyas back to their homeland, the Minister said adding, "The law and order situation in the Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar is normal." He said construction work is underway to erect a barbed wire fence around the Rohingya camps, which will be completed in a few days. The government has been also setting up watch towers at Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar aimed at ensuring security. He further said, on the occasion of the Durga Puja, the law enforcement agencies will take tight security measures for ensuring peaceful celebration of the Puja.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud while talking to newsmen at his ministry yesterday slammed the cable operators which have stopped the operation of 24 ad-free foreign channels including BBC, CNN, NHK, France 24 and Russia Today and said, they will be charged with violating rules. He said, the government did not shut down any channel and the country's air remains open. Any channel can broadcast here by abiding by the country's law, he said. He added, the act of broadcasting ad-free foreign TV channels exists in almost all countries across the globe including India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Europe and the United States.

Dr. Hasan in another development terming BNP a party of killers said, BNP was born through killing people and its founder Zia killed hundreds of armed forces officers and soldiers to cling to power. He was addressing a discussion and food items distribution function organized by Association of Human Development Program marking the 75th birthday of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at Jurain Rail Gate in the capital yesterday. Dr. Hasan said, the BNP leaders will be ashamed one day when the mask of Zia will be exposed more.

BNP confuses people propagating baseless messages and making shameless falsehood against the government. Being jealous of the development works of AL government, they are doing this, Local Government Minister Md. Tazul Islam made the remarks while speaking at the inaugural function of Sanitation Month at the Department of Public Health Engineering in the capital yesterday.

Education Minister Dr. Dipu Moni said, the government is taking preparations to vaccinate the students, who are above 12 years, in the city corporation areas. She disclosed this while talking to reporters at Chandpur Circuit House yesterday adding, it may be possible to vaccinate the students in city corporation areas only due to issues of technical assistance.

A separate committee would be formed under the leadership of the Ministry of Commerce to provide support to the expatriates to invest in Bangladesh and also provide them trade and commerce related support, Commerce Minister Tipu Munshi, who is now in Dubai to take part in the World Expo- 2020, also known as Dubai Expo-2020, said this to the National News Agency. While addressing a seminar organized by the NRB CIP Association, the Commerce Minister also urged the expatriate businessmen to invest in Bangladesh as businessmen from some 30 countries took part in that seminar.

Social Welfare Minister Nuruzzaman Ahmed said, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has shown the world her able leadership by making the dreams of 170 million people of the country true. She has introduced a once unknown country to the whole world as an emerging nation through massive developments, he said while distributing cheques of Taka 18,000 to each of the 80 marginalized people to improve their living standard in a function held at Kaliganj upazila parishad in Lalmonirhat yesterday. He also inaugurated newly built buildings of 13 government primary schools in the function organized by Kaliganj Upazila Office of the Department of Social Services.

Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association-BGMEA President Faruque Hassan has requested Danish Ambassador Winnie Estrup to share the positive development and stories about the RMG industry with both brands and consumers what she witnessed during her stay in Dhaka. He also urged the Envoy to request Danish brands and retailers to be more rational in pricing as nobody can justify lower price to produce socially fair goods. The BGMEA President made the call while the Danish Ambassador paid a courtesy call on him at BGMEA PR office in Gulshan yesterday.

The government has decided to appoint F M Borhan Uddin, currently serving as Director General of West Asia Wing and Coordinator of Corona Cell at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as the next Ambassador of Bangladesh to Philippines.

Biman Bangladesh Airlines resumed its direct flights from Dhaka to Abu Dhabi yesterday. Two flights of Biman Bangladesh Airlines will operate on Sunday and Thursday, a press release said.

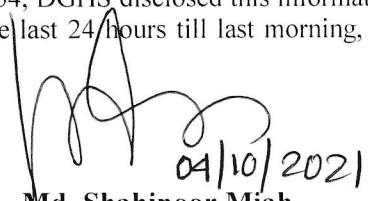
This year's Alim examination, equivalent to the HSC, under the Bangladesh Madrasa Education Board will begin on December 2, a circular said yesterday.

A 14-day corona vaccination campaign will begin at Dr. Muhammad Murtaza Medical Centre on Dhaka University campus today, a press release said. Teachers, students and officials of the university will receive the Chinese Sinopharm vaccine in the campaign.

A 22-day ban on catching, selling, storing and transporting Hilsa has begun from midnight to ensure safe spawning of the national fish during its peak breeding period. Meanwhile, the government has started to provide food assistance among the fishermen families under the VGF program in three upazilas of Manikganj district aiming to help overcome the food crisis during the Hilsa ban period. Under the program, a total of 8000 poor fishermen families residing in Harirampur, Shibalaya and Daulatpur Upazila will be given 20Kgs of rice each as food assistance.

The World Children's Day-2021 is being observed in the country today, with the theme 'Invest for Children, Build Prosperous World (Shishur Jonno Biniyog Kori, Somriddho Bishwo Gori)', with the commencement of Children Rights Week. President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in separate messages, greeted the children on the occasion. The President and the Premier also issued separate messages on the eve of World Habitat Day-2021, being observed today with the theme 'Accelerating urban action for a carbon-free world'.

The country yesterday recorded 18 fatalities from COVID-19, taking the total death toll to 27,573. With 617 fresh cases, the number of infections surged to 15,57,964. The positivity rate stood at 2.90 per cent, as 21,246 samples were tested during the time. At the same time, the recovery count rose to 15,18,754, DGHS disclosed this information in a press release yesterday. Besides, 194 dengue patients got hospitalized in the last 24 hours till last morning, the DGHS informed.



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