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From: PIO, PID, Dhaka
Fax: 55100553/55100026
E-mail: pid dhaka@gmail.com
Web: www.pressinform.gov.bd

Newsbrief

Ambassadors of four countries and High Commissioners-designate of three countries to Bangladesh separately presented their respective credentials to President Md. Abdul Hamid at Bangabhaban in Dhaka yesterday. Welcoming the Envoys to Bangladesh, the President said, Bangladesh's foreign policy attaches importance to bilateral and friendly relations with all, President's Press Secretary Joynal Abedin told the newsmen after the meetings.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina called upon the countrymen to take into consideration Bangladesh's massive development in the last 14 years. The Prime Minister made the remarks while inaugurating 11 development schemes at a function at Ramna Batamul in Dhaka yesterday, joining virtually from her official residence Ganabhaban.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the traditional Amar Ekushey Book Fair-2023 on Bangla Academy and Suhrawardy Udyan premises on its traditional date of the first day of February this year after a three-year interval. Bangla Academy Director General Poet Mohammad Nurul Huda told this at a press conference at Bangla Academy yesterday.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said, BNP has started road march after losing its way in politics. He said this while addressing a peace rally organised by Dhaka South City unit of Awami League in front of its central office at Bangabandhu Avenue in the capital yesterday.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud said, steps will be taken to prevent anti-state news publishing on online platforms as the government has a plan to this end. The Minister said this while replying to a question of Jatiya Party Lawmaker Md. Mujibul Haque in the question-answer session in Parliament yesterday.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud said, Sunday's Awami League public rally in Rajshahi was 12 to 14 times bigger than BNP's one. The Minister told reporters replying to a query after exchanging views with the newly elected Managing Committee Members of Jatiya Press Club at meeting room of his Ministry at Secretariat yesterday.

Agriculture Minister Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque said, the Centre for Policy Dialogue is working to bring a specific political party to power. He said this while exchanging views with journalists at his Ministry in the Secretariat yesterday after a meeting on the progress of the increasing export of agricultural products.

Education Minister Dr. Dipu Moni said, the present Awami League government never did and will not do anything against Islam. She said this while responding to questions of journalists at Rajshahi University yesterday.

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Anisul Huq said, the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is very sincere about protecting human rights and it is ready to provide all kinds of support in this regard. The Minister said this while holding discussion with a delegation of National Human Rights Commission Bangladesh, led by its Chairman Dr. Kamal Uddin Ahmed at his office in Dhaka yesterday.

Railway Minister Md. Nurul Islam Sujan said, 55 percent construction work of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Railway Bridge has been completed. He said this while talking to reporters after visiting the east side of the bridge construction project yesterday.

State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasrul Hamid said, the government has fixed a target to generate 2600 megawatts of electricity this year. The State Minister said this replying to a query which was tabled by treasury bench Lawmaker Morshed Alam in the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

The International Monetary Fund yesterday gave the final approval to Bangladesh's \$4.5 billion loan proposal in a development that is expected to calm the jitters surrounding the health of the country's economy. The decision came at a meeting of the IMF's executive board at Headquarters in Washington DC.

Mexico wants to expand trade relations with Bangladesh as both the countries see great potentials in the automobile, pharmaceuticals, chemical and FinTech sectors. Federico Salas Lotfe, Ambassador of the Embassy of Mexico in New Delhi, India expressed such interest during a meeting with Mostofa Azad Chowdhury Babu, Senior Vice President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry at its office in Dhaka yesterday.

The expansion and modernisation works of all 8 airports – international and domestic – in the country, involving Tk 350 billion, will be completed by the end of the current year. Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh Chairman Air Vice Marshal M Mafidur Rahman told this to reporters at his office in the capital yesterday.

Four dengue patients were hospitalised in different parts of the country and Bangladesh recorded 11 new cases of Covid-19 in a day. Directorate General of Health Services issued a press release in this regard yesterday.

The prime index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange -went down by 9.49 points or 0.15 percent to 6,278.84.



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Md. Shahinoor Miah
Principal Information Officer (Acting)
Phone- 55100811