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News Brief

President Md. Abdul Hamid urged the global youths to take lessons from the ideals and works of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and devote themselves in the service of their respective countries and peoples. The Head of the State made the call while inaugurating the "Bangabandhu Global Youth Leadership Award at Osmani Auditorium in Dhaka, joining it virtually from Bangabhaban yesterday. Terming the youth force, one third of its total population, the key-factor, he said the government, specially the Ministry of Youth and Sports, has been relentlessly working to utilize the potentials of this huge force in accomplishing the vision for turning Bangladesh into a developed nation.

A five-member delegation of the Bangladesh Supreme Court submitted Supreme Court's Annual Report-2020 to President Md. Abdul Hamid at Bangabhaban yesterday. Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain led the delegation. The Head of the State thanked the Chief Justice for removing sufferings of the people by launching a virtual court during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will return home tonight from Washington DC via Helsinki after wrapping up her US visit. Earlier, the Prime Minister reached New York to attend the 76th United Nations General Assembly on September 19 after a two-day stopover in Helsinki, the Finish capital. During her stay in New York from 19 to 24 October, Sheikh Hasina addressed the general debate of the 76th session of the UNGA. She also attended high voltage side events, close-door meetings as well as bilateral talks with head of governments, states and organisations. The Premier later left New York for Washington DC on September 25 after wrapping up her week-long official visit to New York.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said, the national parliamentary elections will be held on time, whether or not the BNP participates in them. The Minister made the remarks while speaking at a discussion arranged by the Awami Sechchhasebak League marking the 75th birthday of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday. In response to the BNP's demand for a neutral polls-time government, he said the BNP's proposal for an election-time government was "crazy and childish", and he was not sure if the president would consider the proposal.

Agriculture Minister Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque hoped that the bilateral relationship between China and Bangladesh will be bolstered in a days to come. The Minister was speaking virtually at a discussion organised by the Bangladesh-China Silk Road Forum on the occasion of the 72nd founding anniversary of China in the city yesterday.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud while talking to the reporters at the Secretariat yesterday said, mobile courts will be conducted to implement ad-free (clean feed) broadcasting of foreign TV channels from October 1. Replying to a query about closing some online news portals suddenly, the Minister said it was misunderstanding and it was solved immediately. In fact, closing online news portals and giving license is a continuous process, he added. Replying to another query over BNP's demand, Dr. Hasan said no caretaker government will be formed in Bangladesh. Earlier, the Minister unveiled the cover of book "Unnyane Ujjibone Sheikh Hasina" edited by journalist Swomithra Deb'.

Planning Minister MA Mannan while addressing the launching of a report titled "Extreme Poverty: The Challenges of Inclusion in Bangladesh" at the NEC Conference Room in the city's Sher-e-Bangla Nagar area yesterday said, the government attaches utmost priority on addressing poverty especially alleviating rural poverty through giving various policy supports and budgetary allocations.

Bangladesh Hi-Tech Park Authority has allotted plots to nine companies at the Bangabandhu Hi-Tech City in Kaliakair under Gazipur district and Sheikh Hasina Software Technology Park in Jashore. To this end, a land handover agreement signing function was held at a hotel in the city yesterday. Planning Minister MA Mannan was present at the signing ceremony as the chief guest while State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak was present as a special guest.

Industries Minister Nurul Majid Mahmud Humayun said, the government has been implementing different initiatives for the last 12 years to develop the country's shipping sector which has brought huge successes in the sector. The Minister was speaking at a function organized by the Department of Shipping under the Ministry of Shipping on the occasion of 'World Maritime Day 2021' at a hotel in the city yesterday.

Bangladesh has already emerged as an economic powerhouse in Asia and the international community terms Bangladesh a "development miracle". State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alamsaid this while delivering a lecture on the history and socio-economic development of Bangladesh at an event titled "Meeting the young minds"; organized by the Embassy of Bangladesh in Mexico City in partnership with the Ibero-American University of the city on Tuesday.

State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Md. Mahbub Ali said, the country's aviation industry is growing rapidly during present government and the growth will be tripled in next 15 years. He made the remark while inaugurating the first ever Jashore to Chattogram direct flight operated by the private carrier US-Bangla Airlines in Jashore yesterday. He said the Jashore airport will be upgraded as international standard gradually like the country's other domestic airports to give a boost in regional connectivity.

The 1st Sheikh Russel Gold Cup (U-18) Football tournament began at Birshreshtha Shaheed Sepoy Mohammad Mostafa Kamal Stadium in the city's Kamalapur yesterday. State Minister for Youth and Sports Mohammad Zahid Ahsan Russelinaugurated the tournament.

The International Day of Older Persons is being observed in the country today like elsewhere in the globe with the theme 'Digital Equity for All Ages'. On the eve of the day, President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina issued separate messages greeting the country's all senior citizens and wished sound health and peaceful life for them.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting at its 9th meeting of the committee held at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban yesterday suggested the ministry to take effective steps to curb rumors and fake news. The committee members also suggested airing quality programmes by Bangladesh Television and Bangladesh Betar on the occasion of the golden jubilee of the country's independence and Mujib Year and taking measures to get feedback from the audience to this end.

Meanwhile, the Information and Broadcasting Ministry yesterday granted approval to 85 more online news portals for being registered. The ministry has published the approvals in two separate orders and asked the portals to complete registration within 20 working days, submitting the fees determined by the government.

Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission is going to block illegal and counterfeit mobile handsets in the networks from today. The BTRC launched the National Equipment Identity Register system on July 1 aiming at ensuring receiving/delivering different government services by registering the handsets, said a press release yesterday.

The government is going to enroll private schools and colleges for monthly payment order (MPO) facility from October 10. The online application will be accepted from October 10 to October 31, said the Secondary and Higher Education Division of the Ministry of Education in a notification yesterday.

Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's photos, taken in his visit to the United States in 1958, were handed over to US Ambassador to Bangladesh Earl Miller yesterday. A.B.M. Sarwer Sarker Jeebon, Assistant Press Secretary to the Prime Minister, gifted Ambassador Miller photos of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman," the US Embassy said in its official facebook page.

The country yesterday recorded 23 fatalities from COVID-19, taking the death toll to 27,510. With 860 fresh cases, the number of infections surged to 15,55,911. The positivity rate stood at 4.54 percent as 27,141 samples were tested during the time. At the same time, the recovery count rose to 15,15,941, DGHS disclosed this information. Besides, a total of 189 dengue patients got admitted in different hospitals across the country in the 24 hours till 8 am last morning, DGHS informed.



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