



Most Urgent  
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## Newsbrief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina asked the officials concerned to reduce spending, but not stop expenditure altogether. Planning Minister MA Mannan briefed reporters after a meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (Ecneec), held at the NEC conference room in the Dhaka Sher-e-Bangla Nagar yesterday.

Meanwhile, the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council approved a Taka 5,651.13 crore project for construction of elevated road from Mithamoin upazila headquarters to Karimganj upazila under Kishoreganj district. The approval came yesterday from the meeting of the ECNEC with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

A delegation, led by IMF Deputy Managing Director Antoinette Monsio Sayeh of the International Monetary Fund paid a courtesy call on Speaker Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury at her JS office yesterday. Issues like Bangladesh's unprecedented development, recent global crisis, IMF's support for Bangladesh's transition as a developed country, climate change and subsidies in the power sector were discussed in the meeting.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said, his party doesn't expect any partiality from media. The Minister said this while addressing a view-exchange meeting with Newspaper Owners' Association of Bangladesh at his Ministry at the Secretariat in Dhaka yesterday.

The Minister also said, the BNP has no capacity to oust the incumbent AL government through a movement. The Minister made these remarks while speaking at a discussion, held at Krishibid Institution Bangladesh auditorium in the Dhaka yesterday.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud said, BNP in its Chattogram programme revealed that it could not come out from their traditional acts of carrying out arson attacks and anarchy. The Minister said these while talking to journalists after addressing as the chief guest at the cover unveiling ceremony of a book titled "Abdul Gaffar Chowdhury Smarak Grantho", edited by Monayem Sarkar at Press Information Department conference room at the Secretariat in Dhaka yesterday.

Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal urged the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank to reconsider its various conditions of loans since the global economy is passing through a tough time and Bangladesh is not an exception to that. The Finance Minister made such request at a meeting with visiting AIIB Vice President (investment operations, region-1) Dr Urjit Patel, held at a city hotel in Dhaka yesterday.

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen said, the US wants to maintain good relations with Bangladesh and noted that Bangladesh is becoming a big economy. The Minister also said, US Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs Donald Lu came to Bangladesh to help improve the relationship between the two countries, said a press release yesterday.

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State Minister for ICT Division Zunaid Ahmed Palak said, the government is working to ensure a completely digital paperless office and build cashless society by 2041. The Minister said this while speaking at a workshop titled 'Supporting Transparent e-Governance Policy in Bangladesh held at a city hotel in Dhaka yesterday.

A total of 12 dengue patients with no death were admitted to different hospitals across the country during the past 24 hours till 8 am while Bangladesh recorded zero death with 9 coronavirus positive cases, a daily statement of the Directorate General of Health Services said yesterday.

DSEX, the prime index of the DSE, went up by 35.68 points or 0.57 per cent to settle at 6,281.74. The DSE 30 Index, comprising blue chips, and the DSE Shariah Index (DSES) also gained 13.92 points to finish at 2,215.25 and 9.29 points closing at 1,371.54.



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