



Most Urgent
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News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has called for continued research to boost food production in the country. The Premier also urged all not to waste food saying food was being wasted in many countries while many nations were suffering from food shortage. In a virtual address from Ganabhaban yesterday coinciding with the World Food Day stressing the need for finding ways to recycle surplus food to evade wastage, the Prime Minister also reiterated her call to all to put attention on cultivation so one inch of land is not remained fallow. The PM further said that her government will build a hunger-and-poverty-free Bangladesh as dreamt by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman where all the fundamental rights of people such as safe food, nutrition, education, residence etc will be ensured. The Prime Minister introduced Bangabandhu Dhan-100 through unveiling a portrait of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman created with paddies. She also unveiled the cover of a book "100 Years of Agricultural Development in Bangladesh". Meanwhile, the World Food Day 2021 is being observed in the country today with the theme "Our actions are our future- Better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life". President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina issued separate messages on the eve of the day.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said, communal evil forces carried out attacks on temples of the Hindu community under an orchestrated plan, adding that no violence or problem took place in Durga Puja of Hindu Community in the last 12 years. While virtually addressing the triennial council of Rajbari district unit of AL yesterday, the Minister warned that none of those who are involved with the evil acts will be spared. About BNP leaders' remarks that the government is involved with the mayhem, the Minister questioned, "The government wants to keep stability in the country. Why the government will do that?"

The present government is working relentlessly to ensure safe and nutritious food for all, Agriculture Minister Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque said this at a technical session titled 'Valo Uthpadone Valo Pushti, Ar Valo Poribeshei Unnoto Jibon' on the occasion of World Food Day-2021 at a city hotel yesterday, organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and the FAO. Production activities have already started the country in accordance with good agricultural methods, he said, adding that the government is taking and implementing effective initiatives in agricultural mechanization, commercialization and processing. The government has laid emphasis on increasing the export of agricultural products and producing high-value crops, he added. FAO Director-General QU Dongyu also addressed the event virtually.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud said, BNP-Jamaat had an evil political aim in giving communal provocations across the country, including Cumilla. After being failed to face Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina politically, BNP-Jamaat has chosen a path of conspiracy, he said. Dr. Hasan was speaking at the triennial conference of Rangunia Upazila Chhatra League in Chattogram yesterday Mentioning BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhurul's allegation that the government is trying to create chaos in the country, the Minister said that such comments proved BNP's provocation behind the incident in Cumilla. The government runs the country, it always wants peace and harmony, he said, adding, "Does Mirza Fakhurul think all the people of the country are fools?" The government will protect the peace and harmony of the country in anyway, he added. Actions will be taken against all those who were involved in the violence and are still involved in the conspiracies and propaganda using social media, he warned.

Local Government Minister Md. Tazul Islam has urged local public representatives to be alert and stand strong against those who would seek to destroy communal harmony. He was addressing a seminar jointly organized by Local Government Division and Water Aid Bangladesh on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of Independence and Birth Centenary of father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, at a city hotel yesterday. Noting that 98 per cent of the people in the country and 70 per cent of the slum dwellers have access to drinkable water, the Minister said that unprecedented success has been achieved in the water supply, sanitation and hygiene sectors. He added, preliminary work has been started on the National Water Grid Line to meet the future water demand of the country. There are also plans for a trans-boundary water grid line. Dhaka South City Corporation Mayor Barrister Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh attending the event said, Dhaka dwellers will get better civic services by 2030. Dhaka North City Corporation Mayor Atiqul Islam addressing the seminar said, 10 per cent holding tax rebate will be given to the owners of the buildings which will have rainwater harvesting system.

Romania has decided to recruit around 40,000 foreign workers, paving the way for Bangladesh to send more workers to the country. Around 1,000 workers have already been sent to the country, Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen said on Thursday while talking about his recent visit to Romania. The Minister said, around 300 Bangladeshi workers are waiting for Romanian visas, and the issue was raised with his Romanian counterpart, who assured Dr. Momen of sending a team from the New Delhi mission to provide emergency services and issue visas quickly. He added, Romania will also consider reopening its mission in Dhaka, once trade and investment ties expand further between the two countries.

The government will give exemplary punishment to the people involved in vandalizing temples of Hindu community in different places across the country during the Durga Puja festival, Environment, Forests and Climate Change Minister M Shahabuddin made the comment while addressing a function after laying down foundation stone of development works at Dhakshin bag Bazar of Barolekha upazila under Moulvibazar district yesterday.

The newly redesigned "Switzerland Corner" at the World Civilization Gallery of the National Museum of Bangladesh was launched yesterday. State Minister for Cultural Affairs K M Khalid officially inaugurated the exhibition corner along with Swiss Ambassador to Bangladesh Nathalie Chuard.

UN Climate Change Conference COP-26 Regional Ambassador Ken O'Flaherty has said, the Bangladesh knowledge on climate resilience is expected to be a major learning for the world as the next month's convention is set to draw the global leaders in Britain's Glasgow. Flaherty further said, Bangladesh has the role in raising 'strong moral' voice for the climate vulnerable countries to encourage the entire world in taking action on climate issue. "The leadership Bangladesh has showing on (climate change) adaption ... Bangladesh has a lot to teach the world on building resilience to climate change impact," Flaherty told media. Flaherty said, the UK has been trying to mobilize international support for Dhaka in transforming Bangladesh's energy sector from fossil power to renewable clean energy. He visited Bangladesh from October 12 to 14 as his last tour in South Asia ahead of the COP 26.

Bangladesh is now ranked 124th out of 139 countries in the world where there is a Rule of Law, advancing one step compared to last year, in the International Civil Society Organization's World Justice Project (WJP) 'Rule of Law Index 2021'.

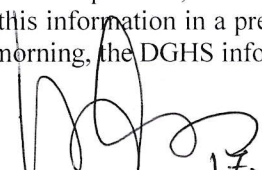
Bangladesh is ahead of India and Pakistan on the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2021 jointly prepared by Irish aid agency Concern Worldwide and German organization Welt Hunger Hilfe. Bangladesh achieved a moderate level of hunger with a GHI score of 19.1 in 2021, ranking 76th among 116, while Pakistan and India ranked 92nd and 101st respectively in serious category.

The Foreign Ministry in collaboration with Bangladesh Chess Federation organized a day-long chess tournament yesterday as part of its greater observance of the upcoming Sheikh Russel Dibash, to be observed tomorrow. Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen inaugurated the event at the Foreign Service Academy.

President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in separate messages, expressed the hope that the observance of the 'National Sanitation Month-October 2021' and the 'Global Handwashing Day 2021' will help create public awareness and improve sanitation system in the country. The LGRD and Cooperatives Ministry observes the month and the day to create awareness on safe sanitation and hygiene among the people.

In-person classes resume at Dhaka University from today, after a long closure of one and half year due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The country yesterday recorded 6 fatalities from COVID-19, taking the total death toll to 27,752. With 293 fresh cases, the number of infections surged to 15,65,174. The positivity rate stood at 1.88 per cent, the lowest since May 15. At the same time, the recovery count rose to 15,27,333, DGHS disclosed this information in a press release yesterday. Besides, 183 dengue patients got hospitalized in the last 24 hours till last morning, the DGHS informed.


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