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News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina asked the authorities concerned, particularly the finance ministry to prepare another plan of a stimulus package to fight the second wave effectively the Covid-19 pandemic. The Premier gave the directive from a meeting to finalise the eighth Five-Year plan (2021-2025) with a slogan "Towards the prosperity with all" at her official Ganabhaban residence yesterday.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina called for Turkey's engagement in sustainable repatriation of the forcefully displaced Rohingyas to their homeland Myanmar. The Premier made the call when visiting Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu paid a courtesy call on her at her official Ganabhaban residence yesterday. Sheikh Hasina sought more Turkish investment in the special economic zones being built across Bangladesh for the mutual benefit of both the countries.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gave a special donation of Taka 50 lakh to the Jatiya Press Club (JPC) in view of the Covid-19 situation. PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim handed over a cheque to Jatiya Press Club President Saiful Alam and General Secretary Farida Yasmin at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) yesterday.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said, Bangladesh-India relationship is bonded with the bracelet of blood, and it successfully passed the test of time. The Minister said, the relationship between the two neighboring countries successfully passed the test of time, while talking to journalists after Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Vikram Kumar Doraiswami visited the AL central office in the city's Bangabandhu Avenue yesterday. He added that the Bangladesh-India relationship is now warmer, more amicable and more development-oriented than any time in the past. While reciprocating Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Vikram Doraiswami termed their relations with the Bangladesh Awami League (AL) "historic."

Agriculture Minister Dr Abdur Razzaque said, the perpetrators, who have killed Bangabandhu, are still active as they want to kill the ideology of Father of the Nation, and that's why they vandalised the sculpture of Bangabandhu. He said this while inaugurating a mural of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on the premises of Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) at Farmgate yesterday.

Information Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud said, the BNP always used the evil fundamentalist forces as tools in politics. Ziaur Rahman rehabilitated those who sided with Pakistan against Bangladesh and Khaleda Zia put them in state power. And those whose leaders chant the slogan 'We are all Taliban, Bengal will be Afghan' are in the BNP-led alliance, he added. He was speaking as the chief guest at a discussion on 'Bangabandhu Bangladesh' organized by the Swadhinata Parishad at the National Press Club in the capital yesterday.

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Anisul Huq said, a robust legal infrastructure, the rule of law and financial progress are a must for building a prosperous and affluent nation. The Minister said, the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division is playing a significant role in formulating new laws and modernizing the existing ones, on which the present government has given emphasis. The minister said this yesterday while virtually addressing a program organized marking the founding anniversary of the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division.

Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal said, Bangladesh's economy is in good shape and heading towards the right direction despite the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is taking a toll on

the global economy. The Minister said, I think that our economy is in much better condition which is beyond our thoughts. There is nothing to be worried, and I believe such trend would continue, he added. The Finance Minister was replying to questions during his virtual briefing after the 36th meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Government Purchase (CCGP) yesterday.

Health Minister Zahid Maleque said, the government has made mandatory seven-day quarantine for the passengers who are returning to Bangladesh from the United Kingdom. The Minister said, passengers, returning to Bangladesh from the UK will have to stay in seven-day quarantine. They will be released after COVID-19 test to stop the spread of the deadly virus, he further said while inaugurating a mobile laboratory for Covid-19 testing at the Ashkona Hajj camp in the city yesterday

Land Minister Saifuzzaman Chowdhury said, the digital record room will reduce harassment in collecting land Records of Rights (ROR). The Minister said yesterday in a statement, the number of visitors to the deputy commissioner's office to collect ROR will be reduced, and there will be no more harassment of touts. He made the remarks while speaking at the inaugural function of converting citizen service of record rooms in 21 districts of Bangladesh to e-service to build a digital Bangladesh at the conference room of the land ministry.

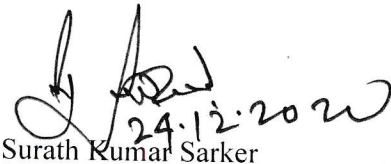
Minister for Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment Imran Ahmed said, training is being imparted to provide skilled workers in the international labor market after the global pandemic Covid-19. The Minister said, various initiatives have been taken by the ministry for the welfare of expatriate workers and their families during the coronavirus pandemic and more initiatives will be taken in future. He was speaking yesterday at an exchange of views meeting on partner services and activities organized by Bangladesh Overseas Employment and Services Limited (BOESL) on the occasion of International Migrants Day 2020 at Prabasi Kalyan Bhaban.

State Minister for Religious Affairs Md Faridul Haque Khan said, the government is determined to maintain communal harmony in the country at any cost. The Minister said, communal harmony is the most desired matter in the current world, and the AL government is determined to maintain communal harmony in the country at any cost. The state minister made the remarks while addressing an inter-religion workshop at Gopalganj district virtually yesterday.

Dhaka south city mayor Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh said, four places on the outskirts of the capital have been selected primarily to construct new inter-district bus terminals to bring order in the public transport system. Dhaka north city mayor M Atiqul Islam said during a visit to Batulia area yesterday, no buses from outside would be allowed to enter the capital once the company-based Dhaka city bus service would start running.

The Cabinet Committee on Government Purchase (CCGP) yesterday approved a total of four proposals, including one for exporting 50,000 metric tons of granular urea fertilizer to Nepal as repayable loan assistance. The approval came from the 36th meeting of the CCGP this year held virtually with Finance Minister AHM Mustafa Kamal in the chair. The Finance Minister also virtually briefed reporters after the meeting.

Bangladesh recorded 30 novel coronavirus deaths and 1,367 fresh cases in the last 24 hours. The recovery count rose to 44,345 after another 2,416 patients were discharged from the hospitals during the period. With this, the total death toll rose to 7,359 from the pandemic in the country.



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