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News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina would virtually inaugurate the two-day International Investment Summit 2021 with a tagline "Bangladesh: Discover Limitless Opportunities", at Radisson Blue Water Garden Hotel, Dhaka this morning. The summit hosted by Bangladesh Investment Development Authority-BIDA, aims to brand new Bangladesh among the investors of the world, Prime Minister's Private Industry and Investment Advisor Salman Fazlur Rahman said while addressing a press conference yesterday. Some 2,574 participants have already been registered to attend the event while at least 465 of them are foreigners who will represent their countries or international investment firms.

The country is proceeding towards the trend of a chain-free democratic development under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader made the remarks while talking to newsmen after placing wreaths at the portrait of Martyr Shamsul Alam Khan Milon yesterday on behalf of the ruling Awami League, marking Shaheed Dr. Milon Day. The supreme sacrifice of Dr. Milon further accelerated the anti-autocratic movement as well as the democratic establishment, the Minister further said. He added, more time is needed to institutionalize the hard-earned democracy. Earlier, the Minister flanked by the party leaders also placed wreaths and offered doa at the Dr. Milon's grave on Dhaka Medical College Hospital premises.

Agriculture Minister Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque while speaking at a discussion marking the Dr. Milon Day organized by Bangladesh Medical Association-BMA yesterday said, BNP has been trying to create anarchy in the country in the name of waging movement with various non-political issues. He called upon all to remain alert so that the fanatic and anti-liberation forces can never come to power.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud has urged artistes to play an active role in building a developed and humanitarian state as dreamt by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. While addressing the annual conference of Abhinoy Shilpi Sangha at Shilpakala Academy yesterday, the Minister further said, the clean feed of foreign TV channels has been implemented for the country's interest with the association of all. The government has also fixed the serial of Bangladeshi TV channels according to the date of airing, he said. State Minister Dr. Md. Murad Hasan, speaking on the occasion, urged the artistes to move the industry ahead through inspiring in the spirit of ideology of Bangabandhu and the Liberation War. Later, Dr. Hasan inaugurated the website actorsequitybd.com of the organization.

Dr. Hasan in another development said, the government's aim is to take the country to its desired destination and Bangladesh will be an exploitation and poverty free developed country by 2041. He was speaking at an award distribution ceremony styled 'JCI Toyp -2021' in Cox's Bazar on Friday. The Minister said, the youths have been turning the challenges into opportunities everywhere including business, science and social issues at home and abroad. The 'electro-magnetic' force will have to be built among the youths and these youths will build the future Bangladesh unitedly. He urged the youths to exercise human values and humanity.

Bangladesh Supreme Court Judges (Prizes and Privileges) Bill 2021 and Bangladesh Supreme Court Judge (Travel Allowance) Bill, 2021 were placed in the Parliament yesterday. Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Anisul Haq placed the bills.

Local Government Minister Md. Tazul Islam, terming City Corporation as one of the owners of a city Local Government said that the city corporation has to work in coordination with other stakeholders in the city. The Minister laid the foundation stone of 2.9 km canal excavation project from Chattogram city's Bahaddarhat Baripara to Karnaphuli River yesterday. The Minister added, Bangladesh is now a role model of world development. He called upon all including CCC engineers and councilors, to work together. The Minister directed to maintain register over all the vehicles of CCC. City Mayor Rezaul Karim Chowdhury presided over the function. Earlier, the Minister inaugurated the road development work of CCC at city's Ambagan area.

Education Minister Dr. Dipu Moni said, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman believed in the concepts of nationalism, socialism, democracy and most importantly secularism that had been introduced as the fundamental principles of the country's constitution. She was addressing the Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs-BILIA lecture series program titled 'Nation Building and the Constitution: A Comparative Analysis of Bangladesh and Indian experiences' in the capital on Friday. Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Vikram Kumar Doraiswami addressing the function said, the constitutions of Bangladesh and India have largely contributed to world politics and jurisprudence.

The government is willing to extend further support for boosting the country's agriculture sector to make growth for all, Planning Minister M A Mannan said while addressing a webinar yesterday, organized by Research and Policy Integration for Development (RAPID), in collaboration with The Asia Foundation. The Minister underscored the importance of dealing with political economy factors to drive inclusive growth. He noted that the government is taking care of the political economy factors to unlock various development bottlenecks.

Bangladesh remains alert to prevent the highly contagious new African variant Omicron, Health Minister Zahid Maleque stated this in an audio statement while leaving for Geneva, Switzerland for attending the World Health Assembly Second Special Session. The country is suspending communications with South Africa to prevent the spread of Omicron, he said. All gateways including air, land and waterways have been instructed to conduct screening of all passengers of Omicron infected countries to stop possible transmission of the new variant, he added.

Bangladesh Women's cricket team has progressed to the 2022 Women's World Cup in New Zealand for the first time after the nine-team qualifying tournament in Harare was called off, due to the introduction of travel restrictions from a number of African countries, including the hosts country Zimbabwe, following the breakout of a new COVID-19 variant in southern Africa.

The first ever bilateral consultations between Bangladesh and Maldives took place yesterday at the Maldivian capital Male. Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen and his Maldivian counterpart Abdul Ghafoor led their respective delegations on behalf of their countries. During the meeting, both the sides discussed entire spectrum of the ties and conclusion of a few bilateral instruments for further collaboration between the two countries. Earlier in the day, the Bangladesh Foreign Secretary met Maldivian State Minister for Foreign Affairs Ahmed Khaleel. During the meeting, they reiterated their commitment to work together in regional and multilateral forums, especially on issues of climate change and regional security. Maldivian State Minister assured Bangladesh of extending their support in an early solution of Rohingya crisis through repatriation of Rohingyas to their country of origin.

Bangladesh-Malaysia Chamber of Commerce and Industry-BMCCI President Raquib Mohammad Fakhru has laid emphasis on exploring Bangladesh-Malaysia trade potentiality in view of the current economic scenario. Bangladesh is one of the fastest growing countries in terms of economic growth and Malaysia is the sixth largest importing country of the world with a positive balance of payment, he said. These two countries have immense trade potentiality, he commented while speaking at a press conference yesterday on "BMCCI 20th Years Anniversary Celebration" to be held on 13th December.

Bangladeshi pavilions have won the 'Silver Award' in the Foreign Pavilion Category for excellence in display in the India International Trade Fair (IITF)-2021, which concluded yesterday. Dr. A K M Atiqul Haque, Consular (Commerce) of Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi, received the award from Indian Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi at the concluding ceremony.

Third phase polls of some 1,000 Union Parishads began across the country this morning. Voting is also being held in 10 municipalities. Besides, the fifth phase elections to 707 Union Parishads will be held on January 5, 2022. Election Commission Secretary Humayun Kabir Khandaker disclosed this in a press briefing yesterday.

Today is the 15th death anniversary of Mohammad Hanif, the first elected Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation and former President of Dhaka City unit of Awami League. President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gave separate messages on the occasion.

The country yesterday recorded 02 fatalities from COVID-19, taking the total death toll to 27,975. With 155 fresh cases, the number of infections surged to 15,75,579. The positivity rate stood at 1.15 per cent as 13,462 samples were tested during the time. At the same time, the recovery count rose to 15,40,018, DGHS disclosed this information in a press release yesterday. Some 87 more people hospitalized with dengue disease in the 24 hours, till at 8:00am last morning, DGHS informed.



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