



Most Urgent
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News Brief

The proposal placed by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to hold a special discussion on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the country's independence in Parliament under section 147 of the rules of procedure on the occasion of the golden jubilee of the country's independence was adopted unanimously yesterday. The Leader of the House Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina placed the proposal in the parliament on Wednesday.

A rational decision will be taken by Saturday over the issue of the half bus fare for students. Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said this while speaking at the biennial general meeting and council session of Bangladesh Road Transport Owners Association in Dhaka yesterday. Responding to the BNP's criticism over the treatment of ailing Khaleda Zia, he said this is a legal issue. However, the Prime Minister is considering the humanitarian aspect of the matter, he added.


Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud said, US President Joe Biden, in his message sent on the occasion of Mujib Year, mentioned Bangladesh as an example of development in the world. Bangladesh is moving forward at an indomitable pace under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, he said. Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud made these comments while taking part in general discussion in the Parliament, marking the golden jubilee of the country's independence yesterday. Referring to the development and progress that took place in the country in the last 13 years, he said Bangladesh today is far ahead of all other countries in the South Asia, including Pakistan, in development and social indicators.

Meanwhile, Information and Broadcasting Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud said, everyone would have to remember the tale of heroics and honour the heroes of the past for advancing the state. He was addressing the three-day long exhibition of rare photographs snapped during the Liberation War marking the golden jubilee of the Independence organized by the Armed Forces Division in Dhaka yesterday. He said, Bangabandhu inspired the Bangalees and crores of people to take part in the Liberation War and the independence has been achieved in exchange for the lives of 30 lakh people.

Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen while talking to the journalists at the Dhaka University campus yesterday said, the countries with weak democracy may have been invited to the democracy summit organised by the United States. The Minister also said it was up to the US to set certain parameters and invite countries based on those. According to a list disclosed by the White House recently, Bangladesh is not among the 110 countries invited to the US President Joe Biden's virtual democracy summit slated for 9-10 December. Besides Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka among the South Asian countries have also not been included in the list. Only India, Pakistan and Nepal have received an invitation to attend the conference from the region.

Finance Minister A H M Mustafa Kamal has termed the approval of the resolution by the United Nations to graduate Bangladesh from the LDC status as a 'great milestone' towards the development march of the country. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has approved a resolution to allow Bangladesh to graduate to the developing county grouping from the least developed country (LDC) category 45 years after it was included in the LDC category. The UNGA adopted the historic resolution at its 40th plenary meeting of the 76 session, said a Finance Ministry press release yesterday. Bangladesh has got the recognition by the UN through approval of a resolution that coincided with the celebration of the golden jubilee of country's independence and birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Earlier, by the end of February this year, Bangladesh became qualified to graduate into a developing nation from an LDC and United Nations Committee for Development Policy (UN CDP) recommended the graduation of Bangladesh.

The government has already bought 38 dredgers and started a process to buy more than 42 under the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) to save the rivers by reducing and protecting the


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sediment deposition. State Minister for Shipping Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury gave the information while addressing at a seminar held at Jatiya Press Club in Dhaka yesterday.

Dhaka is looking forward to commencing the 'Political Dialogue' with the European Union next year. This was revealed while EU Ambassador to Bangladesh Charles Whiteley met State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md. Shahriar Alam at the latter's office on Wednesday, a press release said yesterday. During the meeting Shahriar Alam appreciated the EU's role as a development and trading partner amid the COVID-19 pandemic and looked forward to commencing the 'Political Dialogue' with the EU next year. The EU Ambassador said that "certain provision of concern for Bangladesh's RMG industry is being looked into further in Brussels". Ambassador Whiteley briefed the state minister about some of the upcoming bilateral engagements in the coming year.

State Minister for Cultural Affairs K M Khalid said, the cultural ties between Bangladesh and South Korea will become stronger as the government has planned for more cultural exchanges between the two nations. He said this while inaugurating the Korean Film and Tourism Festival 2021 at Bangladesh National Museum Shahbagh in the capital yesterday.

State Minister for Information and Broadcasting Dr. Md Murad Hassan said, being a war crimes convict, Jamaat-e-Islami leader Delwar Hossain Sayeedi does not deserve the comfort of imprisonment instead of death penalty. While attending a "Bangladesh Muktijoddha Mancha" rally in front of the National Museum to celebrate the golden jubilee of the country's 1971 independence yesterday, he also demanded a review of the apex court verdict handing down Sayeedi the imprisonment until his death and instead sentence him to death and referred to a prayer by the attorney general seeking the review.

All the four steam generators have been installed at the design position at Unit-1 of the Rooppur Nuclear Power Project in Pabna. Specialists of Energospescomontazh, a subcontracting organization of the Rosatom State Corporation Engineering Division, have carried out assembly operations to install the steam generators at their regular position in the reactor compartment in accordance with the approved schedule, said the Rosatom in a statement yesterday.

"The Project for Provision of Medical Equipment to Support Neonatal and Child Healthcare in Dhaka District" was inaugurated yesterday. The Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh ITO Naoki while speaking at the ceremony hoped that this project would greatly contribute to the improvement of neonatal and child healthcare services in Dhaka. The project being implemented by Dhaka Community Hospital Trust (DCHT) with support of the Government of Japan through Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects (GGHSP), said a press release.

Indian Army Chief General M M Naravane has lauded the people of Bangladesh for standing up for their right to liberty and independence, saying that uncountable freedom fighters made supreme sacrifices for their motherland in 1971. Addressing a seminar cum webinar on "India-Bangladesh: Fifty Years of Friendship" in New Delhi on Wednesday, he also appreciated the role of Bangladeshi leaders who led from the front to give birth to the dream of an independent Bangladesh. The seminar focused on enhancement of India-Bangladesh bilateral relations. Measures like, tourism and common culture as soft power diplomatic tools, need for improved infrastructural connectivity and economic integration were deliberated upon.

As many as 379 Rohingya refugees reached Bhasan Char on a naval ship yesterday. The refugees are part of some 1,500 Rohingyas slated to be relocated to the island in the seventh phase, Bangladesh Navy official sources said.

The country yesterday recorded 09 fatalities from COVID-19, taking the death toll to 27,970. With 237 fresh cases, the number of infections surged to 15,75,185. The positivity rate stood at 1.25 percent as 18,888 samples were tested during the time. At the same time, the recovery count rose to 15,39,553, DGHS disclosed this information. Besides, a total of 118 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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