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### News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has called for engaging youths with decision-making, ideas and innovations to fight COVID-19 pandemic to build a resilient and sustainable future for them. While inaugurating simultaneously the two-day celebration of “Dhaka – OIC Youth Capital 2020” and the “Resilient Youth Leadership Summit” virtually from Ganabhaban last afternoon, the Premier also sought more global cooperation in this regard. As COVID-19 has created huge pressure on the leadership and economy around the globe, the Prime Minister pointed out that Bangladesh has already announced a 12.1 billion US dollar package for vulnerable segments of the population, business and agriculture which is 3.7 per cent of its GDP. About the protracted Rohingya crisis, the Prime Minister said that Bangladesh is trying to arrange for their safe, secured and dignified return to their motherland with the help of the international community. Paying deep homage to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on the occasion, the Premier expressed her contentment for introducing “Bangabandhu Global Youth Leadership Award” to honour the true spirit of his everlasting idealism. Secretary General of the OIC Dr. Yousef Al-Othaimeen, among others, spoke on the occasion.

The Cabinet yesterday approved the draft of the “Bangladesh Madrasah Education Board Bill, 2020” to replace a 1978 ordinance in this regard. The approval came at the Cabinet meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair who joined the meeting from Ganabhaban through a videoconference, while other cabinet members were connected from Bangladesh Secretariat. The Cabinet also approved the draft of an agreement to be signed between the government of Bangladesh and Lumbini Development Trust of Nepal to set up a Buddha Temple at Lumbini in Nepal with the finance of Bangladesh. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina during the Cabinet meeting asked the government officials particularly the field-level ones to remain prepared all the time staying at their workstations for extending all sorts of support to the flood-hit people and to be cautious in case of distributing relief materials. The Premier asked Agriculture Minister to take measures for cashing on advantage of flood for bumper production.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has urged Swechasebak League leaders and workers to always stand by the country’s people. The Premier came up with the call while speaking at a discussion through video conferencing from Ganabhaban arranged at AL Bangabandhu Avenue Central Office, marking the 26th founding anniversary of Bangladesh Awami Swechasebak League yesterday.

President Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina have expressed profound shock at the death of Awami League lawmaker from Naogaon-6 constituency Israfil Alam who passed away at a city hospital early morning yesterday following coronavirus infection. He was 54.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader asked all concerned to make coordinated efforts to ensure smooth journey for home-goers during the Eid-ul-Azha. The Minister gave the directives while joining a videoconferencing from his official residence with

Gazipur road division, city corporation mayor, lawmakers and law enforcement agencies yesterday. Turning to flood situation, the Minister called upon the leaders and workers of the party and associate and likeminded bodies to stand by the flood victims with relief goods.

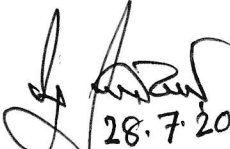
Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud has said, Prime Minister's ICT Affairs Adviser and Bangabandhu's grandson Sajeeb Wazed Joy has envisioned 'Digital Bangladesh' concept for elevating the country to the realm of developed nations under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The country has joined the fourth industrial revolution in proper time under the visionary leadership of Bangabandhu's grandson, he said. The Minister made the comments while unveiling the cover of a book named 'Mujib theke Sajeeb' marking the birthday of Sajeeb Wazed Joy at his ministry yesterday. State Minister for Information Dr. Md. Murad Hasan, among others, joined the function through online.

Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen described the Dhaka-New Delhi ties as "rock solid" as he joined his counterpart Dr. S Jaishankar in a virtual meeting to mark receipt of 10 Indian broad-gauge diesel locomotives yesterday. Reciprocating Dr. Momen, the Indian External Affairs Minister said, the partnership between Bangladesh and India would be key to building a prosperous and peaceful South Asia adding that this partnership will be a befitting tribute to the vision of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in this historic Mujib Barsho. Railway Ministers of Bangladesh and India Md. Nurul Islam Sujon and Piyush Goyal also joined the ceremony from Dhaka and New Delhi. Dr. Jaishankar also noted that Bangladesh export to India crossed the US\$1 billion mark in 2019, a remarkable growth of 43 per cent.

Health Minister Zahid Maleque while talking to reporters after attending the Annual Performance Agreement of eight divisions under the Health Ministry yesterday warned of taking prompt action if any irregularity in the sector is reported. The Minister elaborating the success in the health sector said, medical services are available across the country. Besides, medical colleges, medical universities and medical institutes are also available in Bangladesh, he said.

Bangladesh yesterday recorded 37 more fatalities from the novel coronavirus in a daily count, raising the death toll from the pandemic to 2,965. Recovery count rose to 1,25,683 after another 1,801 patients were discharged from the hospitals during the period. The country also saw further rise in coronavirus cases with the detection of 2,772 new cases taking the total number of cases to 2,26,225. A total of 12,859 samples were tested at the authorized laboratories across the country during the time. DGHS also informed that the government is going to set up centralized oxygen supply system in 43 more public hospitals. Meanwhile, US Ambassador to Bangladesh Earl R Miller handed over equipment to improve diagnosis of multi-drug resistant TB (MDR-TB) to the 250-bed Tuberculosis Hospital in Shyamoli,

According to Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre's bulletin yesterday, flood situation is likely to remain unchanged in Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogura, Jamalpur, Naogaon, Natore, Sirajganj, Tangail, Manikganj, Munshiganj, Madaripur, Faridpur, Chandpur, Rajbari, Dhaka, Shariatpur and Brahmanbaria in the next 24 hours. Flood situation is likely to deteriorate in the country's northern and north-eastern districts as heavy rain is likely to occur in India's West Bengal, Assam and Meghalaya, it said.



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