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News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said, some people have broken with hammer and shovel the houses, given by her to homeless people as the gift of Mujib Borsha under Asrayan-2 project, and published pictures of the broken homes in media. The Premier said this while presiding over an Awami League Central Working Committee meeting at Ganabhaban yesterday. The Prime Minister asked her party leaders and workers to make the party more strong at the grassroots as the national election is approaching. Sheikh Hasina reminded her party leaders and workers that her government has been able to tackle the Covid-19 pandemic single handedly as the AL appeared as a strong organization at the grassroots.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina hoped the relations between the European Union and Bangladesh would continue to strength further. The Premier said this while EU Ambassador to Bangladesh Rensje Teerink paid her farewell call at Ganobhaban yesterday. During the meeting, the Prime Minister said Bangladesh has attached priorities to environment in all of its development schemes as it is a climate vulnerable country.

Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury said parliamentary proceeding should be reinforced and dynamic for the interest of people's quality life development. The Speaker made this comment while delivering her address in a discussion titled 'Parliaments and Global Governance: the unfinished agenda' at the 5th World conference of Speakers of Parliament at Vienna on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, the Speaker said, India and Bangladesh complement each other in every field like business, trade, communication, culture etc. The Speaker made the remark while Speaker of Lok Sabha of India Om Birla yesterday paid a courtesy call on her (Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury) at Inter Parliamentary Union Venue in Vienna, Austria.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader while talking to the reporters after the meeting of the AL executive committee yesterday said, the ruling party has decided to take preparation for the next general election. He said the AL sub-committees have been instructed to update the election manifesto and the AL president also listened to the statements of some members of the sub-committees.

Local Government Minister Md. Tajul Islam directed all concerned to complete all the ongoing projects of local government division including Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority on time. He came up with the call while speaking at the signing ceremony of Gandhabpur Water Treatment Plant Agreement organized by Dhaka WASA at a city hotel yesterday.

Bangladesh will take its foreign policy decision over Afghanistan independently, not be reflected by any other country. Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen said this while talking to the reporters at a briefing after arriving from his recent visit to Switzerland, Netherlands and the United Kingdom at the Foreign Ministry yesterday. Noting that Bangladesh has historic relations with Afghanistan, which is also a member state of SAARC, Dr. Momen said Bangladesh policy will be depending on the attitudes and policies of the new Afghan government. He said Dhaka believes in a people's government that comes through a political and democratic process.

Planning Minister M A Mannan said, the Awami League government has created a milestone of development in the country as Bangladesh witnessed tremendous development activities over the last 12 years. The Minister said this while laying foundation stones of two projects (8,191 meter road repair and construction work) with Taka 8.01 crore at Pagla Bazar-Birgaon Road under Shantiganj upazila in Sunamganj yesterday.

Environment Minister Md. Shahab Uddin while speaking at a view exchange meeting at Moulvibazar yesterday said, even if there are people trying to sabotage the establishment of the Juri Safari Park in Sylhet, the park will be built soon to conserve the forest and wildlife. He then urged the people to stay alert against the propaganda being orchestrated by a handful of people to tarnish the reputation of the government and work together, instead, to materialize the dream of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman of a Sonar Bangla.

A year-wise roadmap has been drawn up to implement the government's renewable energy policy. State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Nasral Hamid made the remarks while speaking at a webinar titled: "The International Forum for Energy Transition 2021" aimed at paving the way for carbon neutrality and green development yesterday. He noted that Bangladesh has been the champion country in the world by installing six million solar home systems to bring 20 million people within the electricity access in the off-grid areas.

State Minister for Information and Broadcasting Dr. Murad Hassan said, BNP is a black chapter in the history of Bangladesh, terming the party a dustbin of the history. While speaking at a meeting at Sarishabari upazila in Jamalpur yesterday, he also added, 'we could not walk on the path of democracy with the BNP, the dustbin of history. The conspiracy of Khaleda Zia is still going on. We will not allow any killer to be halal in the politics of Bangladesh'. To continue the progress of the country, everyone must remain united with the spirit of patriotism, he said.

Sales and exhibition centers for women will be set up in all districts of the country. State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Fazilatun Nessa Indira made the remarks while addressing a function organized by the Department of Women's Affairs in the capital yesterday.

The government has appointed Khondker M Talha as the next ambassador of Bangladesh to the Republic of France. He is currently serving as the director general of East Asia and Pacific wing at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

A 39-member combined military contingent comprising the personnel of Bangladesh Army, Navy and Air Force will leave Dhaka for Mexico to participate in a special parade marking the 200th anniversary of the independence of Mexico today.

The United States has provided 20 vessels to the Bangladesh Navy and Bangladesh Coast Guard to improve their abilities to conduct maritime security operations and increase their capacity to monitor, patrol and respond to threats within Bangladesh's coastal waters and Economic Exclusive Zone.

The country yesterday recorded 58 fatalities from COVID-19, taking the death toll to 26,794. With 2,588 fresh cases, the number of infections surged to 15,24,890. The positivity rate stood at 8.76 per cent as 29,541 samples were tested during the time. At the same time, the recovery count rose to 14,68,211, DGHS disclosed this information. Besides, a total of 317 dengue patients got admitted in different hospitals across the country in the 24 hours till 8am last morning, DGHS informed.

DSEX, the benchmark index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange yesterday crossed the 7,200-mark for the first time after the index was introduced more than eight years back in 2013. DSEX, the benchmark index of the DSE, went up by 62.42 points or 0.86 per cent to settle at more than 7,258- the highest since its inception.


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