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News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the 'Dhaka-OIC Youth Capital 2020' tomorrow virtually with the theme "Parity and Prosperity: For a Resilient Future." The two-day event has been organized with an aim to bring the youth and their spirit together from every corner of the world with 100 local and 150 youths from across the globe while 10 of them will get the 'Bangabandhu Global Youth Award'. Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen briefed reporters about the event through a virtual press conference yesterday. During the press briefing the Foreign Minister said, Bangladesh wants to involve global youths in the justice and accountability issue over plight of Rohingyas during their participation in the summit by taking them to a virtual tour in Cox's Bazar to show them how these 1.1 million displaced people, the residents of Myanmar, have been persecuted without any fault.

Bangladesh yesterday recorded 38 more fatalities from the novel coronavirus in a daily count, raising the death toll from the pandemic to 2878. At the same time recovery count rose to 1,22,090 after another 1,114 patients were discharged from the hospitals during the period. Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) came up with the disclosure at its daily health bulletin. The country also saw further rise in coronavirus cases with the detection of 2,520 new cases taking the total number of cases to 2,21,178. A total of 10,446 samples were tested at 80 authorized laboratories across the country during the time, DGHS added.

Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury yesterday released fish fry in the Sangsad Bhaban lake, marking the National Fisheries Week 2020. Speaking on the occasion, the Speaker stressed the need for providing trainings to fish farmers to ensure their welfare.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader addressing a discussion on government measures and directives marking Eid-ul-Azha at BRTC headquarters through videoconferencing from his official residence yesterday said, the government is making all-out efforts to contain the spread of Covid-19 and ensure necessary treatment for patients. The Minister urged the transport owners and workers to maintain the highest cautionary measures in operation of vehicles on streets before and after the upcoming Eid. He also urged the law enforcement agencies, including the highway police, district level police and all others concerned to strictly monitor vehicular movements so that no unexpected incident takes place. Regarding allegations of irregularities at BRTC, the Minister reiterated the government's firm stance against irregularities and said none is beyond accountability.

Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud has congratulated Saima Wazed Hossain, Chairperson of the National Advisory Committee on Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Autism as she has been chosen as a "Thematic Ambassador" by Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF). In a congratulatory message, the Information Minister said, it is a matter of pride that the country is recognized as a pioneer in realizing rights through struggle before the world under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The Minister said, following the footsteps of the Premier, her daughter Saima Wazed will now stand before the world as a CVF Ambassador on behalf of those countries which are at risk and vulnerable for the climate change and global warming.

Planning Minister M A Mannan has stressed on the need for better coordination among public, private stakeholders and experts for the sake of the country's youth development as they are key force of economic development. The Minister was speaking at a webinar dialogue titled 'Youth

Budget Framework: An Appraisal,' jointly organised by South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM) and ActionAid Bangladesh.

On the occasion of the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha, rice has been distributed among 4,621 helpless, unemployed and poor families in 9 wards of Bandarban municipal area as 'Eid Gift' from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Besides, Railways Ministry has decided to launch special cattle trains to transport sacrificial animals to Dhaka from the southern and northern parts of the country at a cost of only Taka 20 per kilometer ahead of the Eid, the ministry press release said.

The Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) authorities have designated 256 places for Qurbani in the Eid-ul-Azha urging the citizens to slaughter sacrificial animals in those designated spots, DNCC Mayor Atiqul Islam told an online meeting with DNCC officials-employees on waste management of sacrificial animals yesterday. A total of 11,508 cleaners including primary waste collection service provider workers will remain ready for proper waste management while additional manpower and vehicles have been kept to this end, a press release said.


The Dhaka Metropolitan Police has taken various security measures at cattle markets in the city including bolstering traffic control, patrolling police, ensuring health rules, installation of watch towers, setting up temporary police control rooms and installation of counterfeit note detection machine at all markets.

Meanwhile, the Commerce Ministry has taken a comprehensive plan to monitor the sale of rawhides of sacrificial animals at fixed rates as well as collection, storage and preservation of the rawhides and salt supply for rawhides, said a handout.

The flood situation has deteriorated further in the Brahmaputra and Ganges basins due to the heavy downpour and onrush of water from the upstream. Besides, the flood situation in the Meghna basin yesterday improved further because of dwindling rainfall and hilly water from the upstream. State Minister for Disaster Management and Relief Dr. Md. Enamur Rahman while speaking at a press briefing on the overall flood situation from his ministry online yesterday said, a total of six committees have been formed to monitor the activities of relief assistance programmes of the government in the country for the next 21 days. The State Minister also mentioned about the help line number '333' advising people to seek reliefs through the number during their sufferings. About 12,010 metric tons of rice have been allocated so far to 31 flood-affected districts, he added. These districts also got allocation of more than Taka 3.36 crore in cash, 1.21 lakh packets of dry and other food items, TK 1.48 crore for cow-food, Tk 70 lakh for baby food, 300 bundles of Corrugated Iron sheets and Tk 9 lakh as house-grant, he further added.

Bangladesh High Commission in London, UK has described as 'incorrect' some media reports that said the mission issued 'health certificate' regarding COVID-19 to Bangladesh bound passengers. No such 'health certificate' has been issued from the Bangladesh high commission to any passenger rather it only attest to personal 'health declaration form' of the travel intending passengers to Bangladesh amid the pandemic, a press release issued by the mission said.

Malaysian authorities yesterday said that they would deport the Bangladeshi youth Mohamad Rayhan Kabir, 25 who was detained by an intelligence unit of Malaysian Immigration Department over the country's treatment of undocumented immigrants in a documentary by news broadcaster Al-Jazeera titled "Locked Up in Malaysia's Lockdown".


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