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News Brief

The budget session for 2020-21 of the 11th Jatiya Sangsad will begin at 5:00 pm on June 10. Due to outbreak of the deadly coronavirus, journalists have been urged to cover the budget session through the Sangsad Bangladesh Television, which will broadcast the session live.

The health authorities confirmed the detection of another 2,381 new corona virus patients across the country in the last 24 hours, taking the number of confirmed cases in the country to 49,534. During the same period 22 more patients died from COVID-19, raising the death toll to 672. DGHS came up with the disclosure at its daily health bulletin in Dhaka yesterday. In the last 24 hours, 52 coronavirus testing laboratories across the country tested 11,439 samples. Across the country 816 more patients made recovery, also adding that so far 9,781 people have recovered from the disease.

Road, Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader has said, the government can go tough again, as and when necessary, in its handling of the COVID-19 pandemic's local outbreak. The government may impose lockdown again with tougher enforcement. He was speaking at a video-conference from his residence with the officials and employees of the Department of Bridges at Setu Bhaban in Dhaka yesterday. He mentioned that the courageous and humane efforts of the Sheikh Hasina-led government to tackle the crisis are being appreciated all over the world. On the other hand, BNP's lack of coordination, their failure to stand by the helpless unemployed and shameless, irresponsible statements are destroying the confidence of the frontline fighters and the victims. He called upon the BNP to play the role of a responsible political party during this crisis.

The government has decided to divide different areas of the country into three zones red, yellow and green in terms of the intensity of coronavirus infection. The decision was taken at a high-level meeting at the Cabinet Division at the secretariat in Dhaka yesterday. Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal and Health and Family Welfare Minister Zahid Maleque attended the meeting.

Agriculture Minister Dr. Abdur Razzaque has said, the government is trying to boost domestic food production to tackle any food crisis that may arise amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. The Minister was speaking at an online meeting with concerned officials of his ministry yesterday. He said that already the production target of Aush and Aman paddy cultivation has been exceeded, and seeds, fertiliser and other incentives from the government have been provided to the farmers on time, to avoid any crisis in the upcoming Aman and Robi season.

Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Md. Shahab Uddin while speaking at seasonal fruits distribution programme at Borolekha upazila of Moulvibazar as gifts from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the people to intake seasonal fruits to increase immunity for preventing coronavirus.

State Minister for Public Administration Farhad Hossain told yesterday that in the wake of the Covid-19 outbreak, 25 percent officials and employees of every ministry and division would discharge official duties at a time or together by remaining present at the secretariat. He said, apart from the physical presence of the 25 percent officials and employees, another 25 percent will work from home. Officials and employees will work by rotation, he also said.

The Libyan UN recognized Tripoli based Government of National Accord (GNA) has pledged Bangladesh that it would expose the perpetrators those were involved in killing of 26 Bangladeshi nationals in Libiya. The Libyan foreign ministry made the vow while strongly condemning the killing in a condolence message sent to Dhaka, a Bangladesh foreign ministry press release said yesterday. In the condolence message, the Libyan government expressed its deep sympathy to families of the victims as well as Bangladesh government. Meanwhile, a team of RAB-3 yesterday arrested a human trafficker ring leader who allegedly was involved with the trafficking of some 26 Bangladeshi nationals killed in Libiya on May 28.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has greeted Bangladesh for starting export of PPE over COVID-19 pandemic to the US market terming it as crucial international partnership between the two countries. Mike Pompeo made the remark while retweeting the US Ambassador to Bangladesh Earl Miller's tweet over the Bangladesh's PPE export to the USA.

Bangladesh Awami League yesterday held a milad and doa mahfil on the occasion of the 45th death anniversary of Sayera Khatun, mother of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and grandmother of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, at the AL President's Dhanmondhi political office in Dhaka after Asr prayers. Senior party leaders attended the milad and doa mahfil, seeking divine blessings for eternal peace of the departed soul of Sayera Khatun.

DSCC Mayor Barrister Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh addressing a meeting at the Nagar Bhaban yesterday said, the entire mosquito control activities from grassroots to higher level will be reorganized as approaching monsoon is the vulnerable period for mosquito-borne diseases like dengue and chikungunya.

Offices at the educational institutions across the country would remain open in a limited scale aiming at continuing administrative activities. Academic activities at all the educational institutions across the country, however, would remain closed aiming to prevent the spread of COVID-19, said an Education Ministry press release in Dhaka yesterday.

The High Court has ordered authorities concerned to give priority to expecting mothers for coronavirus diagnosis at all the clinics and hospitals across the country. A High Court virtual bench passed the order yesterday after holding hearing on a plea filed in this regard.


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