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News Brief

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday inaugurated the construction work of third terminal of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport involving Taka 21,300 crore. Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister hoped that the construction of the third terminal with all passenger facilities like the developed airports of the world will be completed in the next four years. The Premier said, the annual passenger capacity of the present airport is 80 lakh. But with the completion of the third terminal, 1.20 crore more passengers will be brought under the services of the airport. International routes will be increased and new destinations will be linked with Bangladesh's air routes, the PM said. From the same function, the PM also opened Bangladesh Biman's two new Dreamliner aircraft Boeing 787-9 named 'Sonar Tori' and 'Achin Pakhi' as well as a new mobile app of the national flag carrier. The Premier urged all to abide by existing security rules and regulations of the airports issuing a strong warning that errant passengers will be barred from boarding aircraft in future for violating the laws.

The newly-elected Bangladesh Awami League Central Working Committee and Advisory Council led by party President and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday paid rich tributes to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by placing wreaths at the portrait of the great leader in front of Bangabandhu Memorial Museum at Dhanmondi in Dhaka yesterday. After paying homage to the Father of the Nation, General Secretary and Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader talking to media said, the main challenge of the party is to institutionalize democracy and fulfill the pledges made during the polls. The Minister also said, if the party becomes strong enough then the government will also become stronger. That is why we are trying to separate the party from the government, the Minister added.

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader has said, the government of Sheikh Hasina is determined to make Dhaka city corporation elections free, fair and credible. To keep the pledge, the government will provide all out cooperation to the Election Commission. The Minister said this while addressing a program organized by Dhaka University Sociology Department Alumni Association at TSC auditorium yesterday.

Information Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud has reiterated that BNP is showing disrespect towards the court and the law by threatening to wage a movement to release Begum Zia which is tantamount to contempt of the court. The release of BNP Chief Begum Khaleda Zia is possible only through the judicial process. The Minister said this while addressing the fourth triennial national conference of Bangladesh Awami Muktijoddha Projanma League at Bangabandhu Avenue in Dhaka yesterday. Terming Bangladesh as a successful country now, the Minister said, the country is on the way of materializing the dream of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Liberation War Affairs Minister A K M Mozammel Huque has said, the government will build houses for 14,000 insolvent Freedom Fighters across the country in the next year on the occasion of the Birth Centenary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Each house for the Freedom Fighters will be built at a cost of Taka 16 lakh. The Minister said this while inaugurating the newly built Manirampur Upazila Muktijoddha Complex constructed at cost of Taka 2.3 crore in Jashore yesterday.

Please Turn Over

Health and Family Welfare Minister Zahid Maleque has said, the present government is going to construct eight 100-bed cancer hospitals in eight divisional cities across the country to ensure swift and standard treatment for cancer patients. The Minister said this while inaugurating a new building of the National Cancer Research Institute and Hospital and expansion of 200 beds at Mohakhali in Dhaka yesterday. A total of 550 cancer patients have been getting radiotherapy and 275 have been getting chemotherapy free of cost everyday from this 500-bed hospital, the Minister added.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal has sounded a note of warning that no musical events will be allowed in open places on the occasion of the 31st night celebration. All bars will remain closed at night from December 30 to January 1 till 6 pm. Besides, carrying all kinds of arms will also be prohibited during the time. The Minister said this while talking to the media yesterday.


Posts and Telecommunications Minister Mustafa Jabbar has laid emphasis on coordinated work among inventors and the industries to make the fourth industrial revolution (4IR) successful in Bangladesh. The Minister said this while inaugurating an international conference at BUET in Dhaka yesterday. Mustafa Jabbar also revealed that they have taken initiative to establish a bridge between people and 5G technologies in the upcoming Digital Bangladesh Fair to be held on January 16-18 at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre.

The United Nations has adopted a resolution on 'Situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar' with an overwhelming majority of votes. The resolution was passed during the 74th session of UN General Assembly at its 52nd resumed meeting held at the UN headquarters in New York on Friday. A total of 134 countries voted in favour of the resolution while 9 voted against and 28 abstained.

Bangladesh has been declared as the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation Youth Capital for 2020. The decision was taken by the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum Executive Board of OIC on December 25 in Istanbul, Turkey.

Chief Election Commissioner K M Nurul Huda has ruled out the deployment of Bangladesh Army personnel during the upcoming elections to two Dhaka city corporations slated for January 30. Talking to journalists in Barishal yesterday, the Chief Election Commissioner said, no army will be deployed in Dhaka North City Corporation and Dhaka City South Corporation elections as there is no need to do so. Police and other regular law enforcing agencies will be well enough to hold the two Dhaka city corporation elections peacefully. The CEC also said that the Election Commission has decided to use EVMs at all booth during the elections to the two Dhaka city corporations.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Shahriar Alam has said, the prime role of community radio is to give a voice to people who do not have access to mainstream media and do not have the opportunity to express their views on their community development. He said this while addressing the first founding anniversary meeting of 'Radio Boral 99.0 FM' at at Bagha Upazila in Rajshahi yesterday.


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