



Newsbrief

The National Jute Day-2024 will be observed today throughout the country with a view to making jute goods popular among the people. On the occasion of the Day, President Mohammed Shahabuddin and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina issued separate messages yesterday greeting the people involved in the jute sector. President in his message urged all concerned to take effective initiatives to increase the production of eco-friendly jute products to flourish the jute industry of the country. In her message, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said, after the independence of the country, the greatest Bangalee of all time, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman took multifaceted effective steps for the development of the jute industry. The President and the Prime Minister hoped that jute would play a positive role in the economic growth of the nation as well as the protection of the environment.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina told the parliament that no benefit will be yielded lodging complaints to foreigners, rather Bangladesh will march towards prosperity an indomitable pace by maintaining democratic process. The Prime Minister said this while giving valedictory speech and taking part in the discussion on thanks giving motion of the President's speech and the first session of the 12th parliament. 50 parliamentary committees have so far been formed and passed in the parliament aimed at ruining the parliament fairly and effectively, the Prime Minister added. Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury presided over the last sitting. Prime Minister's Speechwriter Md Nazrul Islam briefed reporters after the call on of the delegation of D-8 Trade Ministers led by Turkish Deputy Minister of Trade Mustafa Tizeu at the Premier's official residence Ganabhaban yesterday.

Later, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina greeted all the members of BCS (Administration) Cadre marking the 'Annual Conference-2024' of Bangladesh Administrative Service Association (BASA) held yesterday. The Prime Minister said this in a message on the eve of the conference.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said, the Muslim countries could introduce a common currency like the European Union (EU) to boost trade and commerce among them while a delegation of D-8 Trade Ministers called on her. The directives were given at a meeting held at the PMO chaired by Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Md. Tofazzel Hossain Miah.

Foreign Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud called on the OIC member States to take alternate measures to end the conflict in Gaza which has turned into genocide and ensure humanitarian rights and human rights for the Palestinian people. The Minister said this while speaking at the 19th Extraordinary CFM of the OIC on Israel's aggression on the Palestinian People at Jeddah, Saudi Arabia yesterday. The Foreign Minister reiterated Bangladesh's firm support for the cause of Palestine and called for an immediate ceasefire while ensuring keeping open humanitarian corridors.

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is likely to raise its financing to Bangladesh in the coming years while the country is likely to be the first nation to receive climate finance from the multilateral development bank. AIIB Acting Vice-President Rajat Misra said this while replying to a query from a reporter after he made a courtesy call on Finance Minister Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali at his Secretariat office yesterday. Finance Minister Mahmood Ali said, the government is very much happy that the AIIB have the investments and lending policy that suits the requirements of Bangladesh. The AIIB has assured the government that whatever project would be placed before them, they would find a way out to support it, the Minister added.

The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) today directed the secretaries to remain cautious about the overall situation of prices of essentials, law and order, traffic congestion, and supply of electricity and gas during the upcoming holy month of Ramadan and Eid. The directives were given at a meeting, held at the PMO, chaired by Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah.

Offshore Banking Act- 2024 was placed in the parliament in a bid to enhance the reserves of foreign currency and attract foreign investment. Finance Minister Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali yesterday moved the bill in the House, which was passed by voice vote with Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury in the chair.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Professor Dr. Samanta Lal Sen said, physicians attached with healthcare facilities in rural areas will be given special opportunities including financial incentives. The Minister said this at the 10th National Neurology Conference at the Bangamata Sheikh Fazilatunnesa Mujib Hall at Shahbag in Dhaka yesterday. The doctors at upazila level hospitals and health centres have huge responsibilities for providing healthcare facilities to the people living in rural areas, the Minister added.

Private Industry and Investment Adviser to the Prime Minister Salman Fazlur Rahman emphasized the industry's critical role in the country's economic growth and underscored the importance of continuous innovation and sustainable practices. The Adviser made the emphasis while addressing at the Sustainable Apparel Forum (SAF) 2024 in the capital yesterday.

The Law and Order Disruption (Speedy Trial) Amendment Bill, 2024 was passed unanimously in the Jatiya Sangsad (JS) aimed at making the provisional law enacted in 2002 a permanent one to contain vandalism and obstructions to public movement. Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan yesterday moved the bill in the House and it was passed by voice votes with Speaker Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury in the chair.

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Anisul Huq said, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has asked to take quick action against people hoarding and unnecessarily hiking price of essential commodities to create an unstable situation in the country. The Law Minister said this while addressing newsmen at Osmani Memorial Auditorium after the end of third day session of ongoing DC Conference. DCs have raised some specific questions and the secretary has answered to those, the Minister added.

Mentioning that polythene is harmful for the environment, Textiles and Jute Minister Jahangir Kabir Nanak said, stern action will be taken to stop the use of polythene. The Minister said this while addressing a press conference at his Secretariat office yesterday. The Textiles and Jute Ministry, following the 'Mandatory Jute Packaging Act, 2010', has ensured the use of 19 jute-made goods, the Minister added.

Prime Minister's Security Affairs Adviser Maj Gen (retired) Tarique Ahmed Siddique said, the Bangladesh Army is ready to fight back if the country comes under attack by external forces. The Adviser made this comment while responding to a question on internal unrest prevailing in the neighboring country Myanmar after attending the annual conference of Deputy Commissioners (DCs) at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the capital yesterday. The civil administration and the armed forces are having a good relationship these days compared to any other time and both are trying to get closer, the Adviser added.

Seeking Deputy Commissioners help to fight against spread of falsehood and disinformation, State Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mohammad Ali Arafat said, only the registered and professionals online portals will be allowed to operate to ensure accountability and discipline in the media industry. The State Minister said this in a meeting with Deputy Commissioners on the third day of ongoing DC conference at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the capital yesterday. DCs have close link with the grassroots people, their initiative is very crucial to check any untoward incident triggered by any false information, the State Minister added.

A nine-member delegation of the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) led by its Director General (DG) Nitin Agrawal reached Dhaka yesterday to attend the 54th DG-level BGB-BSF border conference. The event is set to start on 5 March at the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) Headquarters and will end on 9 March.

DSEX, the key index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) closed the day with 44.11 points down and settled at 6,131.14 points yesterday.


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