



Most Urgent
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Newsbrief

The National Economic Council (NEC) approved a Taka 2,45,000 crore Revised Annual Development Programme (RADP) for the current fiscal year (FY24) prioritizing on sectors like road transport, communication, energy and power. The approval came from a meeting of the NEC held yesterday with its chairperson and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair at the NEC Conference Room in the capital's Sher-e-Bangla Nagar area.

Awami League General Secretary and Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said, BNP has taken stance against the people's religious sentiment and values by declaring to continue programme during the month of Ramadan. The Minister said this in a statement yesterday. BNP has been making their evil attempts to destroy the country's constitutional and democratic trend through their so-called anti-government movement for more than an era, the Minister added.

Foreign Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud said, Dhaka is keeping communication with Myanmar authority to send back the fresh 177 Myanmar security personnel those took shelter in Bangladesh amid the ongoing ethnic conflict in the neighboring country. The Minister told the reporters at the Foreign Ministry in Dhaka yesterday. Replying to a query, the Foreign Minister said, Dhaka is in touch with Myanmar authority and if required the Myanmar Ambassador to Bangladesh will be summoned. Earlier, Malaysian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Haznah Md Hashim made a courtesy call on Foreign Minister at the Foreign Ministry. Mahmud said, they also discussed on various issues related to the labor market in Malaysia as well as welfare of the expatriate Bangladeshi workers currently residing in the South East Asian country.

Bangladesh signed a fresh agreement with the Netherlands to amend the existing double taxation avoidance and prevention of tax evasion agreement by making changes in some articles to widen the tax net and also to explore newer scopes for revenue generation. Finance Minister Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali and Minister for Tax Affairs and the Tax Administration of the Netherlands, MLA van Rij, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective sides at the Ministry of Finance at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal said, withdrawal of the Indian army from the soil of independent Bangladesh within shortest time was possible because of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's foresighted leadership, towering personality and deep friendship with Indira Gandhi. The Minister said this while addressing a seminar at Dhaka University's Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban marking the 52nd anniversary of the withdrawal of Indian troops from Bangladesh. India's former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was a true friend of Bangladesh as she extended unparalleled support to the country's great liberation war in 1971, the Minister added.

Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Saber Hossain Chowdhury said, legal action has already been taken against 458 illegal brick kilns till March 10 as part of the Ministry's 100 working-day action plan. The Minister told at a meeting, held at the Bangladesh Secretariat, aiming to review the implementation progress of the 100-day priority action plan of his Ministry. Saber Hossain said, using brick kiln tracker, the campaign against polluting by brick kilns will continue to check air pollution in the country including Dhaka city. The Environment Minister also directed the officials concerned to continue to take legal measures against some construction firms, transport and factories, those are polluting environment.

The government started the negotiation to sign the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with Japan for retaining the duty benefit after Bangladesh's scheduled graduation to a developing nation in 2026. State Minister for Commerce Ahsanul Islam Titu formally announced the launching of the negotiation at a press conference at his Ministry yesterday. The Minister expressed hope that mutual trade and investment between the two countries will increase through EPA. Ambassador of Japan to Bangladesh IWAMA Kiminori and Senior Commerce Secretary Tapan Kanti Ghosh also spoke on the occasion.

The Economic Relations Division (ERD) signed a grant agreement worth \$ 5,81,010 with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to address the problems related to climate affected and other displacements in Bangladesh. The agreement titled 'Pilot Assessment and Interventions to Avert, Minimize Displacement in Climate Stressed Districts of Bangladesh' will contribute to implement related activities by the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief. The agreement was signed by Md. Shahriar Kader Siddiky, Secretary of the ERD and Fathima Nusrath Ghazzali, Officer-in-charge and Deputy Chief of Mission. IOM Officials of UN Wing ERD and IOM were present in the signing ceremony.

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Primary and Mass Education Ministry and Ministry of Education informed the country's government primary schools will remain open for the first 10 days of Ramadan (till March 21) and secondary level schools will remain open until March 25. The two Ministries officially announced the school timings yesterday.

Bangladesh Bank (BB) Executive Director and Spokesperson Mezbaul Haque informed that the regulator is planning to merge 10 banks within a year. He told reporters in a press briefing at BB Headquarters in the capital yesterday.


Issued a note of warning against the extortionists, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun said that stern action will be taken against all forms of extortion during the Eid. The IGP said this while presiding over the overall law and order, security and traffic management meeting on the occasion of holy Ramadan and upcoming Eid-ul-Fitr at the police Headquarters in Dhaka yesterday.

The government fixed the price of low grade dates at Tk 150 to Tk 165 per kilogramme (KG) as per a notification of the Commerce Ministry yesterday.

The Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources yesterday fixed closing time of compressed natural gas (CNG) refueling stations from 5 pm to 10 pm (5-hour) during Ramadan. From 1st Ramadan, 2024 to 6th April, 2024, the CNG station closing time will be 5 pm to 10 pm (5-hour) which was earlier 6 pm to 11 pm.

In the last 24 hours, 34 people were diagnosed with coronavirus in the country, none died due to corona during this time. Health Department confirmed this information in a regular press release yesterday.

DSEX, the prime index of the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) went down by 51.52 points or 0.85 percent to 6,006.88.



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