



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
Press Information Department.  
Dhaka.



Most Urgent  
For: Bangladoot, All Missions  
MSG: 256/2023-24  
Date: Saturday, 16.03. 2024

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### Newsbrief

President Mohammed Shahabuddin and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina expressed profound shock and sorrow at the death of Ekushey award-winning personality, language veteran, freedom fighter and Chief prosecutor of the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT), Gholam Arif Tipu in separate condolence messages yesterday. The President said, Gholam Arif Tipu's death is an irreparable loss to the country's legal arena. The Head of State also said, the nation will forever remember his contribution to the war crimes trial and the establishment of the rule of law. Both the President Shahabuddin and th Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul and conveyed profound sympathy to the bereaved family.

Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, also the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, will pay an official visit to Bangladesh later this year, said Saudi Ambassador to Bangladesh Essa Yussef Essa Al Duhailan. The Saudi Ambassador talked to reporters after launching the distribution of food baskets in Dhaka on Thursday. The Ambassador said, his country is planning to invest \$1.2 billion in Bangladesh and Saudi company Red Sea Gateway Terminal will start operating the Patenga Bay Terminal in Chattogram next month.

Awami League (AL) General Secretary, and Road Transport and Bridges Minister Obaidul Quader said, there is no scope to change the government without holding elections. The Minister told at a press conference at the AL's Bangabandhu Avenue central office in Dhaka yesterday. The country's people have no involvement with BNP and its movement while they have trust in the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the Minister added.

Foreign Minister Dr. Hasan Mahmud said, the government is trying to free both the hijacked Bangladeshi flagged ship MV Abdullah and its hostage sailors from the clutches of Somalian pirates as soon as possible. The Minister told journalists that the government has taken initiative to rescue the hostage ship and 23 sailors from the pirates. The Minister said this while talking to journalists after joining a memorial meeting of late AL leaders of Rangunia upazila in Chattogram yesterday.

State Minister for Commerce Ahsanul Islam Titu said, 50,000 metric tonnes (MTs) of onion from India will enter Bangladesh's market within a short time. The State Minister said this while speaking as the Chief guest at a programme marking the 'World Consumer Rights Day-2024' at the 'Osmani Memorial Auditorium' in the capital yesterday. In his speech, the State Minister urged the businessmen and civil society representatives to come forward to control product prices. The State Minister also informed that the government is working to strengthen the Directorate of Agricultural Marketing.

The government fixed logical price of 29 agricultural products including fish and meat in order to control the market price of essential goods. Department of Agricultural Marketing issued a notice in this regard yesterday.

The government nominated 10 distinguished persons for "Swadhinata Padak 2024" (Independence Award), the highest civilian award, for their outstanding contribution to the nation. The Cabinet Division issued a notification in this regard yesterday.

A list of 24 children has been published who became winner under four age categories in a drawing competition held marking 104th birth anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, said a release of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Memorial Museum yesterday.

16.03.2024

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