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Newsbrief

Finance Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed said, the interim government is working to restore the confidence of investors in the capital market. The Finance Adviser also said, several measures have already been taken to restore confidence, and some are underway to support the capital market and bring back investors' confidence. The Adviser said this to reporters after holding a meeting with the stock market stakeholders yesterday.

The government approved separate proposals for procuring one cargo LNG and some 50,000 metric tons of non-Basmati boiled rice to meet the growing demand of the country. The approval came from the 2nd meeting of the Advisers' Council Committee on Government Purchase in this year held at the Cabinet Division Conference Room at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday with Finance Adviser Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed in the chair.

Commerce Adviser Sk. Bashir Uddin said, the government is working to further simplify trade and commerce in the country while all practical cooperation would be ensured in this regard. The Commerce Adviser said this while chairing a meeting on the stockpile and import of rice situation held at the Ministry of Commerce Conference Room at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday. Food Adviser Ali Imam Majumder also attended the meeting as an invited guest, said a Commerce Ministry press release.

Visiting European Investment Bank (EIB) Vice-President Nicola Beer said, her bank is backing the Bangladesh interim government and the country's current state is suitable for European investment. The EIB Vice-President told reporters after holding a meeting with Foreign Adviser Md. Touhid Hossain at the Foreign Ministry in Dhaka yesterday.

Home Adviser Lt Gen. (Retd.) Md. Jahangir Alam Chowdhury said, they are going to initiate the process of recruiting 100 injured in the July-August mass uprising in the police force. The Home Adviser spoke to the journalists after visiting the Special Branch (SB) and Criminal Investigation Department (CID) Headquarters in the capital yesterday. The Adviser also said that they have sent another proposal to appoint 1,000 students to help traffic management. The Adviser also asked the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) to complete quickly the investigation into allegations of money laundering.

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Adviser Dr. Asif Nazrul said, through the July revolution Bangladesh has witnessed that only a small poster may have enormous strength to destroy a narrative remained dominant for years and it also can help build new narrative. The Adviser said this while addressing the inaugural ceremony of Artists Debasish Chakrabarty's poster exhibition titled 'July Uprising in Poster' at National Art Gallery Auditorium of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy in Dhaka yesterday.

The Cultural Affairs Adviser Mostofa Sarwar Farooki said, Ministry of Cultural Affairs has taken initiatives to make workshop-based films with eight filmmakers in eight Divisional Headquarters for the development and decentralization of culture. The Adviser told reporters at his Ministry in the Secretariat yesterday. The Adviser also hoped that many of the young people, who would emerge from the workshop, will one day become successful filmmakers.

Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam said, five reform commissions out of six are likely to submit their reports to Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus within January 15. The Chief Adviser's Press Secretary told a press briefing, held at the Foreign Service Academy in Dhaka yesterday.

Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Dr Shafiqur Rahman o discussed a wide range of issues including reforms-electoral and banking sector, national unity, and consensus building efforts with Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus. Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam told the reporters at a media briefing at the Foreign Service Academy yesterday.

The Department of Immigration and Passports has cancelled the passports of 97 people, including ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, due to their alleged involvement in enforced disappearances and the July killings. Chief Adviser's Deputy Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad Majumder told a press briefing, held at the Foreign Service Academy in Dhaka yesterday. SMS service in delivering e-passports for expatriate Bangladeshis will begin today, the Chief Adviser's Deputy Press Secretary added.

Former Prime Minister and BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia left Dhaka for London last night by a special air ambulance. BNP's media cell confirmed it.

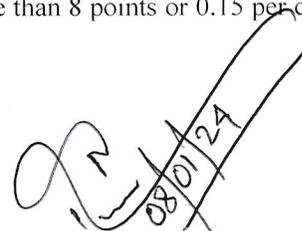
Former Prime Minister and BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia sought doa from the countrymen so that she could return to the country with better health. BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir disclosed this matter to the media after seeing off BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport yesterday.

The Department of Prisons denied West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's claim that Indian fishermen, arrested for illegally entering Bangladesh's waters, were tortured in prisons before their release recently. In a protest statement issued in Dhaka yesterday.

Government decided to strengthen drives against production and uses of polythene shopping bags across the country. Public Security Division of the Ministry of Home Affairs Additional Secretary Nasir-Ud-Doula said this to reporters at the conference room of his office yesterday.

The Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA) expected that five economic zones would draw US\$5.5 billion worth investment by 2026. Chowdhury Ashik Mahmud Bin Harun, Executive Chairman of Beza said this at a press conference at Bangladesh Investment Development Authority Headquarters in the capital yesterday. BEZA also hopes that the economic zones will create at least 2.38 lakh employment opportunities.

The DSEX, the benchmark index of the DSE, finally went down by more than 8 points or 0.15 per cent to 5,190, after gaining over 33 points yesterday.

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