



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

তথ্য অধিদফতর



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#### Newsbrief

President Mohammed Shahabuddin said, Bangladesh strongly condemned and protested the indiscriminate killing of innocent civilians, including women and children, in Palestine by the Israeli occupation forces. The President made the remarks when Palestine Ambassador to Bangladesh Yousef S.Y. Ramadan paid a courtesy call on him at Bangabhaban in Dhaka yesterday. Later, President's Press Secretary Md. Joynal Abedin briefed newsmen.

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) approved a total of 10 projects involving an overall estimated cost of Taka 1,974.30 crore. The approvals came from a meeting of the ECNEC with its Chairperson and Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus in the chair, held at the NEC Conference Room in the capital's Sher-e-Bangla Nagar area yesterday. The ECNEC also canceled the "Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Safari Park, Moulvibazar (Phase 1)" prioritising the conservation of biodiversity in the Lathitila forest.

Outgoing World Bank Country Director to Bangladesh Abdoulaye Seck promised the World Bank's support for key reform initiatives that the Bangladesh interim government has undertaken. The World Bank Country Director to Bangladesh made the pledge when he paid a farewell call on Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus at the State Guest House Jamuna in the capital yesterday. The Chief Adviser thanked Seck for support during his tenure at World Bank-supported projects in critical sectors like infrastructure, climate resilience, service process digitalisation, education, healthcare and poverty alleviation.

Planning Adviser Wahiduddin Mahmud said, controlling inflation is currently the biggest challenge for the country. The Adviser made these comments during a briefing after the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) meeting in Dhaka's Sher-e-Bangla Nagar area yesterday.

Foreign Ministry served a diplomatic note to the Indian government to send back ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to Dhaka. Foreign Adviser Touhid Hossain told reporters at the Foreign Ministry yesterday. Earlier, Home Adviser Jahangir Alam said that his Ministry has written to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs asking it to facilitate the return of ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina from India. The Foreign Adviser told reporters responding to a query.

Law Adviser Prof. Asif Nazrul said, Sheikh Hasina's fascist regime used the higher court's immense power to consolidate its power. The Adviser made the remarks as part of the series of dialogue titled "Democratic Reconstitution: On Judiciary", organized by the Centre for Governance Studies at the CIRDAP Auditorium yesterday.

Home Affairs Adviser Lt. Gen. (ret'd) Jahangir Alam Chowdhury urged the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) to perform their duties as vigilant safeguards. The Adviser made this call while addressing a medal-distribution ceremony, marking the BGB Day-2024 at BGB's border conference centre at Pilkhana in Dhaka yesterday. The government has formed a seven-member commission led by former Director General of BGB A L M Fazlur Rahman to probe into the BDR massacre at Pilkhana on February 25, 2009, the Adviser added.

Environment, Forest and Climate Change Adviser Syeda Rizwana Hasan stressed preparing the youth to adapt to changes and rethinking development models and lifestyles aiming to address climate change. The Adviser also focused on enhancing the nation's capacity to address climate change, allocating a larger budget and ensuring its proper utilization. The Adviser came up with the observation while addressing a roundtable titled "COP29: Expectations, Reality and Lessons for the Future" as the chief guest at University of Asia Pacific in Dhaka yesterday.

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Shipping Adviser Brigadier General (Retd.) Dr. M Sakhawat Hossain said, country's marine academies will be made international standard as he spoke at the graduation parade. The Adviser said this while speaking as the chief guest at the graduation parade of the 58th batch of cadets of the Bangladesh Marine Academy, Chattogram yesterday.

Namaz-e-janaza of Arafat, a 12-year-old madrasa student who sustained bullet injuries during the anti-discrimination student movement and died last (Sunday) night, was held at Central Shaheed Minar in Dhaka yesterday. Arafat's brother Hasan Ali conducted the janaza. Information Adviser Md. Nahid Islam, Special Assistant for the Health and Family Welfare Ministry Professor Dr. Md. Sayedur Rahman, Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam, student leader Sarjis Alam and Arafat's father Shahidul Islam, joined the janaza.

The interim government strongly condemned the defamation of Freedom Fighter Abdul Hai at Chauddagam in Cumilla district, calling for not taking law into own hands, according to a statement issued by the Chief Adviser's press wing yesterday.

The Ministry of Industries formed an investigation committee over the brutal murder and injury of crew members on the MV Al Bakera ship loaded with fertiliser near Harina Ferry Ghat in Chandpur. A 4-member investigation committee was formed to investigate the incident. An Additional Secretary of the Ministry was made the Convener while a Joint Secretary its member Secretary. The Ministry also expressed its deep shock and condolences to the family members of the crew who were brutally murdered and injured by a group of miscreants on the ship.

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said, the conspiracy of fascist force is still going on in the country as they are making evil efforts to divide the nation. The BNP Secretary General told a public rally at Shibganj Degree College ground in Thakurgaon Sadar Upazila yesterday. Thakurgaon Sadar Upazila BNP organized this rally.

Libya expressed Libya's interest in recruiting more Bangladeshi professionals and skilled workers to support its development. The interest was conveyed when Libyan Ambassador to Bangladesh Abdulmutalib S M Suliman paid a courtesy call on Foreign Secretary Md. Jashim Uddin at Foreign Ministry in Dhaka on Sunday, according to a Ministry's press releases yesterday. The Envoy also conveyed Libya's intention to increase imports of Ready-Made Garments and jute products from Bangladesh.

Bangladesh Railway is set to open two new routes through the Padma Bridge with one linking the capital to southwestern Khulna and another to western Benapole land border via Jashore. Railway's Director General Mohammad Afzal Hossain told BSS yesterday.

A high-level business delegation from China visited the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) and the Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA) to explore investment opportunities in Bangladesh's growing renewable energy sector. The meeting, held at the BIDA Conference Room, was chaired by Chowdhury Ashik Mahmud Bin Harun, Executive Chairman of BIDA and BEZA on Sunday, according to a press release yesterday.

Bangladesh's gross foreign exchange reserves crossed US\$24 billion. According to the latest data, foreign exchange reserves amount to \$24.8 billion US dollars, said Bangladesh Bank Spokesperson Husne Ara Shikha in a message yesterday.

Japan government will provide a grant of US\$ 3.24 million to Bangladesh for Fourth Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP-4). The programme is being implemented by the Directorate of Primary Education under the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, according to a PID handout yesterday. Agreements in this regard were signed between Bangladesh and Japan on December 19, the handout added. Secretary of the Economic Relations Division Md. Shahriar Kader Siddiky and Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh Iwama Kiminori and Chief Representative of JICA in Dhaka Ichiguchi Tomohide signed the instruments on their respective sides.

One more dengue patient died and 172 patients were admitted to different hospitals in the country during the last 24 hours, according to a press release issued by the Directorate General of Health Services yesterday.

DSEX, the broad index of the DSE, declined by 25.6 points and settled at 5,171 points as against 5,196 points yesterday.

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