



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



Most Urgent  
For: Bangladoot, All Missions  
MSG:184 /2024-25  
Date: Friday, 03.01.2025

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### Newsbrief

Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus urged all to develop the work habits for the welfare of people in their daily lives. The Chief Adviser said this while formally opening the Walkathon and Social Service Conference on the Manik Mia Avenue in Dhaka yesterday organised by the Department of Social Services on the National Social Service Day-2025. The Chief Adviser also said, every person has a tendency to work in the interest of others and this desire should be awakened.

Finance Adviser Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed said, increase of value-added tax (VAT) on 43 goods and services will not significantly impact overall inflation or prices of essentials. The Adviser made the comments while talking to newsmen after a meeting of the Advisers Council Committee on Government Purchase at the Cabinet Division conference room at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday.

Environment, Forest and Climate Change Adviser Syeda Rizwana Hasan said, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) guidelines will be formulated to address the challenge of plastic pollution. The Adviser said, producers will have to take the responsibility until the end of their products' life cycle. Through these guidelines, opportunities for reuse, recycling and safe management of plastic waste will increase, the Adviser added. The Environmental Adviser made the remarks while addressing a meeting on the formulation of guidelines on Extended Producer Responsibility to control plastic pollution. The meeting was held at the Bangladesh Secretariat, according to a Ministry press release yesterday.

Social Welfare Adviser Sharmeen S Murshid underscored the need for establishing good governance for building welfare-based state in future. The Adviser said these while addressing an open discussion as the chief guest on a makeshift stage at Manik Mia Avenue in Dhaka yesterday under the arrangement of the Department of Social Services of the Social Welfare Ministry marking the National Social Service Day-2025.

Chief of Army Staff General Waker-Uz-Zaman met BNP Chairperson and former Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her Gulshan residence Firoza yesterday. During the courtesy meeting, the Army Chief enquired about the health condition of the former Prime Minister and wished her quick recovery.

Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said there was massive corruption in power and energy sector during the deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina's regime. The BNP Secretary General told a press conference at BNP Chairperson's Gulshan political office in Dhaka yesterday.

Government officially recognised Kazi Nazrul Islam as the National Poet effective from the date of his arrival in Bangladesh on May 24, 1972. Cultural Affairs Ministry issued a gazette notification in this regard yesterday.

The reciprocal repatriation of 95 Indian fishermen detained in Bangladesh and 90 Bangladeshi fishermen detained in India begun yesterday, which is expected to be completed Sunday next, according to the Foreign Ministry yesterday. Besides, two Bangladeshi fishing vessels detained in India and six Indian fishing boats detained in Bangladesh will also be exchanged between the two Coast Guards.

The government has extended the term of the Election Reform Commission until January 15, 2025, read a notification issued yesterday by the Cabinet Division following the order of the President.

The Election Commission (EC) published the draft of the updated voter list revealing that 18, 33,352 became new voters in the country. Of the new voters, 11,85,516 are male voters, 6,47,774 are female voters and 62 voters are from the hijra community. Election Commissioner Brig Gen Abul Fazal Md. Sanauallah revealed the updated these statistics in a press briefing held at the EC office in the capital yesterday.



03.01.2025

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