



গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

# তথ্য অধিদফতর



PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

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## Newsbrief

Prime Minister Tarique Rahman directed the authorities concerned to take effective initiatives to protect the rights of persons with disabilities and ensure necessary services for them. The Premier said this at a meeting at his Cabinet Division office in Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday, according to the Prime Minister's Press Wing. The meeting was organized to determine the necessary steps for protecting the rights of persons with disabilities and ensuring proper services for them.

The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) approved nine development projects involving an overall estimated cost of Tk 36,695.72 crore. The approvals came from the 11th ECNEC meeting of the current fiscal year with ECNEC Chairperson and Prime Minister Tarique Rahman in the chair at the Cabinet Division Conference Room at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday. The government has also undertaken the 'Padma Barrage (1st Phase)' project involving an estimated cost of Tk 34,497.25 crore to restore major river systems, reduce salinity intrusion and strengthen irrigation and ecological sustainability across large parts of the country.

The government has taken a policy decision to establish Cumilla Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (WASA) to ensure modern, sustainable and efficient water management services for residents of Cumilla city. The decision came at an inter-ministerial meeting held at the conference room of the Local Government Division at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday. Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Minister Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir chaired the meeting.

Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Minister Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir expressed profound shock and sorrow at the death of eminent theatre personality Aatur Rahman. The Minister said this in a message of condolence yesterday. The Minister also prayed for eternal peace of the departed soul and conveyed deep sympathy to the bereaved family.

Minister for Social Welfare and Women and Children Affairs Abu Zafar Md. Zahid Hossain said that approximately six percent of the country's population lives with various types of disabilities and that overall social development is impossible without including them. The Minister said this while speaking at an event organized at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the capital to mark the 19th World Autism Awareness Day.

Liberation War Affairs Minister Ahmed Azam Khan said, the government is fully committed to implementing the July Charter, alleging that a vested quarter is attempting to spread confusion over the issue. The Minister made the remarks the day before yesterday while visiting injured July fighters undergoing treatment in Thailand, according to a press release yesterday. The Minister inquired about the progress of their treatment and wished them a speedy recovery. Bangladesh Ambassador to Thailand Faiyaz Murshid Kazi was present at that time.

The government has fixed the prices of sacrificial animal hides to be available during the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha, aiming to protect the interests of farmers, madrasas and the country's leather industry. The prices were fixed yesterday following directives from Prime Minister Tarique Rahman, who is closely monitoring the issue to ensure proper management and utilization of rawhides, said Commerce Minister Khandakar Abdul Muktadir. Talking to reporters after a meeting at the Ministry's conference room in the capital, the Minister said, salted cowhide prices in Dhaka have been fixed at Tk 62 to Tk 67 per square foot, while prices outside the capital have been set at Tk 57 to Tk 62 per square foot.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Zahir Uddin Swapon said, it may take at least two more years to revive the fragile economy inherited from the fallen Awami League government. The Minister also said, those who seized state power without voters wanted to be benefitted by creating division and religious differences among the people.

The Minister made the remarks while speaking at the award distribution ceremony of the winners of the month-long Islamic competition 'Alokito Mahe Ramadan' at Uttara Community Centre in the capital yesterday.

Education Minister Dr. A N M Ehsanul Haque Milon said, education is the highest priority of the present government. The Minister also said, the main foundation of a country's development is education, adding that no nation can ever reach the peak of progress without education. The Minister said this while addressing the agreement signing ceremony of the 'On-Grid Opex Model Solar System Project' at Residential Model College in the capital yesterday.

Education Minister Dr. A N M Ehsanul Hoque Milon said, the present government is committed to achieving excellence in the country's higher education sector. The Minister also said, Islamic University of Technology (IUT) has been playing a significant role in human resource development for Bangladesh as well as other OIC member states through the advancement of technical and vocational education, research, training and capacity building initiatives. The Minister made the remarks while addressing the Excellence Award ceremony of the IUT at Board Bazar in Gazipur yesterday.

Sinovac Foundation, a subsidiary of China's leading vaccine manufacturer Sinovac Biotech Limited, has donated 3.83 lakh doses of polio vaccine to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The Foundation donated the vaccine to make the ongoing activities of Bangladesh government's Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) more rapid, dynamic and effective. The vaccine was donated at a simple ceremony at the Ministry conference room at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday. Health and Family Affairs Minister Sardar Md. Sakhawat Husain, Cultural Counselor of the Chinese Embassy in Dhaka Li Shaopeng and Chief Business Director of Sinovac Biotech Limited LI Ning were present on the occasion.

Deputy Speaker Barrister Kayser Kamal called upon the new generation to be more conscious about preserving the local culture and heritage. The Deputy Speaker said these while addressing a views-exchange meeting following his visit to the Cultural Academy of the ethnic minority communities in Birishiri, in his constituency of Durgapur in Netrokona yesterday. State Minister for Railways Habibur Rashid was present at that time.

State Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Sultan Salauddin Tuku said, the livestock sector can be further enriched through the combined efforts of the government and private entrepreneurs. The State Minister said this while addressing a validation workshop titled 'Feasibility Study of the Livestock Service Transformation Project' at Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council Auditorium in the capital yesterday.


State Minister for Land and Chattogram Hill Tracts Affairs, Barrister Mir Mohammad Helal Uddin emphasized the significance of the culture of volunteerism promoted by the Red Crescent in society. The State Minister also praised the Jamieson Red Crescent Hospital and Nursing Institute as a trusted facility for the people of Chattogram. The State Minister made this statement during a meeting with the Management Committee, officials and employees of the Jamieson Red Crescent Maternity Hospital and Nursing Institute, as well as members of the Youth Red Crescent at his residence in Chattogram yesterday.

State Minister for Social Welfare Farzana Sharmin said, the government has taken multi-faceted initiatives to bring back the country's autistic children to normal life by providing them with proper treatment. At the same time, the government has several projects for the development of people with autism and their inclusion in the mainstream society. The State Minister said this in an interview with BSS at her office at Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday. The State Minister also said, autism is a congenital neurological disorder, but it is never seen as a disease.

State Minister for Primary and Mass Education Bobby Hajjaj said, Bangladesh is interested in conducting a comprehensive and practical review of Thailand's education system at the initial stage. The State Minister said this when Ambassador of Thailand to Bangladesh Thitiporn Chirasawadi met him at his office at the Ministry yesterday, according to a PID release. During the bilateral meeting, they discussed improvement of the quality of primary education in Bangladesh, teacher shortage and leadership-based training.

Prime Minister's Defence Adviser Brig. Gen. (retd.) Dr. AKM Shamsul Islam said, nuclear security is not merely a technical issue; rather it is directly linked to national security, international commitments and state responsibility. The Adviser made the remarks while delivering a special lecture at Military Institute of Science and Technology at Mirpur Cantonment, according to a press release of the Inter Services Public Relations Directorate yesterday.

Prime Minister's Adviser and Spokesperson at the Prime Minister's Office Mahdi Amin said, the current government has started rapidly implementing the promises made in its election manifesto within three months of assuming office. The Adviser made the remarks at a discussion titled 'Tree Plantation in Environmental Conservation and Sustainable Development: The Role of NGOs' held at the NGO Affairs Bureau Auditorium in Agargaon yesterday.

  
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